

CANDICE

GULLICKSON

DEPUTY STATE'S
ATTORNEY

ALUMNI CAREER SPOTLIGHT

ASK THE ALUM



Provide a brief job description. In your own words, what do you do on a daily basis?

As a deputy state's attorney, I am assigned to handle both juvenile and abuse and neglect cases. Tasks tend to vary on a daily basis, and depending upon the court docket and any emergency situation, the agenda for the day can change rather quickly. However, on a typical day I review police reports, reports from the Department of Social Services, review and analyze state and federal statutes and case law, draft petitions, orders, and findings, prepare for court proceedings and attend any court proceeding scheduled for the day.

What skills are most important for you to be successful in your position?

The skills that I believe are most important in this position are listening (and really listening, not just listening to respond), oral and written communication skills, empathy, sound analyzation and reading comprehension skills, and the creative ability to think on your feet.

What do you like best about your job?

I like being a voice for victims, for children or for others who may not have a voice otherwise.

What is the most challenging part of your job?

One of the most challenging parts of the job is working with interconnected systems, the limitations of each of those systems and the impact it can have upon the system as a whole. In addition, the law may not always be black or white; there are gray areas which leave room for uncertainty and unintended outcomes.

What is one piece of advice you would offer alumni looking to enter your career or industry?

Try job shadowing! Go to an open court proceeding or ask to job shadow at a private law firm or government agency (like the State's Attorney's Office). First, find out if you like what you see and if you could envision yourself doing something like it. Second, if it stirs some passion inside of you (or you start to argue one side or the other), then you know that it's going to be something that you like to do. Do what you love and love what you do!

Current Location:

Rapid City, SD

Graduation Year: 2019

Major: Law

Degree: Juris Doctor

Employer:

Pennington County

State's Attorney's Office

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