

My Summer Associate Experience: Emma Refuveille

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Our 2022 Summer Associate Program brought seven law students to the firm for an intellectually challenging and professionally gratifying experience. The students took part in firm-sponsored social events and community service projects throughout the summer in addition to attending client meetings, depositions, court hearings and other proceedings. Nearing the end of the program, the students agreed to share a few highlights from their summer at Shutts.

Emma Refuveille joined us from the University of Miami School of Law, where she is also an International Arbitration LL.M. candidate. In addition, she is a Research Assistant for the University of Miami School of Law International Arbitration Institute.

Here is what Emma had to say about her experience.

What did you do before coming to Shutts?

I received an LLB in English and French law from the University of Essex, UK, and a Bachelor's and Master's degree in International and European law from the University of Toulouse, France. I joined the University of Miami in August 2020 as an International Arbitration LLM candidate and became a joint JD/LLM student in January 2021.

What advice would you give to someone looking for a summer clerkship and how to succeed in it?

I would emphasize the importance of networking events, practical experiences, and being proactive. Many opportunities come from networking events, and students should participate in as many events as they can to create their network. I would also emphasize the importance of working hard in law school and pursuing as many practical experiences as they can. Practical experiences bring you knowledge that you do not acquire in law school, and you get a better idea of what an attorney does every day. Lastly, I would say that students should be proactive, reach out to people, and go out to lunch with attorneys: that is how you create long lasting-relationships.

What were the three most memorable experiences throughout your time here?

My main memorable experience was attending a trial in Federal court for almost 3 weeks. I did not expect to go to court this summer, let alone attend an entire trial. It was a unique experience and I was thrilled to participate, help with research and help out every day in court.

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The second memorable experience was the Associate Seminar where we got to meet associates from various offices. It was an honor to be included in the Seminar as we are not yet Associates, and to hear what Shutts has planned for our growth as Associates and, one day, Partners.

Lastly, all the summer associate events were great: from the lunches out to the boat trips (sunset ride and floating tiki boat), all the events made me feel like I was part of a wonderful team.

What were your expectations and have they been met (or exceeded)?

I knew how wonderful working at Shutts was from my internship, so I expected to have a great summer, and it definitely was. I am very grateful to have met such interesting and talented people and to have learned about all the practice areas Shutts specializes in.

About Shutts & Bowen LLP

Established in 1910, Shutts & Bowen is a full-service business law firm with approximately 300 lawyers with offices in Fort Lauderdale, Jacksonville, Miami, Orlando, Sarasota, Tallahassee, Tampa and West Palm Beach. Learn more about Shutts & Bowen at www.shutts.com.

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