FOR LAWYERS

Before you accept a first law job

From our article: **How to check supervision and support before your first law job**

Read it in full, with the sources for every figure: https://www.wilsonmannion.co.uk/insights/how-to-check-supervision-before-your-first-law-job

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IN SHORT

Check supervision by asking who will review your work, how often you will meet, how many matters you will hold and what training time is protected. The SRA expects firms to have an effective system for supervising clients' matters, and says less experienced staff need more of their work checked. Ask for the answers in writing before you accept.

Key takeaways

- Good supervision means a named person, regular time, checked work and a clear route when you are stuck.
- The SRA expects an effective system for supervising clients' matters. It sets no single model, so ask what this firm's is.
- Ask about review frequency, caseload, training time and the last person in the role. Get the answers in writing.
- Support is worth weighing against salary. A gap in pay shows on day one. A gap in supervision shows by month three.

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- [ ] I know my supervisor's name and level.
- [ ] I have been told how often we will meet, and when the first review is.
- [ ] I know how much of my work is checked before it goes out.
- [ ] I have a figure, or a range, for my caseload at month three.
- [ ] Training time is stated and protected.
- [ ] I know who I go to when my supervisor is unavailable.
- [ ] I have spoken to at least one other junior.
- [ ] I know why the role is open and what the last person did next.
- [ ] Pay, hours and working pattern match the advert.
- [ ] Probation, notice and review dates are in the offer letter.
- [ ] If I am qualifying, I know who confirms my qualifying work experience.
- [ ] I have the offer in writing before I resign.