

Experience this summer at Catholic Charities – Unaccompanied Minor Division

My experience at Catholic Charities this summer was very fruitful and eye-opening. I got the opportunity to work side by side with Immigration attorneys who were in the front lines of this summer's immigration battle. Thanks to this opportunity, I witnessed various trials in both family court and immigration. Additionally, I learned to draft multiple motions like a motion for continuance in family court. Immigration was a hot topic this summer due to some presidential decisions, especially the issue of unaccompanied minors.

As a result, I was able to learn that immigration is not always black and white. I witnessed the effects of separating a mother from her very young child. I learned the battles of many unaccompanied minors who fled to the United States in search of an escape from a life of poverty and suffering. Because I was able to work with immigration attorneys, I understand even more why pro bono work is essential.

My experience with Catholic Charities was a humbling experience. Although I was able to gain real practical experience that transferred into my current semester, one of the most important things I learned this summer is that Immigration law is such a complex field. Working in the unaccompanied minors division made me realize how little I knew about immigration and the devastating

effects of some immigration policies. Thanks to this experience, my goal is to continue to give back by using my legal education to help those who cannot help themselves.

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