Carian Mora

Senior Class of 2017

Dr. Carr

Job Reflective Narrative

On December 2, 2016, I Carina Mora had a wonderful opportunity to job shadow a remarkable women named Danielle Oliveira. I say remarkable because who can all say I cut up dead bodies for a living and help out people; not everybody. I choose to job shadow Ms. Oliveira because my whole life I have been interested in forensic pathology and I dream one day I am able to become a forensic pathologist. The interview took place at the Tulare County Coroner’s Office.

My Interview started at seven in the morning, as I entered the building she showed me to her office and discussed what were the plans for today’s interview. She mentioned “due to my age se is not allowed to show me any autopsy’s but she will go over what happens in an autopsy room and the tools used to perform an autopsy.” I was a little disappointed but at least she was going to explain the procedures taking place during an autopsy. As she showed me the way to the autopsy room we walked through two doors. The first door was like any other door but the second door was a heavy sturdy gray door. The room was big and pretty much except there was a metal table with holes just in case any body fluids escaped from the body. There to the left she should me a large refrigerator that can hold up to at least twenty bodies. Ms. Oliveira had stated “she prefers to finish up all autopsies before the weekend because sometimes the refrigerator messes up” After she gave her tour of the room she explained the tools and the procedures that take place. Once she finished the explanation of the tools and procedures she mentioned many different experiences she has encountered being a medical examiner. Many of her experiences helped me grasp what really happens in an autopsy room.

One important thing I learned from this experience is that in order to work in this career I need to receive a bachelor and a P.A license. While discussing with Ms. Oliveira I mentioned that I’m looking forward to attending Sacramento State University. She told me “Sac State is a really good school and I should really look into their sister hood school Pomona. They offer a 2 year course to receive a P.A license.” Throughout This interview I started to second guess myself if I wanted to become a forensic pathologist and learned that in reality I really want to become a P.A. They receive more hands on work and do not have to have to travel to other counties to do their job. Also they do not need to go to school as long as a pathologist. Although I was upset that I could not experience an autopsy in front of me but I enjoyed how Ms. Oliveira went through all procedures and her life experience in this career.

Every day I push myself to do my best even when I get lazy I think of my job shadow and it motivates me. This is my dream and something I plan on accomplishing. As long as I push myself and never give up I know I can become a pathologist assistant. Once I accomplish my goal another one will be created.