

Volunteering Summary

Volunteering at CIP was a unique and beneficial experience for me. It took me places I never thought I would ever see in my lifetime. I met new people that I never thought I would meet as well. These were important people in our world today, not just the ordinary, average person living today in our society. All and all, it was a once in a lifetime experience and I am glad I participated in it.

My first trip was to the city attorney's office where I was able to meet Richard Pfeiffer Jr. It was very interesting to hear his take on some of the situations surrounding the city I reside in and his approach to some of the problems surrounding it. However, by just listening to him, you could tell he was quite experienced in his field. He was also very open to answering me and the delegate's questions and overall extremely open to conversation. The next day, we were able to take a tour of the Supreme Court of Ohio. At the time, I was not aware that the Court was open to the public because I was thinking that it was a private area only for the government. The same could be said about the Statehouse, which I was fortunate enough to visit and be toured around. Both of the tour guides were enthusiastic about giving us the full experience and view of the luxurious facilities. Each of the buildings, had such tradition and history reflecting the great state of Ohio while providing a modern and newer look.

The next week, we were to visit some of the most important immigration lawyers in the city. Those lawyers were Ms. Simakovsky and Mr. Yazdani. Once again, listening to them talk about their craft was an experience that educated me in a remarkable way. I was able to relate to those lawyers a bit, as my parents went through some of the struggles the Lawyers mentioned as they were immigrating from Rwanda to the U.S. However, we did not limit our visits only to people in the Law field. I was also fortunate to be able to visit a world class TaeKwonDo instructor Mr. Joon Pyo Choi.



The delegates involved in my trip were very friendly. Mr. Michele Mwanabute and Ms. Vivi Sderina were eager to share the cultures from their respective countries (The Democratic Republic of Congo and Greece) with me and I was very appreciative to listen and learn from them. Since they are both involved with the field of law in their countries, I was able to contrast and compare the similarities/differences between how the law is enforced between my countries and mine. Some of the more interesting topics me and the delegates were able to converse about was when Ms. Vivi showed me memes from Greece or when Mr. Michele was able to explain a surprising form of execution that they run in the Congo. I know if I ever had the chance to visit their countries, I would welcomed with open arms there.