



A DAY IN THE LIFE

*Joel Johnson
Summer Clerk*

Summer clerk Joel Johnson gives us an insight into his time at Gilshenan & Luton.

What made you want to take part in the clerkship?

There are two main reasons why I wanted to take part in the Gilshenan & Luton summer clerkship. Firstly, I did not have any experience working in a private law firm and I thought that this would be a good opportunity to get that experience. Secondly, I have not decided which area of law I would like to practice but I am particularly interested in white-collar criminal law and I believed the clerkship would help understand and decide if criminal law is for me.

How long did it last?

The summer clerkship with Gilshenan & Luton lasted 4 weeks.

What did you get up to during the clerkship?

During the clerkship I had access to a great range of different experiences. I completed several research tasks; some of which were to assist counsel mid-trial and some for the purposes of preparing internal memorandums.

I participated in numerous legal workshops to better inform my advocacy, research, organisation and writing skills. There were also workshops that provided me with a greater knowledge of my role as a future legal practitioner including topics such as ethical obligations, client care, private practice and building my career.

The clerkship was also great in terms of obtaining purposeful court experiences. I observed various court matters in the Magistrates, District and Supreme Court. I had the opportunity to be involved in a trial from beginning to end and I also conducted my own mentions.

Can you talk us through your most memorable day?

My most memorable day would have been the first day of trial. I witnessed the atmosphere and preparation involved in day one of a trial. I hope to someday practice as a barrister, so having the opportunity to witness a barrister perform their job from start to finish and be able to ask questions throughout was really an invaluable experience.

Gilshenan & Luton would like to thank Joel for taking the time to answer our questions. We hope you enjoy reading the answers.