# HOPE

PUBLIC INTEREST RESOURCE CENTER

Summer Public Interest Programs

2013

MIAMILAW

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world.

Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

— Margaret Mead



# **HOPE Fellowship Program**

The HOPE Fellowship Program gives rising 2L and 3L students, with a commitment to public interest advocacy, the opportunity to create their dream public interest job at an agency locally, nationally or internationally, and receive a stipend from the HOPE Public Interest Resource Center. HOPE Fellows work with public interest organizations to provide legal advocacy, policy development and implementation, and to devise systems to enhance the delivery of legal services.

The HOPE Fellows Program challenges students to identify host agencies and develop on-site projects to uniquely address the unmet needs of the organization's constituency. Upon their return to Miami Law, HOPE Fellows design and implement initiatives to educate and engage law students in advocacy related to their area of concentration. Over the years, the program has grown from just two fellows, placed in local agencies, to include up to twenty fellows, each summer, across the globe.

"At the U.S. Embassy in Santo Domingo, I have the opportunity to help Dominicans, each day, who are desperate to travel to our country to have a better life for their families. If that isn't inspiring, I'm not sure what is. Miami Law has supported me in my want to make a difference internationally."

— Paige Reese, HOPE Fellow

#### JESSICA BOUIS | CLASS OF 2014

STATE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, MIAMI, FL



Jessica served as a summer HOPE fellow at the State Attorney's Office, and hopes to pursue a career as a prosecutor. She is currently the Vice President and former Social Chair of Miami Law Women. Jessica has been involved previously in the Center for Ethics and Public Service as a Summer Public Interest Fellow in 2012, and as an intern in the Professional Responsibility and Ethics Program, where she provided trainings to the legal community on professionalism and ethics.

## ALEX CALLE | CLASS OF 2014

U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, CRIMINAL DIVISION, MIAMI, FL



This summer, Alex worked in the Narcotics Section of the U.S. Attorney's Office's Criminal Division, where he was responsible for writing and responding to motions, researching and writing appellate briefs, reviewing evidence, and assisting with trial preparation. Alex's experiences, growing up around violence in his Brooklyn neighborhood, inspired him to pursue a career in criminal prosecution, with a focus on providing justice to the innocent victims of crimes and helping to keep his community safe. Alex hopes to pursue a career as a criminal prosecutor.

## TREY DAHL | CLASS OF 2015

LEGAL ATLAS, UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA, MISSOULA, MT



Trey graduated from the University of South Florida with degrees in Political Science and Religious Studies in 2012. At USF, Trey got his first taste of political and community activism with the Occupy Tampa movement, organizing on campus and in West Tampa to promote social change through non-violent direct action. This exposure led Trey to Miami Law with a desire to stay connected to those roots of public participation and political accountability. This summer, Trey was a HOPE Fellow with a research partnership at the University of Montana called Legal

Atlas, a free and publicly accessible database that compiles black letter law on a wide range of international law topics and reviews on the "Best Practices" in any given field. Trey worked in La Paz, Bolivia to obtain information on how the environmental impact assessment process is implemented.

### ALEXANDRA FRIZI CLASS OF 2014

EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW, KROME IMMIGRATION COURT,
MIAMI, FL



Alexandra is committed to immigration advocacy. During the summer after her 1L year, Alexandra interned at Catholic Charities Legal Services of Miami as a Summer Public Interest Fellow. Alexandra also interned at the University of Miami's Immigration Clinic, where she worked on behalf of clients in immigration proceedings and participated in a nation-wide initiative to improve legal research access in immigration detention centers. This summer, Alexandra was a HOPE Fellow at the Executive Office for Immigration Review at the Krome

Immigration Court, where she conducted research and prepared memoranda on complex immigration issues and drafted decisions on motions pending before the Court.

#### CAITLIN GRIFFIN | CLASS OF 2015

CHILDREN'S LAW CENTER, WASHINGTON, D.C.



