

Sunday, October 18, 1998

Mr. Guy Wildenstein  
American Society of the French Legion of Honor

Dear Mr. Wildenstein:

With this letter I want to send my sincere thanks for the opportunity you and your organization gave me this summer to work as an intern at the Prefecture des Yvelines in France. At the Prefecture, I worked under the guidance of Mr. Brochard in the Bureau des Affaires Generals for the month of July, 1998.

During my month at the Prefecture, I worked on several projects, including the reorganization of the archives containing the records of the industries located in Yvelines, and data entry for the files on the local hospitals and health workers. The most creative and interesting project I worked on was developing a pamphlet of tips to help unemployed immigrants present themselves for job interviews and write resumes and cover letters. I did this with the assistance of a young Frenchman who was serving his military service at the Prefecture, and it was later published and distributed.

I came away from my month in the Prefecture with a greater understanding of how the French local Government operates, ranging from giving drivers permits to dealing with the local gendarmerie. I also had the satisfaction of seeing some projects through to the end, and, finally, the use of my French in an everyday working situation. The internship benefited me academically and left me with lasting friendships. (I continue to correspond with the other French intern who was studying at Science Po and with the young French soldier serving his military duty in the Prefecture.)

Many thanks again for giving me this unique opportunity.

Yours truly,

  
Jenaro Cardona-Fox