



Job Situation

Law offices, libraries, courtrooms. Desk, computer, phone and fax. Teamwork and co-operation. Deadline pressures. Reporting to law Partners. Long, regular hours.

Weekly Hours of Work

50

Overtime

Monthly Salary

\$3,500

Student Loan – Owing

Student Loan – Monthly Payment

\$430

Duties

Consult with clients. Research and investigate. Prepare cases. Consult with lawyers. Take notes in court.

Prospects

lawyer. Consultant.

Job Title

Article Clerk/Lawyer

National Occupational Classification (NOC)

4112

Job Description

As an articling clerk you will be able to fully prepare cases, but not present them in court. After a year, you will write your final examinations and be called to the bar. Then—finally!— you will be a fully fledged lawyer, able to address the court on your client's behalf. And maybe be offered a position here, by the looks of it. The partners told you that when they read your résumé they stopped looking. They also pay you more than the extremely low wages that clerks usually accept out of gratitude for the opportunity. Your salary will almost double when you are certified.

The work is as absorbing as ever. You are currently researching the history of a mining company that has spent a lot of time in court. When you finish reading the case you have a very healthy respect for the talents of all the lawyers involved. In the case you are preparing, the mining company is a secondary player. Your client has brought a lawsuit against the federal department of the environment! This is going to be a long and complex case, and you are secretly hoping that you will be practicing law by the time it actually goes to court.

The client is a citizen's action group concerned about a big mining and smelting operation moving to their area. They knew that smelting could be very polluting so they looked into it. They were shocked to discover that the smelter was not strictly required to use state-of-the-art air cleaning equipment. They went to the federal agency to ask them to impose stricter controls on the smelter.

When the federal agency said the matter was out of their hands, the citizens consulted one of the partners in your firm. She advised them that they had a case, although they might never win it. So your clients have sued the agency for dereliction of duty. Which is how you landed in the library today surrounded by books and notes and imagining your opening remarks to the court.