

The agency for which I worked during the fall semester of 2011 is a personal attorney's office, Robert P. Braubach Attorney and Counselor at Law. Mr. Braubach, my supervisor, can be contacted by phone or email in his downtown office at

. More information about his agency can be found at

<http://braubach.home.texas.net/>.

The objective of the agency is to provide Mr. Braubach's clients (both individuals and businesses) with legal, tax, investment, and business advice. The specific areas that the agency specializes in are International Services, Real Estate, Immigration, International Business Law, Commercial Real Estate Law, and European Union Law. During my time as an intern, the goals of the agency especially focused on encouraging/aiding foreign businesses with investment in South Texas real estate and oil and gas (in the Eagle Ford area) as well as preparing speeches/presentations regarding the investment opportunity for European entities in South Texas to be given during his business trips abroad. Another strong objective of the agency during this Fall was that of initiating, confirming and planning the visit of the Namibian Ambassador, Martin Andjaba, to South Texas to discuss future investment opportunities between Namibia and San Antonio – specifically in the hunting and road construction industry.

Mr. Braubach also serves as the Honorary Consul of Belgium to South Texas.

Thus, another important objective of the agency is to provide advice, aid, and proper documents to both Belgian and U.S. citizens in matters concerning visas, international companies, legal issues, etc.

The intern's tasks and duties were variable on a day-to-day basis and were dependent upon which client required attention, if there was a business trip/speech to be given in the near future, etc. However, the overall responsibility of the intern was to maintain professional and timely correspondence with all clients and to ensure that all aspects of the agency were running smoothly. The first of these responsibilities required interns to send emails, faxes, and letters to future/current clients regarding new business opportunities/continued work business investment and formations. The second responsibility of the interns required duties such as to manage all of the business finances, to send out timely invoices to clients, and to establish new methods of office organization. Another duty of interns was to carry out research regarding international news, especially in regard to the recent Euro crisis and its effect on foreign investment in South Texas, in order to keep clients/speeches/advice valid and up to date.

A major strength of this internship was the real-life insight it provided to its interns on how an international attorney's office runs – not only insight but also hands on experience. The weaknesses of this internship lie in the fact that the day-to-day work of the intern doesn't always have a strong connection to the International Business/Law goals of the agency itself. While most days had some connection to

International Studies – researching updates on the E.U. crisis, planning a trip of a Prague lawyer to San Antonio to discuss the idea of investment in real estate, and working on Mr. Braubach international travel blog. – other days were filled with noninternationally related tasks like creating a new filing system, paying agency bills, or working on Mr. Braubach’s LinkedIn profile. This can either be viewed as a weakness for an International Studies internship, or as a strength in the fact that it demonstrates that all businesses have to spend time and energy on matters that are not the main focus/goal of the business (it is just the reality of the business world). A second weakness of the Internship was the supervisor’s dependence on the intern (since it is just the intern and him in the office). This dependence led to some misunderstandings in regard to time off for Holiday’s, class conflicts, etc.

All in all, I would recommend this internship to future Trinity students especially those looking into International Business or International Law (or just law in general). Perhaps a larger agency with more than one attorney would be a better choice for future students.