The Impact of the JIOP Experience

www.ambar.org/JIOP

“Through JIOP, I had the distinct privilege of interning for the Honorable Kenneth M. Hoyt of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas. As a law student, that invaluable experience allowed me to gain in-depth knowledge of court procedure as well as sharpen my writing, analytical, and advocacy skills. After graduation, I returned to Judge Hoyt’s chambers to serve as his law clerk, which would not have been possible without JIOP.”

—Christopher Lopez-Loftis, 2012

“I am an immigrant to this country and grew up in a low-income household. When I started law school, lacking the resources many of my peers possessed, was another disadvantage I had to overcome. I am confident that without this program I would have never been able to extern for a judge. My externship was life-changing and set the precedent for a bright future. After completing this externship, I was offered a summer clerkship at a law firm. Currently, I am a clerk at one of the largest firms in California, due to the strength of my experience as a JIOP Section of Litigation alumni. The value of this program cannot be measured.”

—Oliver Enrique Rodriguez, 2015

“JIOP is an amazing program for those of us not traditionally represented within the legal field. It provided me with the opportunity to really sharpen my legal research and writing skills in the summer after my 1L year. I was able to take what I learned in my legal writing class and apply it to real cases. I am certain JIOP is one of the main reasons I was offered an externship for a judge in the Northern District of Illinois during my 3L year. Upon graduation, I worked in-house directly out of law school for one of the largest property and casualty insurance companies. I then briefly worked at a mid-size insurance defense law firm. Currently, I am working for one of the largest risk management and insurance brokerage companies in the world as Litigation Counsel. I truly believe my career path has largely been shaped by JIOP taking a chance on me. So thank you JIOP!”

—Chantal Kazay, 2008

“Without JIOP, I am not sure where I would be. Coming into law school, I was unfamiliar with the law school traditions and the importance of serving the public as a law clerk. I lacked information, guidance, and most importantly, financial resources. But JIOP helped me (and it will also help you) jump those hurdles. JIOP places you with Judges that are interested in your development and provides you with necessary funding during the process of your development.”

—Michael Augustin, 2013

“I learned how to interact with judges and all members of the judicial staff and developed professional relationships that I still value today.”

—Kwan Piensook, 2011

“The JIOP program is unique in many ways. First, it provides judges with a selection of highly qualified candidates who have been screened by JIOP alumni and attorneys. Second, it provides students with a stipend that is necessary to fund summer living expenses during an unpaid summer externship. Third, as a female minority and the first member of my family to attend law school the program has helped open so many doors for me. Fourth, JIOP isn’t just “any program,” it is a family—a family which truly cares about the success of its participants.”

—Sarah Ayad, 2013