

INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Sarah A. Zelmoré

Graduation Semester & Year: Projected Spring 2021

Semester & Year of Internship: Fall 2018

Major: Criminal Justice

Minor: Psychology

Hobbies: Some hobbies of mine are turkey hunting, reading presidential history, and spending time with my family and friends.

Hometown: Mount Pleasant, Pennsylvania

Campus Activities: Since starting at Pitt- Greensburg I have searched for activities to become involved in and will be deciding soon!

Future Plans/Career Goals: To work as a narcotics agent within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Office of the Attorney General.



- **Internship (company/your title):**
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General – Bureau of Narcotics Investigation and Drug Control (BNIDC) Intern.
- **How did you find your internship?**
I did not “find” my internship, my internship found me. Due to the work I have done within Westmoreland County the opportunity presented itself and I acted! I would not change a thing as far as how it happened. Since working at the AG’s Office, it has opened new doors and has sent me places I never imagined possible.
- **What were your duties?**
Some duties of mine were to catalog information on the site of different raids, record and transcribe conversations from Butler County Prison, and to participate in different travel site operations and so much more!
- **How many hours per week were you at your internship site?**
The hours per week that I spent at my internship varied due to what we were working on and traveling time to different sites. I was required to attend my internship Monday – Friday to keep my security clearances activated.
- **What did you enjoy most about your internship?**
During my internship, I enjoyed listening to recorded phone calls sent from Butler County Prison to the Attorney Generals Butler Regional Office for me to transcribe as part of an ongoing investigation into a marijuana business. Each day I would begin by recording the day, time, and who I was on the transcription page, I learned codes to describe if I was able to make out some parts of conversations or if they were considered not usable or indescribable whether the inmate spoke about specific details of the investigation.
- **What was the most difficult aspect of the internship?**
The most difficult aspect of the internship was to watch children become mixed in due to their parent’s actions. This was difficult for me because I know growing up that my sister and I did not have to worry about that but those children did.
- **How did your experience at UPG and in the department prepare you for your internship?**
Since I was not at UPG before going to my internship, I believe my internship prepared me to come here. It made me want to continue on (in getting my degree). Becoming a criminal justice major with a minor in psychology let me not only apply my knowledge from my previous school (Westmoreland County Community College) but to introduce what I learned at my internship and apply it here to Pitt!

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- **How has your internship prepared you for a career?**

The internship furthered my interest in the criminal justice system because I knew I enjoyed what I did each day. There was never a slow moment within the office and that is the type of environment I like to work in. The fast pace, detailed projects, and ride-a-longs helped me to become even more secure in what I want to do with my life.

- **What recommendations do you have for other students about doing an internship?**

One recommendation that I have for other students about doing an internship is to keep an open mind even if you do not like the whole aspect of what you are doing (it may surprise you / you may find that you actually enjoy doing that part of the job in the end).

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