

Internship Testimonial of Obert Kondongwe

Name: Obert Kondongwe

Year of Study: Final Year

University: University of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe

I am so pleased to share my internship experience at DMH. I have been an intern for almost a year and the experience is one that has cultivated in me a discontent with mediocrity. It has given me a great learning experience and an opportunity to establish a formidable legal foundation. For the aspiring intern, I say this, do not come to this firm expecting to do the run of the mill legal work in some back office. DMH will expect you to participate on every level, the decision to take fully what the internship programme offers is ultimately yours to make.

During my internship, I have been exposed to a variety of work in each of the four units in the. I initially started by internship in the Commercial & Financial Services Department, a challenging start, as I got to work on mandates that involved a new area of discipline for me. I was part of a team of lawyers who worked on company restructuring, due diligence exercises on large corporate and researched on interesting commercial aspects of our law.

On my second cycle, I was stationed in the Employment and Litigation Unit and was actively involved in labour matters where I shadowed the partners in the unit in arbitrations, conciliations, retrenchments meetings and also helped research and prepare legal opinions. I received training in client care and management through this first - hand experience. This has helped greatly in improving my interpersonal skills. The level of responsibility I have been given at the firm combined with the exposure, has boosted my confidence. With the requisite preparation before hand, I now know I can achieve anything.

The way the DMH has opened its doors to me during my internship, was unanticipated, but it has resulted in such growth and sharpening of my skills. It's an experience that is second to none.

Most importantly from a student/intern perspective is the fact that the firm conducts in-house continuous legal training sessions (CLT) regularly which ensures that the firms lawyers are always up to date on the developments in the legal field, engenders good team work as the most senior partner to the most junior practitioner in the firm attends these sessions. I benefitted immensely from the classes and the mentorship I receive from each of the partners and associates I interact with daily.

I can safely say that I have been moulded and nurtured for a future of greatness in the legal profession. The DMH internship has been a great stepping stone and foundation for my professional career. I have developed strong leadership and interpersonal skills that have been unanimously praised by my colleagues at school. I therefore offer my recommendation enthusiastically to any would be intern with DMH without any reservations. I assure every aspiring intern, that your dreams will find full expression at DMH.