

Externship in Senator Harry's Reid Las Vegas Office

Students participating in Senator Reid's legal externship are responsible for providing assistance to members of the Southern Nevada community requesting Senator Reid's help resolving problems of an international nature. The majority of these requests involve immigration problems externs will resolve by communicating with various federal branches such as the Department of Homeland Security, Department of State, and Department of Justice. Students will have the opportunity to work on a wide variety of issues that include providing assistance to American citizens who have encountered problems while living or traveling abroad, passport issues, international child abductions, United States citizens imprisoned abroad, questions and problems regarding international business and investment, international child adoptions, emergency travel requests, airport security, and dealing with concerns raised by foreign diplomats.

While the largest portion of an extern's time is spent on casework, students have the unique opportunity of identifying serious problems in the aforementioned areas, writing memos advocating changes in the law, and recommending legislative solutions. These memos are reviewed and considered by the Senator and his legal counsel.

Externs are also given opportunities to attend events and receptions with the Senator, attend immigration court with staff members, and meet with immigration judges; they are also offered opportunities, if desired, to represent the Senator in community outreach. During this externship, students will be able to practice their client communication skills, manage a caseload, work independently, practice policy advocacy, conduct research, learn about government work, and network. Senator Reid's office welcomes externs interested in international law, immigration law, federal government work, or working for a Congressional office.

Externship in Senator Harry's Reid Washington Office

Students enrolled in the Washington D.C. externship will have the opportunity to work in the Democratic Policy Committee (DPC), the Reid Newsroom, Senate Democratic Communications Center, or in the Hart Senate Office Building. Under the supervision of professional staff, externs may work on a variety of issues such as energy and water, defense, environment, labor, health and human services, education, transportation,

banking, gaming, urban development, and Homeland Security. Some of the duties externs will perform include attending committee hearings, drafting memos and providing legislative and policy analysis reports for Senator Reid's policy advisors, research analysis and legal counsel. Every effort will be made to meet the expectations of the externs.

One student was placed in the Democratic Policy Committee where he primarily worked within the Votes office. He was assigned the task to analyze Senate floor debates from 2004 and summarize the arguments for and against each bill amendment that went before the Senate. This information was then placed within the 2004 Record Votes, a publication prepared by the DPC for the benefit of Democratic Senate members. While working within the Votes office, this extern summarized the floor debates of more than 150 votes—the bulk of the Senate's business from 2004.