

Starting Your Career in....

TORTS

1. **Tailor your academic work:** Take courses such as civil procedure, evidence, advanced evidence, torts, any advanced courses in torts, complex litigation, any trial advocacy class, equitable remedies and negotiations, LPS and advanced writing. Any opportunity to be in a courtroom setting is helpful.
2. **Moot Court Competition:** Be a participant in a Moot Court Competition as well as any trial advocacy class.
3. **Work Experience:**
 - **Private Sector:** Intern or work for a firm or a corporation that has a department that specializes in civil litigation. Most of the larger firms specialize in larger medical malpractice defense and insurance defense cases and are highly competitive for applicants seeking employment.
 - **Be a Research Assistant** for a professor who teaches a course in torts or civil procedure. Consider this opportunity to gain more research experience and strengthen analytical skills.
4. **Internship Programs:** Consider an internship that would allow you to work on cases from the beginning phase to negotiating deals to the court appearances. You will want to strengthen your research skills and gain more legal writing experience. Also, observe civil litigation court proceedings to see different styles of lawyering and learn courtroom etiquette.
5. **Professional Associations:** Become involved in ATLA, the Association of Trial Lawyers of America, www.atla.org, the Mass Bar Association, www.massbar.org and the Boston Bar Association. All have “Young lawyers” and Civil Litigation sections. The Mass. Trial Lawyers Association and the American Bar Association have a Tort and Insurance Practice Section, www.abanet.org.
6. **Read** newspapers, books and other publications with a focus on tort cases. *Lawyers Weekly* and *the Official Guide to Legal Specialties* are both available in the CDO library.
7. **Take continuing legal education courses** through bar associations, as well as through MCLE (www.mcle.org) and the Advanced Legal Studies at SULLS (www.law.suffolk.edu/academic/als). ALS programs are free for students! Add a CLE section to your resume!
8. **Attend a Massachusetts Bar or Boston Bar event** for networking and to learn about new tort issues and tort reform. They offer many programs throughout the year.
9. **Speak to professors** who have practiced in this area to learn more about their experiences.
10. **Network! Network! Network!** Speak to alumni and others about their careers. Go to our website, www.law.suffolk.edu/career and click on Alumni Career Network. (you will need the monthly password to gain access to this Database)