

Branin, '20, Expresses Gratitude



Dear PJJ [Professor Janet Jackson],

Just wanted to let you know that I've already used the knowledge I picked up in clinic several times in the month and a half I worked at the firm (I'm taking a month off now to study for the bar on Sept. 9 and 10).

In one situation we had a client (LLC) come to us to enforce a lien they had on some property. I found that they were not in good standing with the state and let the partner I was working with know so he could inform the client to get that changed before we could file anything for the client. It was low hanging fruit, but if I had not had clinic I would not even know I need to check on that!

Next situation was where we had a client open an LLC so they could transfer their interest into it to manage some property interest that we would be quieting title to in the LLC. Again, I let a different partner know that we would need this LLC to register to do business as a foreign entity in New Mexico since we were filing a quiet title suit with the LLC as a plaintiff in New Mexico.

Those are the two bigger examples, but other countless small situations have come up where the clinic has really helped me. I wanted to tell you this so in case there are

any students who wonder if they will use any of what they learn in clinic at a firm they are going to the answer is "YES!"

Also, thank you so much for that bar meditation. I have used it once, and have saved it so I can use it again during this month. So far, I'm staying positive about the bar, and keep reminding myself this is a test of MINIMUM competence, which I know I have!

Sending very happy and grateful juju to you from New Mexico! I hope you and your family are all doing well.

Sincerely,
Melinda Branin

Note: We are pleased to announce that Melinda has more than just the minimum competence. She passed the bar in New Mexico and is employed by Hinkle Shanor LLP in Roswell, New Mexico.