

Internship summary

I am very grateful to the IJA hosted the event, which gives me an opportunity to travel abroad to learn. I have stay in the United States nearly a month this time. I not only learned about the knowledge of the legal system, but also to experience the culture of the exotic, such as the American education system, political system.

By visiting the Supreme Court, I can understand how the Supreme Court accepted the appeal, as well as how to hear and discuss the trial and so on. By visiting the various of national museum, I understand the history of American culture and customs. By accessing White & Case LLP, I know the American lawyers system regime. By accessing public defender and prosecutor's office, I understand the American defense system and the criminal process. Of course, these visits have bring the greatest and unprecedented experience, and it is the understanding of the basis of the American judicial system,

During the time I stay in Baltimore County Court, I observed a medical malpractice litigation, start from jury selection to final judgment. This case was involved with professional field and the medical term were more frequently used. When selecting jurors, litigants and judges take more consideration about the background of the jury. In another word, have medical treatment background can understand the case more easily. In court, the two sides takes cross-examined around the evidence and witnesses. By observing this week completely, I learned lots difference from China's Civil Procedure.

During the time in Baltimore City Court, I mainly to observe the criminal trial. It gives me the deepest impression is that the criminal procedure requires extremely high standard of proof about evidence for a criminal. Defective evidence will lead to the prosecution eventually lost the case. In addition, in the United States, the presumption of innocence is the spirit which implement in the entire trial. When the defendant in court, he/she can take off his handcuffs and leg irons, put on suits, and to sit together with defense lawyers . Before the verdict made by court , no one can treat them as criminals, including judges and juries. In my observation of the trial, the prosecutor offered a defective identify transcripts , and because of the evidence is not enough , the jury found the defendant not guilty. Court acquitted the

accused immediately.

