

SOC Career Connection

*Interning
Student:*

*Agency
Information:*

Supervisor:
Joseph Koleno
Deputy Warden

Address:
700 Rishel Hill Rd
Bellefonte Pa
16823

Phone Number:
(814) 355-6794

Centre County Correctional Facility

A Typical Day

During the internship you will follow and observe various roles inside the facility, such as the guards and counselors. You will see how new inmates are brought in, where they are housed and how they interact with the staff. You will have the opportunity to see how the employees of the facility handle daily issues like inmates requesting legal services, misconduct issues, processing, fingerprinting and training in how to be a correctional officer.

The Most Important Things I learned in the Field

I learned that to be a correctional officer or counselor you must be patient and understanding to what the inmate is asking of you. They don't always know the best way to ask for help or even what they need help with.

I have a much clearer understanding about how sociological theories of crime can be applied to the real world, as they come up virtually every day and in so many forms.

I am now more confident in wanting to pursue law enforcement as a career.

My Advice to Future Students

Be prepared to see rough people in close proximity. That was the hardest part to get used to and my first few days I was nervous around the inmates. Don't let them intimidate you, you are well protected and none of them have any interest in your presence.

The Highlight of my Experience

Easily the best part of the internship was working with the counselors. They get the chance to help the inmates deal with issues both inside and outside the facility. Legal, personal and otherwise, that can help the inmates adjust to life during and after jail. It helps make you feel that you may have helped someone change their life.

The internship was very important in preparing for my career. It showed me how to work with criminals and to remember that these are still people who are entitled to certain rights. It will help in my career because I will have some knowledge of how criminals operate.