

Growing up, I have always aspired to be an attorney. My passion for the law was first sparked when my father figure was wrongfully convicted and sentenced to the death penalty by lethal injection. I remember visiting him in prison and being so intrigued by the facts of his case. As a young aspiring lawyer, I began doing my own research and I tried connecting pieces to the puzzle. I knew deep down that he was innocent, but it was hard proving his innocence when the evidence presented was completely against him. After finding out that the prosecuting attorney hid evidence that would have kept my father figure alive, the state of Texas could only offer my family money. This made me very upset and all I wanted to do was continue helping and advocating for individuals who were on death row. Though death penalty cases were my passion, I knew that it was not what I wanted my career to be. I have always dreamed of being a corporate attorney and working for a Corporation or a big law firm; however, I did not know how to combine these two areas of law. It wasn't until I got to law school where I found myself combining these two areas of interests and engaging in litigation and pro bono work through my course work, the innocence and prosecution clinic, and my summer internships.

Attending law school as a first-generation college student has been very rewarding, yet difficult. When I was younger, my mother always emphasized education because she never took the opportunity to pursue her dreams. Pursuing a law school education has always been important to me, but I never realized how difficult the journey would be. During my first year of law school, I struggled academically. Despite these struggles and wanting to give up, I continued pushing through because my passion for the law meant so much more than giving up. As a female student of color, I have always aspired to break barriers, and that is what I did. Instead of dwelling on my GPA and class rank, I decided to challenge myself by taking every opportunity that presented itself. I became involved in and won several advocacy competitions at my law school during my first year. I also applied for job opportunities that I had very little chances on receiving based on my academics; however, I was able to secure a 1L Summer Associate position at Stinson LLP and a 2L Law Internship at State Farm. My law school education shows how far I have overcome and conquered. Attending law school gave me a sense of confidence that I wouldn't have ever had. It also opened doors for me to be a role model and advocate for people like me who grew up in a high-risk area. My law school education also allows me to be a voice for individuals who may not have a voice of their own.

In the future, I intend on progressing my career at State Farm and being a role model for black women who would like to pursue corporate law. It would be amazing to share my law school journey with students. I would like to host events and programs where I offer advice and resources to students who may be interested in the law. I am very passionate about pro bono work and would love to get involved in legal-aid services that helps individuals who may not have the proper resources for their cases. More specifically, it would be amazing to be involved with an Innocence Project where I help men or women on death row. Overall, I would love to continue using my voice to advocate for others.