

# Legal Outreach at THE BRONX DEFENDERS

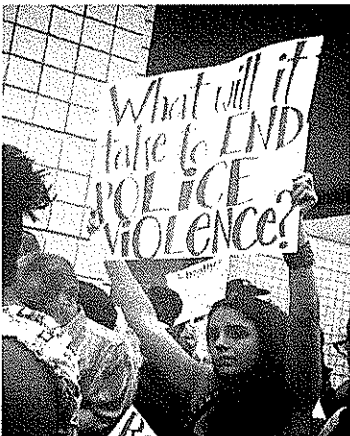
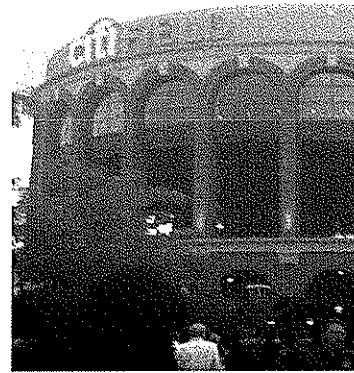
*During the week of August 5-8, 2013, four rising sophomores from Legal Outreach interned with The Bronx Defenders. The interns were: Jazmin Bramble, Merari Denis, Adenique Lisse, and Carlos Salas. Below are some of their thoughts on the week.*

I had a pretty amazing week at the Bronx Defenders. Going to court, meeting different lawyers, being assigned a mentor, and learning about actual cases made me realize what I like and don't like about the law. I even learned a lot about baseball from going to a Mets game!

**-Merari Denis**

At the Bronx Defenders, I learned what it's like to be a real defense attorney. I experienced the busy life of a lawyer, going from courtroom to courtroom and meeting with clients, as I shadowed my mentor. My mentor ran into challenges trying to get paperwork for her client. She ended up having to reschedule her court appearance because she could not get it in time even though she tried her best. The lesson that I learned was that as an attorney, you need to do what's in your client's best interest, even if it means going out of your way.

**-Jazmin Bramble**



At the beginning of my internship I did not speak much to anyone. Now, I realize that I have become more outspoken and comfortable conversing with just about anyone. I also learned new legal terms that will help me in my future. The attorneys at the Bronx Defenders truly made me feel like a real lawyer. We went to court every day, and all of the cases I observed were interesting—even the long ones—because I found the direct and cross-examinations very intriguing. I had a fun but productive week. I became more experienced and knowledgeable of the law and how the court system works.

-Carlos Salas

This week I learned how to develop a good facts/bad facts chart, create a bail application, conduct a cross-examination and write a closing argument. Overall, my communication, listening and writing skills improved. These skills are all essential in the field of law.

-Adenique Lisse

# Where are they now?

## Former Intern Profile

My internship at the Bronx Defenders was significant because it was my first exposure to the legal field. From working on cases that resembled the challenges of what people in my own neighborhood were experiencing to hosting a successful block party, I learned the value of a strong support system. The Bronx Defenders showed me that there are people who actually care about the lives of the people they are defending and that being able to give back to a community so that others can have opportunities is a true measure of success. I attend John Jay College of Criminal Justice and am majoring in forensic psychology. Becoming a lawyer is definitely my career goal. I am thankful to the Bronx Defenders for opening a window of opportunity for me.



Istou Diallo, class of 2013, served as an intern at the Bronx Defenders during the summer of 2010. She is a freshman at John Jay College of Criminal Justice.