Sinan Zheng

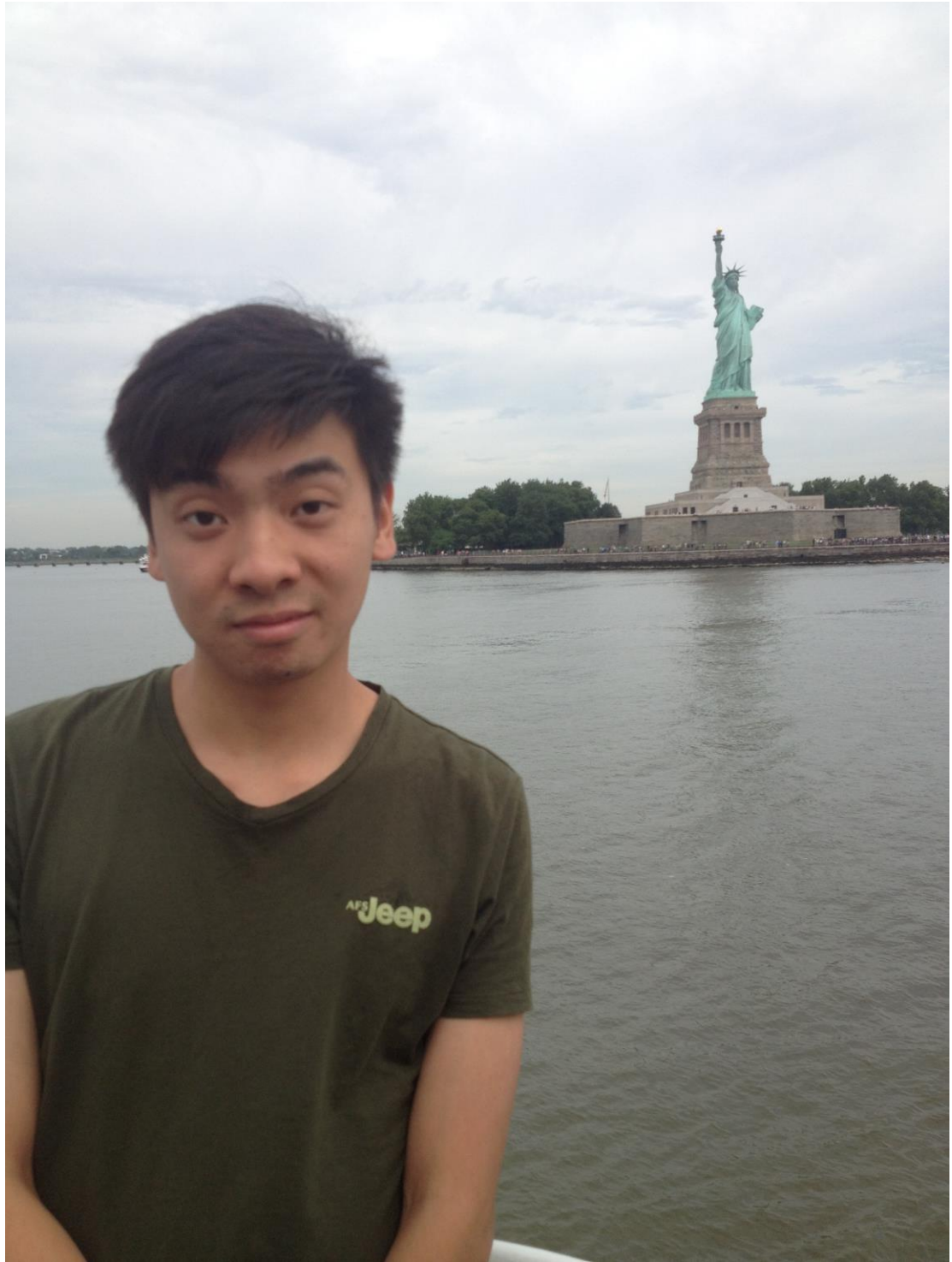


















Internship Report

Chen Ke

In the summer holidays of 2014, I am honored to have the chance to take up an internship in Baltimore City and Baltimore County Circuit Court. As we all know, only the best American law school graduates may have the opportunities to be interns in American courts, so I treasure every moment in my internship.

At the very beginning of the first-week study in Baltimore City Court, I was worried that I cannot make people understood clearly and please people there; however, when I was introduced to the five knowledgeable and open-minded judges, those worries and troubles vanished completely. They seemed outgoing and satisfied with our five foreign interns. Actually, I was an intern of Judge Carrion. Maybe, owing to her 17-year judge career and specialty of criminal law, she is very different from other judges in my mind. She remains serious and never drinks soft drinks in the bench as a professional and fair judge, but after the trial, she will ask my perspective about the case and answer my simple questions as a patient teacher. Furthermore, I form a good relationship and make friends with so many foreigners, including some honorable judges, law clerks and other interns there. It is well-known that American people are very nice and I do not want to say too much about the fellows I worked with in this short report. The key point is to share my views about the American legal system. Honestly, America is a country which shows great respect for the human rights. For example, the defendant has the right to approach the bench, listen to the discussion between other councilors and the judge and share the opinion with his lawyer during the trial. When a man is not been declared as a guilty person by the jury, he is an innocent man. Personally, I believe that every legal system has the similar principle, but America implements the principle thoroughly and effectively. Besides, Unlike in China, the judge in the United States experiences the supreme statue in the judicial system after being a long-time lawyer.

In addition to the internship in Baltimore, we spent a memorable time in Washington D.C., which is also a part of our judicial study program. We paid a short visit to the famous law firm---White and Case LLP, where we knew about the legal practice in the U.S. And the Office of the U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia, where the prosecutors gave a brief presentation of prosecuting works. Besides, we went to the Public Defender's Office, Legal Aid Society, the Supreme Court and etc. The most regretting thing for me is that we do not have the opportunity to visit the law School of Yale University, which is the best law school around the world.

By the time Happy Hour rolls around, I really learnt a lot from this judicial study program and have a deep friendship with foreign friends. Hopefully, I will have the chance to go back to that mysterious and warm land. Thanks for International Judicial Academy and Baltimore court for giving me this valuable opportunity.

