

Why I chose to be a paralegal and my career goals.

To tell you why I want to be a Paralegal I would first have to tell you a bit about myself. I grew up in South Texas in a small town called Edinburg, Texas, but in reality it isn't very small at all. My high school graduating class had almost 900 students in it. It is where I spent my entire childhood and the beginning of my adulthood. Soon after, I ventured off into the great big world of Texas A&M University at the age of 18. My parents didn't have the opportunity to attend college. We did not grow up having a lot of money and I was smart enough to understand that my parents could not afford to pay for my education. With these thoughts, I found the perseverance to find a scholarship to assist me in paying for my undergraduate education. I am a first generation college graduate in my family. I was the first to finish college and still so far the only one. I was the oldest child, and I knew my parents were so proud of my hard work. However, more than anything, I was proud of their hard work. I was proud of the person they molded me to be. I was proud of their dedication to their children. I was proud of their dedication to me. I wanted to make them proud. I wanted them to live vicariously through me. This takes me to the next chapter of my life.

After graduation from Texas A&M University, I still had no idea what I wanted to be or what I wanted to do. I landed a job soon after graduation at Enterprise Holdings in Austin, Texas. Yes, I do mean the rental car company. I learned the value of hard work, dedication, leadership, teamwork, and most importantly, that I did not want to spend my life managing a rental car business. In the midst of my blossoming career with Enterprise, I tried to deliberate on what my passion was. I knew I loved helping people. I knew I loved working with pleasant people. I knew I enjoyed being a pretend attorney on my mock trial team in high school so I began the search to find a career in the legal field. One day, while researching other career options after work, I stumbled upon a Master's program at Texas State University. On a whim, I applied with no intention of getting accepted, and by some God given hope, they accepted me.

Let's fast forward now to one year into the Paralegal Studies program at Texas State University. I have never been happier than I am right now in this moment. I have never enjoyed learning as much as I do right now. This program has opened my eyes to a world I only dreamed existed. I've taken classes in Litigation, Advanced Litigation, Legal Theory and Analysis, Legal Research, and Legal Writing. I'm currently anxiously waiting to begin my summer class in Family Law as well as my internship course which involves me working at an actual law firm alongside successful paralegals with knowledge I can only hope to fully understand one day. I will be getting real hands-on experience to become a successful paralegal.

As far as my career goals, I don't intend to stop here. I am incredibly excited to begin my career as a paralegal after graduating from Texas State University but I plan to aim higher. While working as a paralegal I want to attend law school. It is an expensive goal. I'm hoping to alleviate some of the financial burden of law school while working part-time as a paralegal. This will only be possible with God's will and the support of my family, friends, colleagues, coworkers, managers, professors, teachers, mentors, and every person who has encouraged me, including CAPA.