

## Personal Statement

For as long as I remember, being a lawyer was my dream job.

When I was younger, my family loved to ask me what I wanted to be when I grew up, and it wasn't until my senior year of high school, that I had the courage to say it out loud, to tell my family that my dream was to become a lawyer. It seemed unrealistic back then, a goal that's out of reach for an average kid growing up with a single mom.

During my senior year my family ran into some legal problems and reached out to our immigration lawyer Jonathan Wong, the man that I've known and admired since elementary school. Our interactions brought me back to when I was in fourth grade and had come with my mom to seek help from him. He was a part of a group that offered free legal help to those in low-income families. When we first approached him, he noticed that I spoke English, Mandarin, and Cantonese fluently, and asked me to help translate for an elderly grandpa that had also come for help. To this day, I still remember the look of relief in that grandpa's eyes after our conversation and how amazing it felt to help him. I used to go every month to help Jonathan and his team, and it was during this experience that I realized I wanted to be just like them when I grow up. After talking to him again after so many years, I recognized that this dream never changed, I still want to grow up to be someone just like Jonathan. That is why I chose to major in political science and am now chasing my dream to be a lawyer.

Determined, positive, and helpful are three words I would use to describe myself. I choose these words because I'm always determined to achieve my goals and live my life to the fullest. I always try to be kind to those around me and always give a helping hand whenever I'm needed

Throughout high school I've always been involved in our student government and developed various leadership qualities while doing so. I was stage manager for my school's productions and events, including our musicals, showcases and plays. From my sophomore to senior year, I was a member of my high school's student site council, and during my junior and senior year I had the honor of being my school's representative for the student advisory council that worked with my district's superintendent, this is where I learned how to be the voice of the students when our district makes important decisions. I was also team captain for my sports team during my junior and senior year and am now currently the assistant coach for that sports team. I believe that with all my experience I would be a good student representative, and I aim to continue helping those in need and speaking for those that can't.