

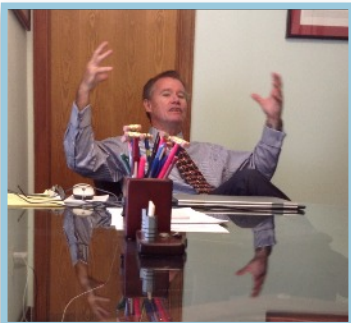


Law III - IV Interviews in First Quarter, 2016-17

Plaintiff



Dominick Impastato '97



Chester Fleming '72

Judge

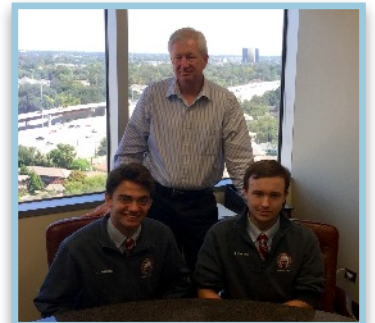


William "Chuck" Credo '68

Defense



Philip Radecker '68



David Persons '75

Patent Law



Dr. Lin Hymel '72

Family Law



Keith Credo '72

Estate Planning



Matthew Treuting '99

Law IV students Zac Adams '17 (left with David Persons and right with Matthew Treuting) and Jude Bocage '17 interviewed attorneys practicing in a range of areas. See their stories on [page 4](#).

Courtroom Discoveries


Reflections on What We Observed

By Zac Adams '17 and Jude Bocage '17

Plaintiff attorneys are both personable and tenacious, working firmly to prove the other parties in the wrong. Plaintiff attorneys are usually located in easy-access, public areas convenient for their clients.

In contrast, **defense** attorneys are typically located near larger businesses, in high-rise office complexes, or near the courthouse. Defense attorneys are usually calm, level-headed individuals who aim to reach a settlement that will benefit their client.

Patent attorneys deal with a highly technical field of law, so they must be able to both understand the statutes and variations of the law and negotiate well on behalf of their clients. Start-up businesses and research universities typically use patent attorneys.

Estate attorneys, like defense attorneys, often aim to negotiate a settlement rather than head to trial. Typically calm and relaxed, they seek solutions that will benefit their client while also satisfying the other parties. 


Think Law I

A hands-on, project-based course in Criminal Law by Chuck Credo

Using a murder case as their curriculum to explore criminal law, students in Law I are learning how to think like an attorney. They read the witness statements, examine the physical evidence, and learn public speaking skills to interrogate witnesses and present basic forensic arguments as either the prosecuting or defense team in a mock trial.



Teacher Robert Pinero '80 and Chuck Credo with seniors in section A of Law I: Jeremy Smith, Kelvin Manzanares, Gavin Oddo, Randall Duhé, and Faron Boudreaux.

Chuck Credo has already taken the two classes to the Jefferson Parish Coroner's Office. "The visit to the coroner's office was the highlight of the first quarter," said Law I student Kelvin Manzanares '17. "I am looking forward to examining the forensic information on the murder case that we will argue in mock court." 

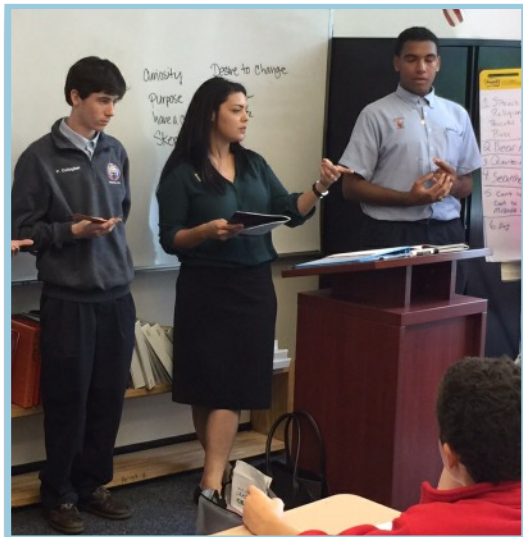


Business - Law II

A hands-on, project-based course in Business and the Law

Students use hands-on scenarios to develop basic skills in business setup, administration, financing, marketing, and accounting.

This quarter, the students reviewed legal terms and concepts while also starting the Junior Achievement program *Be Entrepreneurial*. The program is designed to help students begin an entrepreneurial venture by developing a business plan. Alumni lead the class by introducing their businesses as real-life examples for subsequent class activities. The class will also incorporate parish, state, and federal regulations into their business plans.




