



## Earning a Law Degree to Help a Community

Transcript

[Gentle uplifting music]

**Alexus Johnson:** Hi, my name is Alexis and I am currently a paralegal in the criminal justice field, and I am far from a traditional law student. I am a first-generation college graduate and will hopefully become a first-generation law student and law graduate.

My mother was born in the Philippines, and when she came over here, she quickly met my father and my parents learned that they were having a little girl. We grew up in a double wide trailer in a trailer park. We never went hungry, but we couldn't go on vacation. I didn't go on my first vacation until I was playing softball and had a day off in between tournaments.

I have always been a part of a team and been in the sports world, and once I became a paralegal and began working in a prosecutor's office, I learned that being in the law field and being in criminal justice, it is one big team. No one can do it on their own. And being a part of that team gives you a sense of purpose.

I've always been very interested in the law and the criminal justice field. As a young girl, my grandmother actually worked in the state prison as a cook, and she always told me lots of stories about the people that she met.

My freshman year of college, I went in as a forensic biology major with the intent of being a medical examiner. I graduated with a criminal justice degree. I studied Homeland Security, Crimes Investigation, and Psychology. As I was finishing my bachelors, I was taking a paralegal certification. Once I received my paralegal certification and began working in a prosecutor's office. And having the opportunity to speak with victims, to speak with detectives and officers, and be with both defense attorneys and prosecutors every day in and out for 9 hours a day, I learned that being a prosecutor is the ultimate privilege. You get to help your community. And that has always been my goal, was to touch my community in a positive way.

In college, I was working at the youth homeless shelter. We don't all get a fair shot. So if there is something that I can do as a prosecutor, as someone that understands the law

to have the knowledge, to help someone that can't help themselves, or be a voice for the voiceless.

The LSAT was truly my greatest resource, and I mean that genuinely. When you utilize LawHub, it tells you this is what's going to happen in your first year of law school. And then here's outlining, and here are all of these resources that you're going to need. So why don't you start familiarizing yourself with them now?

If you're on the fence of taking the LSAT, I would personally say, just try it and see how you feel once you get those results. I think how you react to your score, and if it motivates you or if it doesn't, would be a great indicator whether or not you should pursue law school. If that is something that you're on the fence of.