

Professional Development

Associate Voices

Muhammad Faridi

35 depositions and still developing

I joined the firm about three years ago as a litigation associate and approximately 1½ years after being here, I had significantly developed some of the skills which are necessary to become an effective litigator. For instance, I had taken about 35 depositions; I had worked on a few briefs which touched on some of the more significant issues in the commercial cases that I worked on at that time; I had a number of court appearances in a few of my pro bono cases; and as of today I have taken anywhere between 60 and 70 witness interviews and statements.

One of the things which makes practicing law at this firm as an associate a rewarding experience is the fact that the partners here really care about your professional development. I recall taking anywhere between three to five depositions a week, while being on the road and emailing the transcripts of those depositions to the partners here at the firm. Some of the partners actually read through the transcripts, marked them up question by question and sent me their feed back, and that process ensured that the future depositions I would do a better job.

The firm also supports professional development through bar association activity. Since the time I've been here, I served as a Director of the Muslim Bar Association of New York, which was a one year term. And just recently, I was appointed as Chair of the Capital Punishment Committee of the New York City Bar Association. These opportunities have allowed me to network with some of the more junior and some senior lawyers here in New York City, who don't practice at my firm, and some of these people have become my mentors. So, Patterson is definitely a place I would highly recommend if you're interested in developing your litigation skills, getting some hands on experience.

