Richard Armistead

Internship Location: Charleston, SC

Executive Summary

This summer I was an intern in Charleston, South Carolina for Judge Mikell Scarborough, the Master-in-Equity for Charleston County. Judge Scarborough hears cases that deal almost exclusively with property; he hears foreclosure cases, various types of property disputes, and also runs the court’s foreclosure sales. During my time in the Master-in-Equity office, I accompanied Judge Scarborough and his clerks to court every day. The Judge asked me to write a log of each day’s proceedings, noting issues in the cases and foreclosures that I found interesting or did not fully understand. Roughly once a week, Judge Scarborough and I met either over lunch or at the end of a workday and discussed my experience observing the court’s proceedings. Furthermore, for some cases that were chosen for their complexity and uniqueness, Judge Scarborough asked me to write a detailed summary about the court proceedings; these exercises were a more in-depth version of my daily log and allowed me to gain perspective on what it is like to be a court reporter or clerk.

Through this internship, I was able to gain a general sense of the field of law and also a more thorough understanding of law that deals with property. One of the reasons the internship solidified my decision to apply to law school was Judge Scarborough’s ability to help the citizens of Charleston County; the economic crisis has forced many people into foreclosure, and his power to delay foreclosure dates allows many of these people to keep their homes. I aspire to utilize my law degree in the future to aid those who have none to defend them.