

Claire Webb:

After getting a not guilty verdict for your client, the two minutes before you almost black out, because your anxiety is so high for the client. Even though it's not happening to you, you feel all of the same emotions. And it's just such a relief to watch the family hug and know that all this is put behind them and they can walk outside and know that they never have to deal with this again and that it really is over.

My name is Claire. I'm a criminal defense paralegal at Richards Carrington. I'd say on a day-to-day basis, I have phone calls with clients about their case, upcoming court dates, what we're working on. I have meetings with Doug and Drew and [Medallia] about the status of all of our cases. Any trial is really stressful and the families often travel from out of state to be there with their family member. And it's good to get to know the client's story because sometimes they're actually the victim of the system. I'd say the most rewarding part of working in criminal defense is obviously getting clients found not guilty or the case is just dismissed. It can really change their entire life. Some people might think that for different firms, it's just a case number or a client, but you can really feel the impact when a client is thanking you for saving their life.