

Nicole Novotny

WLFC Scholarship Winner

Nicole Novotny, a native of Mentor, Ohio, is currently a 3L day law student at Capital University Law School. Nicole graduated Eastern Michigan University *summa cum laude*, with a Bachelor of Science in Criminology and Criminal Justice, and a minor in Psychology.

Before attending Capital, Nicole served as an intern and case aid for the Lake County Juvenile Court, located in Painesville, Ohio. There, she learned a great deal about professionalism and the practice of law. Nicole's work included case processing, filing, preparing the docket, conducting case research, and completing numerous projects that were assigned by the Clerk's Office, the Probation Department, the Intake Department, and the Human Resources Department. Nicole admired the important work carried out by the Lake County Juvenile Court and it inspired her to pursue a career in criminal and family law.

After completing her first year of law school, Nicole's passion for criminal law grew inspiring her to apply for a legal clerk position with a Delaware, Ohio criminal defense firm that specializes in OVI. After undergoing a competitive interviewing process, she was selected for this opportunity. Nicole is thankful for her clerkship as it offers her numerous learning experiences that a casebook cannot provide.

As a first-generational law student, Nicole continues to take advantage of every educational and leadership opportunity Capital has to offer. Previously, she was a Day Student Liaison of the Women's Law Association, a member of the Criminal Law Association, and a Peer Advisor for 1L students. Currently, Nicole serves as the Director of Programming for the Women's Law Association, the Public Liaison for the Criminal Law Association, and a Peer Advisor for 1L Students. Additionally, Nicole received the Class of 1983 Scholarship; the Class of 2008 Students Giving Back to Students Merit Scholarship; and the Esther H. Brocker Scholarship.

Nicole enjoys the network she made with WLFC and plans to one day hang her own shingle to open successful private law practice handling criminal and family law cases.