Caitlin's dedication to social justice began when she taught high school mathematics in Philadelphia as a member of Teach For America. This summer, Caitlin was a HOPE Fellow, working as a law clerk for D.C.'s Children's Law Center. At the CLC, she worked with the Family Permanency Project (FPP) which provides free, high-quality legal assistance to foster parents, grandparents, and other relatives who wish to adopt or obtain guardianship or custody of children trapped in the child welfare system or at risk of entering foster

care. In addition, the FPP represents children in custody cases when their family stability is threatened by domestic violence, allegations of abuse or high conflict between their parents.

## LOGAN HAINE-ROBERTS | CLASS OF 2014

CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICES, AMERICAN LAW DIVISION, WASHINGTON, D.C.



As a HOPE fellow, Logan worked with the Congressional Research Services American Law Division. The American Law Division addresses legal issues that arise during the legislative process, or in any other context required by Congress. At Miami Law, Logan is the current President of the Public Interest Leadership Board and the former President of the Student Organization for Human Rights. He has also interned with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission's Miami Regional Office, and with Magistrate Judge Alan Kay at the United States District

Court in Washington, D.C. Prior to law school, Logan taught English in D.C. through Americorps, and in Japan, through the JET Program.

# RYAN HASHMI CLASS OF 2014 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION, MIAMI, FL



Ryan earned his undergraduate degree in Accounting and worked in public accounting for two years before coming to law school. During the fall semester of 2012, Ryan worked in Miami Law's Investor Rights Clinic. The Clinic provides legal services to low-income investors who have suffered financial losses at the hand of broker misconduct. This summer, Ryan was a HOPE Fellow and a Summer Honors Intern for the Miami Regional Office of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

# CHARLES HASKELL | CLASS OF 2014 COLORADO STATE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE, STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, CO



With the shortage of public interest lawyers in rural communities, Charles saw the need and spent his time as a HOPE Fellow at the Steamboat Springs Regional Office of the Colorado State Public Defender, where he provided quality legal assistance and gained valuable experience in the courtroom. As the office's sole intern, he was responsible for managing a misdemeanor caseload and assisting clients charged with felonies. Before entering law school, Charles was a journalist in Washington, D.C.. The idea of switching careers from

news to law came during an interview assignment with Barry Scheck, cocreator of the Innocence Project. After graduating in Fall 2014, Charles plans to continue assisting low-income criminal defendants by working as a public defender.

# ISAAC KING | CLASS OF 2014 BUNCOMBE COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE, ASHEVILLE, NC



Isaac King is a third year law student fascinated with criminal law. During the summer following his 1L year, he was an intern in the District Attorney's Office in the county where he grew up, which was an invaluable introduction to the courtroom and the North Carolina legal system. Since that experience, Isaac has followed his passion for providing criminal legal defense to the indigent. Last spring, Isaac volunteered at the Miami Public Defender's Office, working in the Juvenile Division helping to prevent juveniles from being direct filed into

the adult system. Isaac also helped lead and facilitate a group of students that completed court observations during spring break in the hopes of improving the recognition of the courts obligation to enforce constitutional rights for all, including the indigent. Last summer, Isaac furthered his commitment to indigent defense as a HOPE Fellow in Asheville, NC at the Buncombe County Public Defender's Office.

#### LEO LICHTMAN

#### UNITED STATES COPYRIGHT OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D.C.



A lifelong musician, Leo Lichtman is passionate about areas where the law and creativity intersect. His ambition is to benefit the public by strengthening our copyright policy to help ensure a rich cultural society. This past year, Leo's experience writing his law review article on a more effective interpretation of the Fair Use Doctrine further opened his eyes to the ways he can bring his creative passions into his legal work while benefiting society. Leo's externship at the United State Copyright Office in Washington, D.C. confirmed that he wanted to

devote a career to public service by safeguarding individual liberties. This past summer, Leo continued to work towards advancing creativity as a clerk in the Office of the General Counsel at the U.S. Copyright Office.

#### MIA LOGAN | CLASS OF 2014

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, NATURAL RESOURCES SECTION, WASHINGTON, D.C.



