

Summer Experience: Lilli Marshall '26L

Lilli Marshall spent the summer working with the litigation and labor and employment practice groups at Williams Mullen in Richmond, Virginia.

By Law Communications
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Lilli Marshall '26L

Lilli Marshall '26L is a second-year law student at Washington and Lee and is originally from Melbourne, Florida. She is an active member of the W&L community, serving as a Kirgis Fellow, German Law Journal junior editor, Law Admissions ambassador, and Vice President of Service and Mentorship for the Women Law Students Organization (WLSO). This past summer she worked with the litigation and labor and employment practice groups at Williams Mullen in Richmond, Virginia.

How did you find/get this position?

OUTSIDE LAW SCHOOL

Hobby/Interest

Hot yoga, tennis, reading

Book/Podcast Recommendation

Anything by Elin Hilderbrand or James Patterson.

Favorite thing to do in Lexington

Frequent the local coffee shops!

My interest in the Richmond market was sparked by my twin sister, who works as a news reporter in the area. During a winter break visit, I had the opportunity to attend a 1L networking event at Williams Mullens (WM) and connected with the attorneys. I applied for the summer associate program within the next few days and after a couple of rounds of interviews, was fortunate to secure a role with the firm.

Describe your work experience.

I appreciated the guidance of the many WM attorneys who mentored me this summer. I had the opportunity to shadow various depositions, hearing, trainings, trials, and phone conferences, all of which provided invaluable practical experience. Additionally, I wrote legal memos and conducted research on a variety of legal topics.

What were some skills you developed this summer?

The most significant skill I developed this summer was the ability to write and conduct research more efficiently. Prior to this experience, my writing included only a few smaller legal memos and the famous 1L appellate brief. I engaged in in-depth research and produced multiple legal memos, which helped me refine my skills and become a more effective researcher and writer.

What surprised you about the work you did this summer?

I was heartened by the genuine interest the attorneys and staff expressed in me both personally and professionally. I made it a priority to connect with as many attorneys as possible across various practice areas and levels to gain a deeper understanding of the firm's culture. Through these conversations, I particularly valued learning about each attorney's legal journey and their unique approach to their practice.

What was your favorite aspect of this summer work experience?

My favorite aspect of the summer experience was definitely the people. My summer associate class was incredibly tight-knit and supportive, which helped ease any nerves as the only 1L in the office. Additionally, the summer associate events were a highlight! The recruiting team organized a fantastic lineup of activities including playing with goats, wine tastings, and cooking classes, all of which made for a memorable summer.

Has this experience helped you figure out post graduate plans, and if so, how?

Yes, I am thrilled to be returning to Williams Mullen next summer, and I hope to join the firm after graduation.

How do you think this experience will shape the rest of your time at W&L Law?

I am focused on pursuing a career in litigation after graduation, so I plan to be intentional about selecting classes and practicums that will provide me with additional experience in this area, especially those emphasizing writing and research.

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