8 Eden Court Columbus, GA 31904 (762) 207-6671 thornton destini@columbusstate.edu

### **CAREER OBJECTIVE**

To execute challenging and rewarding research in the field of medicinal chemistry. Focused and skilled organic chemist with a background in synthesis and biology.

### **EDUCATION**

Bachelors of Science Degree in chemistry, ACS Certified, Columbus State University, Columbus, GA

2022

Research Adviser: Dr. Kerri Shelton Taylor

Research Focus: Synthesis and Characterization of Functionalized Azole Rings against ALS cells

Biomedical Engineering, Mercer University, Macon, GA

2012-2015

High school diploma, Northside High School, Columbus, GA

2012

# PROFESSIONAL/RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY - Columbus, GA

Department of Chemistry

# Undergraduate Researcher - Dr. Kerri S. Taylor

Aug 2021 - present

• Synthesize a variety of imidazolium and benzothiazolium salts for use as potential pharmaceuticals against ALS cells. Evaluated structure activity relationship of substituted *N,N'*-bis(arylmethyl)benzothiazolium salts through substituent variations in the different series of the azolium salts.

# Teaching Assistant – Dr. Kerri S. Taylor/Dr. Samuel Abegaz

Aug 2021 – present

• Accurately assess students' lab reports. Supports instructors to help class adhere to all safety measures and regulations in the laboratory.

#### **AFLAC**

## Claims Specialist II-Sharonda Stewart

**October 2016 - August 2021** 

- Investigates and reviews all claims made by policy-holders
- Verified if coverage applies through an insurance policy.
- Examined, studied, and reviewed hospital and police records.
- Investigated claims made by insurance policyholders which covered accidents and disability for covered individuals
- Determined if claim submission was completed correctly, verified data and entered into system for adjudication
- Reviewed payments history to determine final payment amount, if any
- Provided independent decision making skills and demonstrated initiatives to resolve issues for internal and external customers
- Composed and typed routine letters and documented file activity on a regular basis on the computer
- Assists with the training of new hires
- Knowledge and use of ICD-9, ICD-10 and CPT coding
- Research and process claims according the processing guidelines and benefits
- Knowledgeable in relevant computer software programs Workdesk, PEGA, CPS, MS Excel and MS Word.

# **BEARFORCE**

# Office Assistant- Adrian Collier

**September 2014 - June 2015** 

- Operate office machines, such as photocopiers and scanners, facsimile machines, voice mail systems, and personal computers.
- Communicate with customers, employees, and other individuals to answer questions, disseminate or explain information, take orders, and address complaints.
- Answer telephones, direct calls, and take messages.
- Maintain and update filing, inventory, mailing, and database systems, either manually or using a computer.
- Sell and collect admission tickets and passes from patrons at entertainment events.
- Greet patrons attending entertainment events.
- Examine tickets or passes to verify authenticity, using criteria such as color or date issued.

# Office Assistant August 2013 - May 2014

Provided original content in clear, step by step explanations for Sapling Learning system

XXAM LT

Sales Associate - Rebecca Valero

June 2014 - December 2014

### **AREAS OF INTEREST & TECHNICAL SKILLS**

- Organic Synthesis
- Medicinal Chemistry
- Purification Techniques
- NMR Spectroscopy
- Fourier-Transform Infrared (FT-IR)
- Gas Chromatograph (GC)

- Mass Spectrometry (MS)
- Customer Service
- Retail Services
- Microsoft Word and Excel
- Exceptional information processing skills
- Professional level phone communication skills

## **AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS**

- LSAMP Scholar, Columbus State University, 2021-2022
- Student Award Certificate for The American Institute of Chemists, Columbus State University, 2022

## **CONFERENCE PROCEEDING & PRESENTATIONS**

- 1. White, A., Thornton, D., Ramos, S., Taylor, K., Frazier, M. "ALS cells and the effects of the TDP-43 Protein."

  Department Chemistry, Columbus State University Poster Presentation, Fall 2021 Louis Stokes Midwest Regional Center of Excellence (LMRCE) Virtual Conference, "Empowering Diverse STEM Innovators." Chicago, IL virtual.
- 2. White, A., Thornton, D., Ramos, S., Taylor, K., Frazier, M. BIOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF BENZOTHIAZOLE DERIVATIVES: ALS CELLS AND THE EFFECTS OF THE TDP-43 PROTEIN Poster Presentation, Spring 2022 Georgia Academy of Science Annual Meeting
- 3. White, A., Thornton, D., Ramos, S., Taylor, K., Frazier, M. BIOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF BENZOTHIAZOLE DERIVATIVES: ALS CELLS AND THE EFFECTS OF THE TDP-43 PROTEIN Poster Presentation, Spring 2022 Columbus State University Tower Day

# **REFERENCES**

Dr. Kerri Shelton Taylor Department of Chemistry Columbus State University Columbus, GA 31907 Phone: 706-507-8487 taylor kerri1@columbusstate.edu Dr. Monica Frazier
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