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ullivan's first job after

Q&A QUICK HITS WITH JEREMY SULLIVAN

If you could meet anyone in the world today, who would you meet?
I would like to have met Bob Marley. I

I think we certainly don't get a lot of first-years using us for competitive intelligence. We work directly with partners. But I would say that any first-year who comes to a firm of our size needs to recognize every single one of the resources available to them to make them more efficient in their job. If the firm is smaller and does not have a law librarian, then legal research skills will be critical. It really depends on what type of firm they end up at. But certainly having those skills handy if they need them will help them immensely.

What professional development opportunities would you encourage newer law librarians take advantage of?

Participate in associations at the chapter and national level and look into special interest sections. If there is not something at the chapter level, there is likely a small local group you can join to network with other people. A core reason why I was able to progress in my job was that from an early point in my career I was going to NOCALL meetings and talking to or sitting around people who had been doing the job for 20 years, and now I'm that person. But I wouldn't have been that person if I did not get those perspectives and insights. Participation in an association, like AALL, and networking with your peers are absolutely essential.

You served as NOCALL Vice President and President from 2021-2023. What made you decide to serve in a leadership position?

I hate to say it, but I kind of felt like there was an inevitability to it. If you stay in the field and in the area long enough, eventually they will call your number and say, "Hey, do you want to do this?" But, when I did get the call, there was

no question that I wanted to do it. I have benefited for years from being a member of NOCALL, and I have participated in committees and done presentations and things of that nature, but leadership is a different thing, and it is something that I was never going to say no to.

I learned that I didn't take it seriously enough, that there is important work to be done, and that it is very easy to rely on people who have done the job before. While every chapter is different, I think that in many cases people are trying to codify best practices so that when you do get called upon for a leadership role you are not starting from scratch.

I had some of those things at my disposal, but I also had people that were friends of mine who have been in different leadership roles within NOCALL for years, and it was pretty easy to reach out to them and get their advice. This is important—you are the face of the chapter—and it is important for you to maintain the integrity of the chapter.

What advice would you give to a