

insights

Thompson Coburn and SWIC: A New Partnership for Legal Education

Thompson Coburn is proud to be the first law firm to partner with Southwestern Illinois College (SWIC) for a new Paralegal Apprenticeship program. The SWIC initiative combines paid, on-the-job training with the flexibility of continued education, allowing apprentices to gain valuable real-world experience while pursuing their Paralegal Program coursework.

Kaylie Holt, the first apprentice in this program, began with the Firm on January 6, 2025. Throughout the apprenticeship, Kaylie will play a vital role in supporting our legal teams by assisting attorneys and experienced paralegals in drafting various legal documents while developing the skills needed to conduct in-depth investigations and research.

Kaylie's journey towards a legal career began in 2023 when she embarked on the SWIC Paralegal Program. Her passion for the law has been evident since high school, and she has consistently demonstrated academic excellence. Prior to joining Thompson Coburn, Kaylie honed her skills in customer service roles and gained valuable experience in legal research and writing. This unique partnership between Thompson Coburn and SWIC is St. Louis Metropolitan's first, exemplifying a commitment to fostering the next generation of legal professionals. By providing hands-on experience and valuable mentorship, the Paralegal Apprenticeship program empowers aspiring paralegals like Kaylie to thrive in their chosen field.

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