Upon graduation from the College of William & Mary in 2007, Mia interned at the Smithsonian American Art Museum. She then taught English and Western Culture in Shanghai, China, for two years. A member of the Lawyers Committee for Cultural Heritage Preservation and the Student Animal Legal Defense Fund, Mia is committed to cultural and natural resource preservation. Last spring, she advocated for heightened protection of the Everglades and southern Florida ecosystem as an intern at the National Parks Conservation Association. This past

summer, Mia was a HOPE Fellow at the U.S. Department of Justice Natural Resources Section, where she helped defend challenges to federal agency actions concerning environment and natural resource laws on topics ranging from archaeological and historic preservation to forest management.

#### DAVID MILLER | CLASS OF 2014

U.S. SENATE, PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS, WASHINGTON, D.C.



David has always viewed his legal education as another step in furthering his passions for public service and policy-related work at the federal level. As an undergraduate at the University of Michigan, David spent time researching civil rights and employment discrimination cases for the Civil Rights Litigation Clearinghouse and spent his summers interning on Capitol Hill. Following graduation he worked for the Joint Committee on Taxation in the United States Congress for a year before entering law school. During the summer following his 1L year, David interned for the U.S. Senate, Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations in Washington, D.C. This past summer, David served as a

HOPE Fellow and a law clerk for the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations in the United States Senate. The PSI studies and investigates the operations of all branches of government as well as all aspects of crime that relate to the national health, welfare, and safety of US citizens.

#### MARIELLE MOORE | CLASS OF 2014

NATIONAL CENTER FOR LESBIAN RIGHTS, WASHINGTON, D.C.



Building on a passion for public interest law, Marielle Moore spent the summer following her 1L year as a legal intern at Florida Justice Institute, a nonprofit civil rights law firm that handles major, systemic litigation involving wrongful convictions, disability-related discrimination, and class actions for indigent populations. At FJI, Marielle developed critical legal skills in drafting pre-trial motions, writing memoranda for senior attorneys, and coordinating the latest revision of the Elder Floridians Handbook — a legal resource for the elderly. Last year,

she worked with Miami Law's Children & Youth Law Clinic, representing children in foster care and former foster youth in dependency, health care, mental health, disability, independent living, education, immigration and other general civil legal matters. Marielle spent her summer as a HOPE Fellow at the National Center for Lesbian Rights in Washington, D.C. — a legal organization committed to advancing civil rights for those in the LGBT community through litigation, public policy advocacy and public education.

#### KRUPALI PATEL | CLASS OF 2014

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION (ACLU), HOUSTON, TX



Originally from Houston, Texas, Krupali Patel earned her BA in Psychology from the University of Texas at Austin. This past summer, Krupali was a HOPE Fellow at the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Texas working on their immigration campaign. Krupali became motivated to do public interest work after working with Miami Law's Children and Youth Law Clinic during her second year of law school. As an intern in the clinic, Krupali advocated for former and current foster youth. Her experiences gave her insight into the importance of representing marginalized clients who do not have a voice in the justice system.

## JORDAN REDAVID | CLASS OF 2014

MIAMI-DADE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE, MIAMI, FL



Jordan entered law school with a passion for helping disadvantaged members of the community. After spending a semester as a certified legal intern at the Miami-Dade Office of the Public Defender, Jordan realized he could channel his passion for helping people through indigent criminal defense work. This past summer, Jordan continued his work as a HOPE Fellow with the Miami-Dade Office of the Public Defender, in the felony division. Jordan also assisted the public defender's office to develop educational material for clients on

the potential consequences of accepting a guilty plea so that they may make more informed decisions.

### PAIGE REESE | CLASS OF 2014

UNITED STATES EMBASSY IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, SANTO DOMINGO, DR



Paige grew up in Louisville, Kentucky and graduated from Boston University. In her time at Miami Law, she has worked at the United States Attorney's Office in San Juan, Puerto Rico, the Department of Homeland Security, and the United States Coast Guard. These experiences led her to apply to the United States Embassy in the Dominican Republic. As a HOPE Fellow at the U.S. Embassy, Paige worked on projects involving diplomatic relations between the United States and the Dominican Republic. She is passionate about helping others develop cross-

cultural connections around the globe and hopes to work in foreign service upon graduation from Miami Law.