JA's Jordan Darcie leads Law II students Peyton Callaghan '17 and Deiveon Martinsen '17 in role-playing as business directors.

Recent alumni visitors include Brent McCrossen '92 and Anthony Restel '87.

Brent McCrossen spoke about the two music businesses that he has founded. He also stressed his strong connections with the legal

profession, as he deals

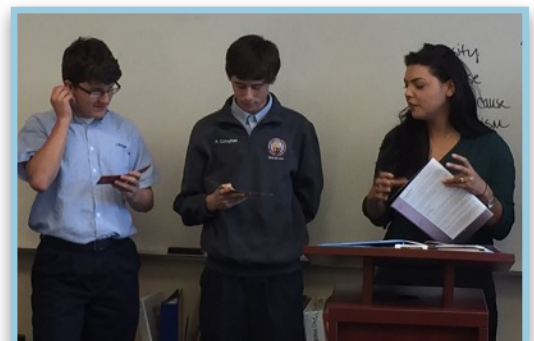
with the intellectual property rights of music artists.

Anthony Restel serves as the chief financial officer at Iberia Bank. He explained the variety of jobs in the banking industry and the value of hard work in gaining a foothold in the industry. By working through some internships, Anthony demonstrated his commitment to learning and getting the job done. He won a professional-level position over several candidates with degrees from prestigious universities because he proved that he was committed to doing the job well. 



Brent McCrossen with senior Geovanny Rosales, Bob Whitman '69, and students Robert Castell '19, Albert Teppen '19, and Justin Becker '19.

Students Justin Becker '19 and Peyton Callaghan '17 practice business skills with JA's Jordan Darcie.



Attorney Interviews

What We Learned

By Zac Adams '17 and Jude Bocage '17

LEGAL BRIEFS is a periodical publication of the Law and Business Studies program at Archbishop Rummel High School. Edited by Sarah Ross, Ph.D., sross@rummelraiders.com. If you would like to participate in any aspect of the program, contact Bob Whitman '69, bwhitman@rummelraiders.com.

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Our first meeting was with Keith Credo, Chip Fleming, and Lin Hymel, all graduates of the class of 1972. The meeting took place at Mr. Fleming's law office. **Chip Fleming** is a personal injury/medical malpractice attorney, so he works with clients who have been injured and need a lawyer. **Keith Credo**, a family law attorney, had to leave early because of an emergency with a client — giving us a real-life example of last-minute changes that an attorney's practice sometimes requires. **Dr. Lin Hymel** has a Ph.D. in molecular biology and a law degree from Georgetown University. He practices patent law in Boston (we spoke via Skype), dealing with universities and start-up businesses.

Next, we met with **Phil Radecker** in his law offices on the 32nd floor of the Entergy Building in the business district of New Orleans. Phil earned his bachelor's degree in English from Tulane University, settling into first the military and then sales. After a few years of sales and noticing that he was not passionate about his work, he decided to apply to law school at Loyola University. He chose to become a defense attorney because he does not like when people or businesses are punished too harshly or accused unjustly. For that reason, he tries to avoid punitive damages for his clients.

The third meeting was at the law firm of **Dominick Impastato**, located in uptown New Orleans. Dominick earned an undergraduate degree from LSU and then his law degree from Loyola. Just ten minutes into the conversation, Dominick received a phone call from a lawyer he was working against in a case that had recently been settled. The defendant's lawyer was calling back to strike a better deal. Mr. Impastato told the other attorney that the case was settled and the cash was already sent. When the defendant's lawyer tried to strike an under-the-table deal, Dominick flagged it as unethical, told the lawyer "good luck," and promptly hung up the phone.

The next visit was with **David Persons** in Metairie at the Galleria. He majored in English before entering law school and now works as a defense attorney. In a recent case, he defended a fitness center that had been sued after broken exercise equipment caused the plaintiff to undergo surgery. When the plaintiff refused to accept a settlement smaller than he felt entitled to, he ended up taking an award much lower than he wanted. Mr. Persons advised us that it is best to find a settlement between the parties before thinking about going to trial. In any good settlement, neither side will end up happy, but it achieves a quick solution and ultimately satisfies both parties.

In the final interview of the quarter, we met with **Matt Treuting**. He earned an undergraduate degree in accounting from Tulane and a law degree from LSU. He specializes in tax law. In tax law, he advises his clients regarding tax code. Since the tax code has many variations, he is always on the lookout to ensure that his clients get what they need and deserve while paying their taxes.

