

Interview Assessment #1

Date: October 16, 2020

Subject: Interview With Ernest Lenard

Assessment:

Learning about the specific details of a job field is very significant. The details can change someone's life or opinion on what they want to do in the future and Mr. Lenard helped clarify some of the specific facts. I discussed my plans and what I planned to do in the future and Mr. Lenard offered constructive criticism which will impact my plans for a long time.

I had been informed about what paralegals actually do and it was not what I initially thought. Paralegals only organize and collect evidence for lawyers and do not really analyze cases and assist the lawyers. This was a colossal fact to me because it changed my perception of the field and my future plans. I realized that the reward for focusing on the law would outweigh the overall debt I collect during my education. I theorized this claim when I found out that some of the most successful lawyers risked everything and bled sweat to get their degree. I want to be acknowledged for my hard work and the risks I took to get to the top and that is why I will be willing to risk debt for a better life in the future.

During my research interview, I also learned about jury trials and how the jury determines the verdicts and damages in a trial. I initially thought playing to the jury's emotion is the best way to overturn or reduce a sentence, but I was informed that the jury members have to sign a pledge stating that says they will ignore all emotion and focus on the facts. The only and best way emotion should be used is to emphasize facts or sway a jury in a criminal trial. In the interview, I also found out about the process of selecting a verdict by a jury. The Jury is given a packet of questions they must answer in order to decide a verdict. These questions are narrowly tailored and precisely relevant to certain facts in a case. Once these questions are answered the judge reviews the answers and allows the jury to present their verdict. With this information, I was able to speculate a technic used by lawyers that I could apply in Competitive Trial Advocacy and someday in a real courtroom. I would make a foundation question for the question

that needs to be answered and lead the witness into telling me what I want the jury to hear. I need to incorporate this strategy in cross-examination to weaken the plaintiff's argument and strengthen my argument.

Another doubt that I had was if clients would ever complain and not cooperate with me or my colleagues. I was informed that this happens a few times in a lawyer's career because most clients want to win in the court and that is not viable without proper communication between the clients and attorneys. The few times it does actually happen is when the clients are accused of the crime they did. This is precisely why it is important to establish a good connection with clients because we will not walk into a courtroom defeated.

With the information I gained, I was able to create a new plan to become a lawyer in the future by dedicating 7 years to studying and not stopping. Only when aspiring lawyers invest themselves in the field will they get successful results and I plan to invest myself for a happy and successful future.