#### JAMES SLATER | CLASS OF 2014

BET TZEDEK HOLOCAUST REPARATIONS PROGRAM, LOS ANGELES, CA



James Slater graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a Masters in Slavic Languages and Literatures. After leaving school, he participated in the National Security Education Program Russian Overseas Flagship, where he worked on human rights and environmental issues affecting Russia with the Bellona Foundation. After returning to the U.S., James worked with the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Kennan Institute, and more recently as a site director for a Department of State program in Kazan, Russia. This

summer James was a HOPE Fellow with Bet Tzedek Legal Services in its Holocaust Reparations Program, helping Russian-speaking survivors receive reparations, pensions, and other benefits from Germany and Eastern European countries.

## JAMIE VANARIA | CLASS OF 2014

HARVARD LEGAL AID BUREAU (HLAB), CAMBRIDGE, MA



Jamie Lynn Vanaria is bilingual (Spanish-English) and has spent most of her career working directly with individuals in Latin America or with Hispanic immigrants. Through these experiences she has cultivated a deep understanding of cross-cultural issues. Jamie is passionate about working with Hispanic immigrants on projects involving civil and human rights. This summer, Jamie returned to her hometown of Boston to work at the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau (HLAB) in Cambridge, Massachusetts. At the HLAB, Jamie assisted recent Hispanic immigrants in civil matters regarding family and housing law.

#### LEAH WESTON | CLASS OF 2014

COMMUNITY JUSTICE PROJECT OF FLORIDA LEGAL SERVICES, MIAMI, FL



When Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans, where she started her undergraduate career, Leah returned to her native Miami inspired to make a positive change in the world. After graduating from the University of Miami in 2008, Leah worked for two and a half years at a small startup nonprofit and became involved in local activism through Emerge Miami, a group that creates social bonds between community and civic-minded individuals and organizations. This past summer, Leah was an Ella Baker Fellow at the Community Justice Project of Florida Legal

Services, which provides legal support to grassroots community organizations in Miami's low-income communities, working on issues such as foreclosure, labor rights, and voting rights restoration. Through this fellowship, Leah also participated in the Center for Constitutional Rights' Social Justice Institute, an innovative training institute for social justice law students and lawyers.

"I feel that Miami Law has uniquely prepared me to work in the public interest as a lawyer by giving me the resources, contacts, and guidance to let me move in this direction with my career. The advice has been honest, and the view of public interest has been as broad as my own. Some schools take a more narrow view and provide little support. UM has supported me and my conception of public service."

— Logan Haine-Roberts Miami Scholar HOPE Fellow

To learn more about HOPE and to support The HOPE Summer Public Interest Programs, see

law.miami.edu/hope

# Summer Public Interest Fellows Program

The Summer Public Interest Fellows Program (SPIF) is designed to engage the public interest-minded student for the first year summer. This selective program involves full-time work at a South Florida public interest agency for nine weeks during the summer and engage in a legal research and writing project. Fellows also participate in a workshop where members of the bench, bar and legal community visit and students share their experiences. Participating students are given a stipend and receive three academic credits.

HOPE is proud to support the public interest work of an increasing number of students who serve clients and communities in extraordinary ways.

"It is phenomenal to see the HOPE and SPIF students evolve as public interest advocates through their work locally, nationally and internationally. They are touched by the people and communities they serve and are committed to effectuating change and promoting access to justice for others."

— Marni Lennon, Assistant Dean for Public Interest and Pro Bono

#### NICHOLAS BANCROFT CLASS OF 2015

MIAMI-DADE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE, MIAMI, FL



Nick came to law school with a strong interest in criminal law and a desire to serve those less fortunate. This summer, Nick worked at the Miami-Dade Public Defender's Office. The Public Defender's Office was the first step in Nick's public interest career and has allowed him to translate his knowledge from the summer to his position at the Innocence Clinic this fall. He is determined to continue to find ways to ensure equal access to justice for clients facing loss of liberty.

