

Madalia Maaliki:

Being able to stand up in a courtroom and have somebody that is your client that is just absolutely mortified or scared to be going through this criminal justice system, and being that comfort for them and being that person that can argue on their behalf and get them the best result, is extremely rewarding. At the end of the day, they're not just a defendant on a criminal docket. They're somebody that has a family, has a job, has a life to tend to aside from this criminal matter. We just want to get them back to a sense of normalcy again.

My name Madalia Maaliki, and I am a criminal defense associate here at Richards Carrington. I was a prosecutor for about five years, and I wanted to take that skillset that I learned at the district attorney's office and implement that as my role as an associate here doing criminal defense work.

One of the main things I really liked was the fact that they are former prosecutors. When you have a group of former prosecutors that are working on your case, they have insight and a sense of diving into the discovery in a way that a prosecutor would, being able to take that experience from working with law enforcement officers, other DA colleagues, experts, to get them a better offer. Not a lot of attorneys actually are in courtrooms day in and day out. During my time as a prosecutor, I have over 50 court trials just in front of a judge. Having that experience makes me comfortable in a courtroom. I'm not scared to go to trial and I'm comfortable making arguments, whether it's for bond, suppression hearing, things like that. It's one thing to talk the talk, but can you walk the walk? If you have a reputation for being a strong advocate in a courtroom, I think district attorneys are going to be a lot less likely to push things to trial because they know about that. Maybe that's going to result in a reduced offer, possibly a dismissal for a client, because they don't want to take it that route.

The fact that it's a boutique law firm, it allows us the opportunity and ability to really take the time and treat each individual case with the care it deserves. Our clients know we're going to go above and beyond to really do that extra investigation and go the extra mile to get them the best outcome. I don't think you get that same result when you're working with a bigger firm.