

Sydney was funded by the Rockefeller Center for a Winter 2021 internship, with generous support from the Dartmouth Lawyers

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## Sydney Towle '22 New Hampshire Supreme Court

Sydney Towle' 22 is a junior at Dartmouth College, pursuing a double major in government and environmental studies. Outside of the classroom, she interns for the Rockefeller Center as a Public Programming Student Assistant, for the Sustainability Office as a Waste Diversion intern, and for The Dartmouth newspaper as an opinion writer. Sydney is interested in pursuing a career in environmental law after Dartmouth and hopes to one day run for office to further the representation of women in politics.

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## **Executive Summary from Sydney's final report:**

This past winter I had the honor of interning at the New Hampshire Supreme Court under Justice Hantz Marconi. Justice Hantz Marconi is currently the only female justice serving on the court, which really drew me to the internship and inspired me throughout the experience. Justice Hantz Marconi's law clerks, Nicole and Erin, were also both female, so it was great to be a part of such a powerful and knowledgeable female team.

Throughout the internship, I completed a variety of work and assisted the law clerks with a range of cases, covering both criminal law and worker's compensation. In the beginning of the internship experience, I mainly worked on case briefs and perfecting the facets of a case brief; the facts of a case, the legal argument at hand, opinions, dissents, etc. This took a good deal of research on my part, as I have never written a case brief before

and was unaccustomed to the specific format of case briefs and the exact facts to include. The law clerks gave me a lot of directions and were always willing to answer any questions I had relating to the writing and articulation of the briefs. After writing a few briefs, I began assisting with the creation of questions for the Justice for oral argument. This involved reading the cases in detail, annotating them, and coming up with succinct and detailed questions for either the state or the defendant. It was difficult at times to really get into the weeds of a case and come up with questions that either side had not already addressed in their case briefs. I definitely learned how to be more inquisitive and creative throughout this learning experience.

Besides these two main projects, I also was given the opportunity to work on the court's Justices' Bios project, in which I edited and added to the entire list of Justices' bios that will be hung inside the court for visitors to see. I also participated in weekly meetings with the law clerks and was given the opportunity to attend virtual oral arguments when they were held.

The knowledge and experience I gained during this internship were invaluable to my future professional endeavors. I wasn't quite sure if I wanted to pursue a career in the legal field before this experience, having only taken a few classes specifically relating to law, but this internship helped solidify my desire to attend law school. It also granted me the ability to refine my research and writing skills, especially by giving me experience with Westlaw, the legal database containing all casework and statues. I will definitely use all of this knowledge when I pursue law school and have to complete similar assignments.