

[Last Name] [First Name]

[LSAC number]

[Personal Statement]

I often joke with my friends that I was “born to argue.” From childhood debates over the last slice of pizza to dissecting every unfair rule in school sports, I found myself constantly challenging the world around me. But it wasn’t until my first visit to a courtroom that I truly realized what it meant to use my voice for something larger than myself. The moment I watched an attorney stand up in front of a judge and fight passionately for the rights of a child, I felt something click inside me. It wasn’t just about winning; it was about using the law as a tool for real change. That was the moment I decided I wanted to become a lawyer, and everything I have done since has been in pursuit of that goal.

I never expected to find my calling in law. Growing up in a small town where most people stayed close to home, I was often told that I was too “dreamy” or “ambitious” to pursue big goals. But I didn’t let that deter me. Instead of seeing these remarks as limitations, I saw them as challenges to overcome. I chose to go to a large city for college, where I studied Sociology with a minor in Gender Studies. I wanted to understand not only the law but the systems and structures that shape it. My academic focus on social inequality and injustice led me to an internship with a nonprofit that provided legal services to women survivors of domestic violence. It was there that I realized how intertwined law and empathy truly are, and how a well-timed legal intervention can offer not just protection, but hope for a new life.

During my internship, I was assigned to assist with research on restraining orders and child custody cases. One of the most memorable moments was when I interviewed a client named Maria, who was seeking protection from an abusive partner. She was a single mother with two young children, and her story was one of immense hardship. I remember her telling me, in a soft, trembling voice, that she felt like the system had failed her every step of the way—until that moment. Working alongside the attorney, we helped Maria file for an emergency protection order, and I saw her face light up when she realized that, for the first time, she had control over her own safety. This experience solidified my resolve to become an attorney who not only knows the law but uses it to make a real difference in people’s lives.

But my journey to law school hasn’t been without its bumps. After college, I worked in various jobs to support myself, ranging from teaching English as a second language to tutoring at-risk youth. During this time, I often found myself working with young people who had fallen through the cracks of the system—whether due to lack of legal representation or because their voices weren’t being heard.

These experiences deepened my commitment to social justice and confirmed that I want to advocate for those who have been marginalized or ignored by the legal system.

What excites me most about law school is the opportunity to hone my skills in a structured, academic environment while also gaining practical experience through clinics and internships. I am particularly drawn to [Law School Name] because of its focus on public interest law and its renowned [specific program, clinic, or professor]. The opportunity to work with like-minded individuals who share my passion for social justice is something I look forward to immensely. I am also eager to take advantage of [Law School Name]'s diverse community and network of alumni who are committed to using their legal expertise to fight for change.