## CARRIE CABRERA | CLASS OF 2015

CATHOLIC CHARITIES LEGAL SERVICES OF MIAMI (CLS), MIAMI, FL



Carrie graduated from the University of South Florida with a BA in Criminology. After graduation, Carrie began working in the public interest field as a Child Dependency Case Manager in Hillsborough County. During her time as a case manager, Carrie worked directly with families in the dependency system and was exposed to various legal issues, including criminal and immigration challenges. As a Summer Public Interest Fellow, Carrie was an intern at Catholic Charities Legal Services of Miami (CLS). CLS provides free and low cost legal aid to

the immigrant and refugee population in South Florida. This experience helped Carrie to further define the ways in which she will dedicate herself as an advocate.

## SHELBY CARLSON | CLASS OF 2015

LEGAL AID SERVICE OF BROWARD COUNTY, BROWARD COUNTY, FL



Prior to coming to UM Law, Shelby worked for several years as a gymnastics coach, where she found her passion for helping people and making a difference in others' lives. Having had the opportunity to travel and live internationally while growing up, Shelby developed an early interest in issues regarding human rights and minority advocacy, and became dedicated to promoting diverse environments. As a 1L, Shelby served as a tutor for Empowered Youth, a Guardian Ad Litem for the 11th Judicial Circuit of Florida, and is currently the

President of the Child Advocacy and Family Law Society. This summer, Shelby was a Summer Public Interest Fellow at Legal Aid Service of Broward County, where she was dedicated to assisting homeless individuals seeking access to services in South Florida.

#### KIMBERLY CARPEL ICLASS OF 2015

AMERICANS FOR IMMIGRANT JUSTICE, INC., MIAMI, FL



Kimberly became interested in public interest law after volunteering at Ronald McDonald House and Arbor House, which are both nonprofit organizations that focus on caring for homeless mothers and physically ill children. Her experiences with these organizations further developed her love of community service and motivated her to seek a career in law where she could represent clients who are unable to fully and adequately advocate for themselves. This summer, Kimberly worked with Americans for Immigrant Justice, Inc., where she assisted with providing legal representation to immigrant detainees.

#### SCOTT CUMMINGS | CLASS OF 2015

LEGAL AID SERVICE OF BROWARD COUNTY, CONSUMER LAW UNIT, BROWARD COUNTY, FL



As a criminolgy major during his undergraduate studies, Scott was fascinated by the complexities of the criminal justice system. He developed a desire to pursue public interest work after interning at the Broward County Public Defender's Office in the Felony Domestic Violence Division. He has furthered this interest by volunteering with Kids in Distress, which seeks to treat and prevent child abuse. As a Summer Public Interest Fellow, Scott continued his dedication to public service at Legal Aid Service of Broward County in the Consumer Law Unit, assisting in the defense of indigent clients who are facing foreclosure.

## AMANDA PHILLIPS | CLASS OF 2015

COAST TO COAST LEGAL AID OF SOUTH FLORIDA, BROWARD COUNTY, FL



Prior to law school, Amanda interned at the Office of the Public Defender in Broward County. There, she conducted client interviews and assisted in the courtroom with gathering information, completing forms, and addressing client concerns. She recognizes the importance of keeping an open mind and that all individuals deserve to have their rights protected. In addition, Amanda has a long-standing commitment to working for children and youth. For five years, she worked at The Boynton Beach Children's Museum. She served as a youth mentor for campers and planned community

events. She learned how important it is for children to have people who are dedicated to supporting and advocating for their well-being. As a SPIF Fellow, Amanda was an intern at Coast to Coast Legal Aid of South Florida in Broward. She conducted research for The Economic Advocacy and Community Health (EACH) Project, which seeks to secure equal justice for economically disadvantaged Broward County residents. Because Broward County has one of the largest Veteran populations in Florida, Amanda also assisted in improving and carrying out the VALOR Project, which provides education and representation to Veterans, active duty military, and their families.

