# Internship report

An internship at the Boston State House



Victoire Luneau

# Introduction

Thanks to the sister city partnership between Saint-Germain-en-Laye and Winchester, I had the amazing opportunity to spend three weeks in July doing an internship at the Massachusetts State House. During that time, I worked alongside Democratic Representative Michael Day and his team on the Judiciary Committee. This experience gave me the chance to both discover how an American political institution works and live in full immersion with a very welcoming host family.

Special thanks to the Winchester and Saint-Germain-en-Laye Sister City Association,
Thanks to the International Relations office at Sciences Po SGEL,
Thanks to Michael Day and his team,
And thank you to the Bettencourt family!

# The internship

Spending time at the Massachusetts State House really helped me better understand the American political system. As soon as I arrived, Michael Day's team welcomed me and explained the role of the Judiciary Committee, where I was doing my internship. I quickly met the rest of the team and the other interns. I really enjoyed working as a team with interns my age. From the very first day, another intern and I drafted a memo on qualified immunity in the U.S. We also had the opportunity to do research on specific topics, like a comparative study on state laws regarding assaults on healthcare staff by individuals with mental health issues. I was also lucky to attend some fascinating debates. Every day, we had talks where representatives and senators came to share their experiences with us. And finally, I even got featured on Michael Day's official Instagram account!

Depuis 1990
Jumelage
SAINT-GERMAIN-EN-LAYE
WINCHESTER, MA

representative_day
♫ The Dreamers · Goodbye Stranger

-INTERN SPOTLIGHT-

# VICTOIRE LUNEAU




**HOMETOWN:**
Versailles, France, but staying in Winchester, MA for the summer.

**SCHOOL:**
Sciences Po Saint-Germain-en-Laye

**FAVORITE MOMENT OF INTERNSHIP:**
Researching and writing a memorandum on qualified immunity.

MICHAEL DAY STATE REPRESENTATIVE

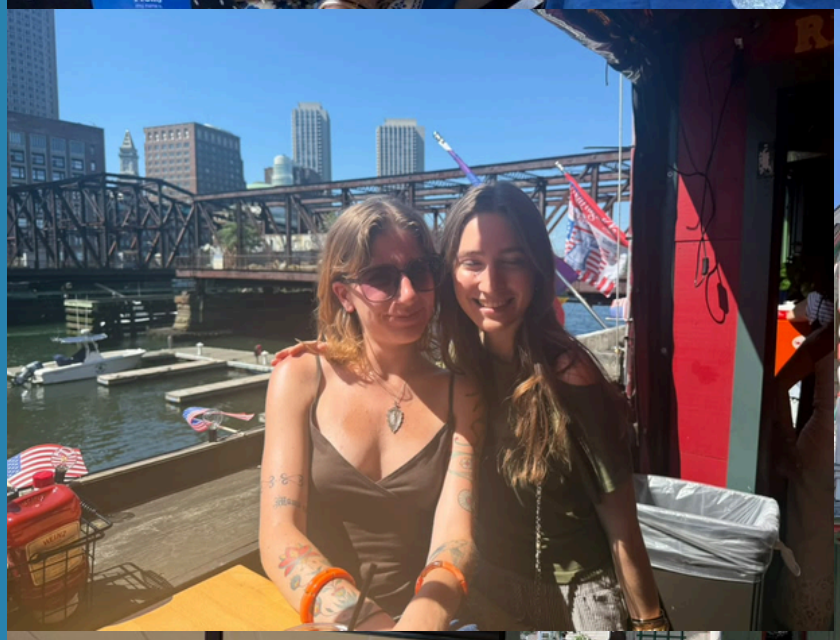




## My (amazing!) stay with the Bettencourt family

I was very lucky to be hosted by the Bettencourt family (Mike, Katie, Grace, and Violet). When I arrived at the Boston airport, Grace came to pick us up by car, and I was really impressed by my first sights of the Boston buildings and the pretty houses in Winchester. The first weekend after I arrived, the Bettencourts took me out for my very first lobster roll and it was absolutely delicious! I also went to see an intercollegiate game (not football, but ultimate frisbee!) with the girls. During the second weekend of my trip, the Bettencourts took me to Portsmouth for a day, where I had some amazing fish and chips. Finally, the weekend right before I left, I went to Cape Cod with Mike and Katie to stay at Katie's parents' place. I loved this trip, where we went to Martha's Vineyard, did some shopping, and went for walks!


Hello
Hello
MIKE




34


EXIT

# Boston

When I wasn't working at the State House, I was out exploring the different neighborhoods of Boston. I absolutely fell in love with the city, and I really enjoyed planning visits and sightseeing in my free time.

***THE FREEDOM TRAIL***

Our first day off with Méline and Hubert was dedicated to this 4-km walk connecting Boston's historic sites. We passed through Boston Common, the park located right in the heart of the city, and stopped by the Old State House, where the Declaration of Independence was first read to Bostonians.

***ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM***

This museum particularly stood out to me with its beautiful courtyard, as well as the paintings and objects carefully curated and brought back from all over the world by Isabella Gardner.

***MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS***

I didn't even know where to look first in the middle of all the huge wings at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. My favorite section, though, was definitely the Art of the Americas wing, which features a gorgeous collection of works by John Singer Sargent.

***BEACON HILL***

I ended up going back several times to this Boston neighborhood, which I loved just as much for its charm and historical heritage as for its pretty shops and concept stores!





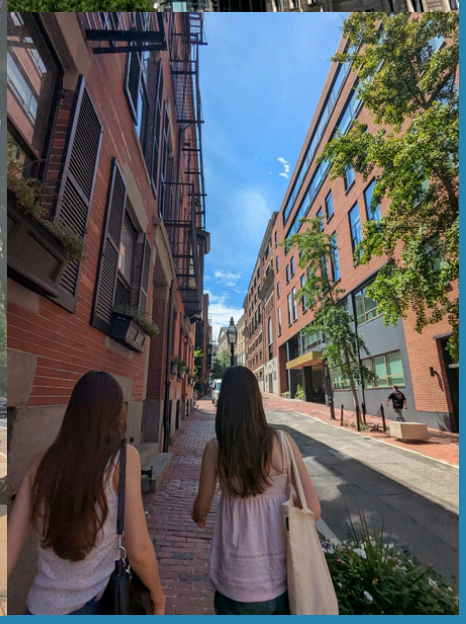












The Twinning Association members were amazing to us. Right on our first weekend after we arrived, a dinner was organized with all the members to meet everyone in a fun, festive atmosphere. We also got the chance to briefly talk about our experience on the local radio station, where the association presented us with a certificate. I'll also fondly remember the delicious burgers we had at the pool party, and especially the incredible tour of Harvard led by John McConnell, the president of the American side of the association. The tour was spectacular thanks to John's explanations, as well as the sheer size and beauty of the campus. It really makes you want to study there!


SENIOR
TOWN MANAGER

