

## Alumni Spotlight: Anthony Saggese '22



Anthony Saggese currently works for SMBC in the Leveraged Debt Capital Markets group. Before his full-time employment, he interned within Cowen's Investment Banking Division in Private Capital Solutions. Anthony joined Leveraged Lion Capital in the Spring of 2019 as an Associate Analyst before finishing his 4-semester tenure as Director of Monthly Reports. He graduated in the Spring of 2022 with a B.S. in Finance and minor in Information Systems Management.

**Contact Information:**

**Email:** [apsu733@gmail.com](mailto:apsu733@gmail.com)

### ***1. When were you a member of Leveraged Lion Capital and what positions did you hold?***

I joined LLC my freshman year in the Spring of 2019. I spent two semesters as an Associate Analyst covering REGAL-FIG / Media & Communications before pivoting to Lead Analyst of Consumer & Retail then Director of Monthly Reports.

### ***2. How did Leveraged Lion Capital help prepare you for your future career?***

From a technical perspective, LLC provided the fundamental credit knowledge that has allowed for a softer transition into Leveraged Debt Capital Markets. The standard LLC pitch pages could not be more encompassing; pulling capitalization tables, pricing comparables, and leverage metrics is the foundation of evaluating prospective M&A and LBO deals. The underwriting memos, pitch pages, and weekly deliverables include much of the same analysis. Even high level, understanding how the credit drivers and risks funnel into the buy-side investment thesis has helped my ability to assess companies and structure transactions from the sell-side. The applicable Leveraged Finance curriculum is an invaluable experience that has paid dividends in my professional career.

### ***3. What advice would you give to new members of Leveraged Lion Capital?***

Continue to ask questions, be intellectually curious, and challenge yourself. You will never have this much free time to learn unconditionally. The industry slang and technical terminology will sound foreign – that's okay! There is a million concepts, acronyms, and Excel shortcuts to grasp, so embrace the journey. Asking questions will not only help yourself but also those around you, including the respondent. The credit learning curve is steep, but every answer will bring you one step closer.

### ***4. What advice do you have for members of Leveraged Lion Capital who are currently recruiting for internships?***

Wall Street recruiting can be an extremely discouraging process – do not take it personally. Despite its competitiveness, recruiting is admittedly a dysfunctional process across banks. One of my favorite quotes is, "Luck is when preparation meets opportunity." Focus on the elements in your control, e.g., networking, technicals, market outlooks, and mock interviews. That said, networking is the single most important factor. Your network will get you the interview, and your preparation will land you the offer. Utilize LinkedIn, Robin's list, and family connections. Never lose sight of the goal, and remember, everyone has their own separate path. Do not get discouraged when an LLC classmate lands an offer, get excited because you are up next.