



Leadership Initiatives
Criminal Law & Trial
Internship

Mihir Goyal

*Garden City High
School
Class Of 2027*

Interned with Harden Law PLLC on a life-changing case.

Collaborated with top attorneys and law professors to prepare a witness for trial.

Advocated on Capitol Hill to lawmakers and congressional officials for an issue impacting both the client and the criminal legal system.

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My Law & Advocacy Training



Legal
Research



Witness
Preparation



Congressional
Advocacy



Mentor &
Expert
Collaboration

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My Congressional Advocacy

I developed skills to effectively advocate on behalf of my client to congressional officials. To prepare for my meetings, I developed informative briefing materials with my team, which focused on improving the criminal legal system.

On Capitol Hill, we highlighted critical issues within the criminal legal system to congressional representatives and presented possible solutions. My team and I worked to ensure we had facts, statistics, and compelling stories to share with our representatives. After our meeting, we followed up with our representatives to call for further action.

Expert Witness Preparation

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The Basics Of Oral Argumentation

I worked with a mitigation expert and my client to prepare them both for their testimony at trial this upcoming year.

I learned about direct and cross-examinations from real lawyers and was able to work with my peers to develop strong lines of questioning about different facets of the case.



How We Prepared Our Witness

At the end of the internship, I had the opportunity to prepare the expert witness and my client for the upcoming trial by conducting my direct and cross-examination with my peers.

I questioned the witness about different facts of the case and the mitigating factors that could influence the outcome of the trial.

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My Legal Research

During this internship, I explored various aspects of the law and gained a deep appreciation for the role that research plays in legal practice. As a legal intern, I engaged with a diverse range of case documents, including motions, affidavits, grand jury testimonies, and discovery materials.

Under the mentorship of Brandi Harden from Harden Law | PLLC, I received valuable guidance on interpreting and understanding the significance of these documents in the trial process.

In preparing my client for trial, I meticulously examined legal documents and exhibits, completing extensive legal research to identify inconsistencies and gather supporting evidence. This thorough process informed the development of effective lines of questioning.



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Internship Highlights

Brandi Harden

Heather Pinckeney

National Reentry

Judge Adam Hunter

Legal Experts



Brandi Harden is currently the Managing Partner at Harden Law | PLLC, a boutique law firm in Washington, D.C., focusing on criminal defense, civil rights, and family law. Ms. Harden is also an adjunct professor at Howard University School of Law, where she coaches the Huver I. Brown Trial Advocacy Team. Ms. Harden also serves as an Adjunct Professor at American University-Washington College of Law (WCL) teaching Evidentiary Foundations and Objections.

Ms. Harden has served as a trial attorney and a supervising attorney at the Public Defender Service for

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served as Chair of the Criminal Practice Institute, faculty for Summer Series training, served as a member of the PDS Forensic Practice Group, and led Felony Division-Trial Practice Groups. Ms. Harden has also worked for The Southern Center for Human Rights, The United States Department of Labor, and The United States Department of Justice, Antitrust Division - Computer and Finance Section.

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