EXPLORE Legal CAREERS at Thurgood Marshall School of Law

Texas Southern University
Thurgood Marshall School of Law
I highly recommended exhausting all resources provided by the Office of Career and Professional Development (OCPD). By applying through the Symplicity job bank and attending the Sunbelt Diversity Job Fair, I was able to secure both a federal judicial position and a summer associate position. I worked extensively with the OCPD to format, edit, and update my resume in order to stand out amongst a plethora of highly qualified applicants. Utilizing OCPD's mock interview process helped me to confidently and eloquently bring life to my resume while interviewing law firms.

Salutes Nnamdi Ezenwa, 3L

Thurgood Marshall School of Law

United States District Court for Western District of Texas

1L Summer Intern

Kirkland & Ellis, LLP

2L Summer Associate

Texas Southern University
Thurgood Marshall School of Law

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EMPLOYMENT SUCCESS WITH THE OFFICE OF CAREER AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Although I found out about my clerkship through my mentor, I have used the OCPD extensively throughout my law school experience. The best asset from the office is how prepared you feel for an interview or knowing that your cover letter and resume will catch your future employer’s attention. The OCPD does more than check your resume for errors, they help you build your professional image for the legal community.
The OCPD prepared me for the interview with Constangy Prophete and I ultimately was offered a summer associate position. The OCPD team helped with revising my resume and cover letter; conducted mock interviews with me which taught me how to better highlight my skills and experiences; and assisted me with post-interview communication to employers. Throughout the summer, my OCPD counselors stayed in contact with me—providing advice on networking, best practices during business lunches/dinners, and how to make the most of my summer experience. I encourage students to visit the OCPD to learn how to present your best self at all times.
Judge Jennifer Walker Elrod was my target internship and I obtained this position through networking and direct outreach; I submitted my direct application materials early in the first semester of my 2L year. Although I applied directly, the OCPD was instrumental in helping me solidify this position. My counselor worked with me in perfecting my application and my interview skills by conducting mock interviews with sample questions that judges ask when interviewing for federal, judicial internships.
I was introduced to Jackson Walker, LLP and other career opportunities offered through the Minority Opportunities in the Legal Profession (MOILP) during a professional development program hosted by the OCPD. After being selected as a candidate, my OCPD counselor helped me strategically prepare for my upcoming interviews. I was coached through the entire process and ultimately obtained a summer associate position with Jackson Walker, LLP for my 1L summer and was extended a second opportunity to return to the firm for my 2L summer. I am truly grateful to the OCPD for all of their assistance!
The OCPD was not only instrumental in coaching me to secure my 1L summer position with the Montgomery County District Attorney’s Office, they also suggested potential careers of interest that eventually led me to apply and secure my 2L summer position with the Juvenile Lifers Without Parole Clinic. Throughout my 2L year, the OCPD provided me several networking and professional development opportunities, such as a professional etiquette dinner and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) Luncheon, which boosted my confidence and self-esteem, tremendously.
I actually met my employer in person at one of the OCPD events! After participating in the OCPD Mock Interview, I felt confident going into my real interview knowing that I had gotten feedback from practicing attorneys.
Before applying for the position, I worked with my OCPD counselors to perfect my application and build my “STAR” stories for different situational questions often asked during interviews. After signing up for the Sunbelt Diversity Job Fair through the OCPD Symplicity Job Bank, I was able to view the employers and tailor my application materials, accordingly. I was selected for an interview with USAA and the rest is history! Take advantage of the OCPD. They have years of experience that will catapult your success if you only take time to utilize every resource they have to offer! »
Networking is key when job searching. With OCPD’s help and the relationships I developed during my 1L year, I was blessed with an opportunity to work for the Attorney General of Texas. Taking the time to meet new people and develop those relationships helps you stand out when your resume is one of many. OCPD is an invaluable resource when putting yourself out there for potential employers. Once I had the opportunity to apply, every email, cover letter, and resume was verified by them to assure that I was putting my best foot forward. Don’t waste the opportunity to start working with OCPD immediately.
EXPLORE
TMSL
ALUMNI
Thurgood Marshall School of Law

Salutes

Monica A. Lopez, Esq. ‘16

Thurgood Marshall School of Law is the most cost-efficient, diverse and inclusive law school you can attend, if your goal is to be a lawyer. When I was deciding on attending law school, initially, I heavily weighed the risk and the cost, but in choosing TMSL, I gained much more than I bargained for. Today I am not only a lawyer, but part of a family that paves the way for more students like me to become lawyers.”
As a result of attending Texas Southern University and Thurgood Marshall School of Law, I am living beyond my dreams. I never dreamed of being a Congressman, but I am in this position because Texas Southern and Thurgood Marshall School of Law are here; not only for public servants like myself, but for anyone who desires to receive the best education and experience great opportunities in life.
One of the big factors in my choosing TMSL was the opportunity to attend a HBCU and have faces teaching me that looked like mine. I needed a reflection of myself because I realized that most of my working career, that reflection may not exist. Because of Thurgood, I carry with me the confidence that was built during my law school experience that taught me that I could compete against anyone and succeed. TMSL provided me with an incredible foundation. I was challenged to do the hard work but encouraged to dream big. I was taught to seek answers, work hard and do my best representing my clients, my community, my alma mater and myself. I graduated from TMSL knowing that I was well prepared and could accomplish whatever I set out to do.
The admission decision is based primarily upon the applicant’s motivation and intellectual capacity as demonstrated by the undergraduate record and his or her aptitude for the study of law as measured by the LSAT. The admission decision, however, is more complex than the mere rank ordering of applicants on the basis of a numerical formula. Leadership ability, prior community service, work experience, the student’s background, extra-curricular activities, and graduate study in another discipline are all considered.

The Admissions Committee also seeks to determine the applicant’s level of motivation by reviewing personal experience indicating determination, patience and perseverance. The Committee believes that past success in overcoming an economic and/or educational disadvantage is a prime indicator of motivation.

Thurgood Marshall School of Law Texas Southern University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, age or disability in the administration of its academic or employment policies, or other school-administered rights, privileges, programs or activities.

Character, Fitness, and Other Qualifications for Admission to the Bar
In addition to a bar examination, there are character, fitness, and other qualifications for admission to the bar in every U.S. jurisdiction. Applicants are encouraged to determine the requirements for any jurisdiction in which they intend to seek admission by contacting the jurisdiction. Addresses for all relevant agencies are available through the National Conference of Bar Examiners at http://www.ncbex.org/.

To apply online, visit: https://os.lsac.org/Release/Logon/Access.aspx

The Office of Admissions and Financial Aid consists of the Assistant Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid, the Assistant Director of Admissions, a Financial Aid Counselor and two Administrative Assistants. The staff in the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid is committed to providing accurate information as well as friendly and efficient customer service.
EXPLOR

The Possibilities

with an Education from Thurgood Marshall School of Law

THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW

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