Me, Phedra, Judge Carrion, Sinan Zheng and Ioana:



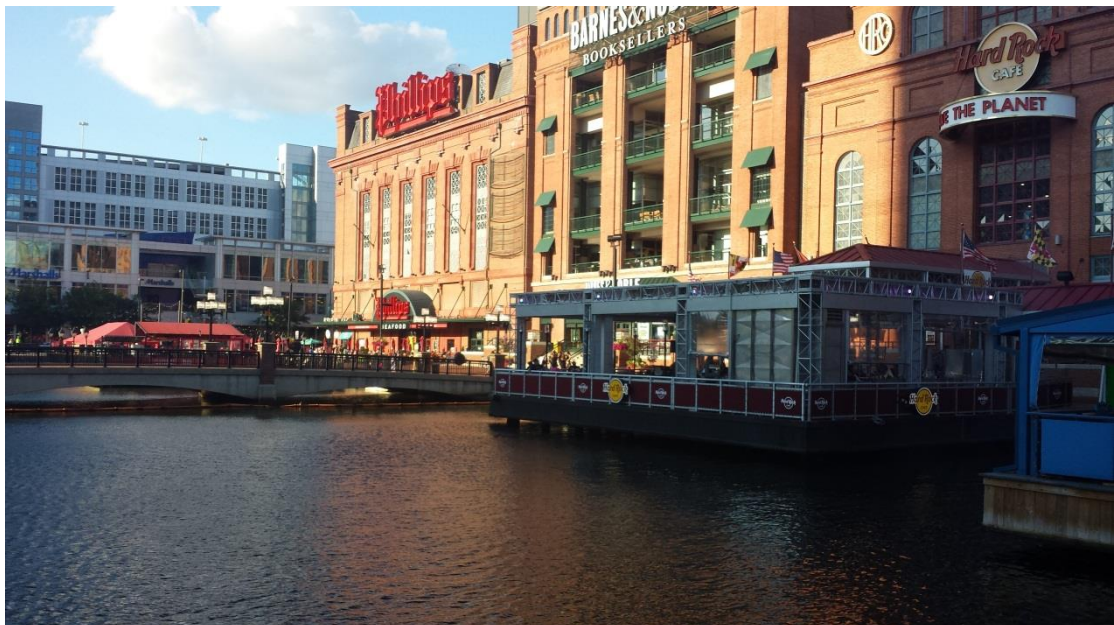
Judge Phin treated us for a lunch:



Judge Norman and me in Judge Ensor's chamber:



Baltimore harbour:



Judge Carrion and me in her conference room:



In Supreme Court:



In Princeton University:



Margie and me:



Baltimore County Court:



In White and Case LLP:



FEELINGS AND EXPERIENCES ABOUT THE PROGRAM

—————By Xu Yajie

It's my first time to the USA and my first time to practice abroad. It is three weeks for us to experience the life and work in America. During the period, I not only gained a lot of knowledge about American judicial system, but learned much about American culture and history. As a law school student, I pay attention to the differences of law between China and America more. As we all know, American law system which is the common law system differs from Chinese law system which is the civil law system. This program give me a chance to experience the distinct personally, and it is worth mentioning that my oral English improve quickly.

The first week, we visited the White & Case law firm, Public Defender Office and Legal Aid Center. Each question we asked was resolved by their patient answers. We mainly understood the current situation about lawyer, the work of the public defender and the legal aid system in America. We had a happy talk, and to me, it is a big task to adapt their speech rate and the American food.

The second week, we started our intern life in court. The first day, I felt a little nervous. However, Judge and law clerks were very kind so that I was not worried any more. My job was hearing the trial or plea then asking questions. I further understood the American law and I found that as long as you were free to ask question, you would learn more.

The third week, I went to the other court. According to last week's experience, I had known how to communicate with Judge and clerk better and my ability to hear the trial had improved a lot. So I felt better in my third week.

In conclusion, Judge and clerk cared about me so much and gave me a lot of warm help. We often talked each other not only about the American law but about the life

and culture in the USA. Through the program, I open my eyes and learn what I don't know before. I appreciate that I have the chance to own the impressive three weeks.