## ROBERT RILEY | CLASS OF 2015

MIAMI-DADE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE, MIAMI, FL



A member of Miami Law's 2015 class, Robert obtained a bachelor's degree in history and political science at Florida International University, and a Masters of Science in Higher Education Administration at the University of Miami. As part of the Summer Public Interest Fellowship program, Robert partnered with the Department of Children & Families, Children's Legal Services Division. Children's Legal Services is Florida's legal authority on child welfare issues, leading the nation in advocacy of the care, safety, and protection of children and respected

for its competence, dedication, and professional expertise. In his role, Robert worked alongside departmental attorneys as they represented the State in the trial and appellate courts for Chapter 39 dependency cases. Through this role, Robert gained valuable experience as an advocate for the best interests of children, helping to ensure that these children achieve permanency, stability, and security.

#### RACHEL ROEBUCK | CLASS OF 2015

MIAMI-DADE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE, MIAMI, FL



After completing her undergraduate education, Rachel began work as an advocate for victims of domestic and sexual violence. There, she developed safety plans with clients, provided crisis counseling, and assisted survivors with a host of other needs. Rachel became extremely skilled in conflict resolution and refocusing despondent clients. She is committed to empowerment and respect for victims. As a Miami Scholar, Rachel is dedicated to exploring the many opportunities for advocacy on behalf of disenfranchised populations. This summer, as a

Summer Public Interest Fellow, she worked the Miami-Dade Office of the Public Defender.

## STEPHEN SEGALL | CLASS OF 2015

LEGAL SERVICES OF GREATER MIAMI, MIAMI, FL



As a political science major at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Stephen researched relationships between socio-economic classes, political ideologies, and other variables, as provided by the General Social Survey. After graduation, he managed contracted labor across the country for event and video production companies. A collision with a drunk driver forced Stephen to consider the value of affordable legal advice. This experience, among others, prompted Stephen to explore summer public interest opportunities. As a

Summer Fellow at Legal Services of Greater Miami, Stephen assisted attorneys providing civil legal services to low-income members of the Miami community and assisted veterans with discharge status petitions.

#### ANNA VINO ICLASS OF 2015

MIAMI-DADE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE, MIAMI, FL



As a Summer Public Interest Fellow, Anna brought her passion for public service to the Miami-Dade Office of the Public Defender. Anna became involved in advocacy when she was an undergraduate intern with the Public Defenders Office in Paterson, New Jersey. She learned that indigent clients in her community needed quality representation to fight a confusing legal system. Soon after graduation, Anna was hired as a staff investigator for the Public Defender Office in the Office of Parental Representation in Newark, New Jersey. She assisted the

attorneys with building cases for clients facing abuse and neglect charges from the state. This summer, Anna was able to take her dedication to helping clients in the field to helping clients in the courtroom, and was engaged in special projects in support of the Miami-Dade Public Defender.

#### STEVEN VITALE | CLASS OF 2015

MIAMI-DADE STATE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, MIAMI, FL

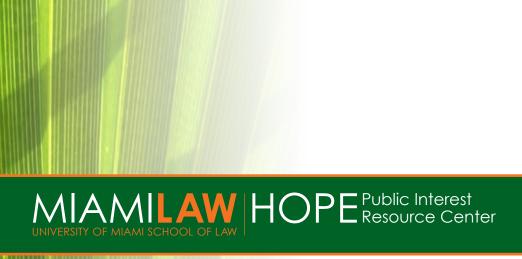


A South Florida native, Steven Vitale worked at the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office this summer as a Summer Public Interest Fellow. Throughout his academic career and beyond, Steven has always shown a strong interest in public service. In high school, Steven was involved in a program called Challenger Baseball, where he coached and mentored mentally and physically disabled children. During his undergraduate years at Rollins College, Steven served as Community Service Chair for his fraternity, Tau Kappa Epsilon, and

endeavored to act locally and make an impact on the immediate environment through campus involvement and community service. In his capacity as Community Service Chair, Steven planned and initiated several service programs and projects including: Habitat for Humanity projects, Coalitions for the Homeless, Highway Cleanups, Youth Mentoring Programs and an annual Relay for Life. His work in this area did not go unrecognized and he was honored with the New Member of the Year Award by the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership. This summer, Steven gained invaluable experience exploring issues of criminal justice from the perspective of the prosecution.

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UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI SCHOOL of LAW

