

Helen Tosch
Client Law School Application Essay

My desire to attend law school and ultimately become an attorney is relatively new, and has left others asking me, “Why law school? Why now?” Those are good questions, but not unanswerable. There are many reasons I have decided to pursue a law degree, and each one has made itself known to me in its own way. In this personal statement, I will focus on the three reasons that mean the most to me.

Recent events in my life have fostered a passion for the law. A few years ago, I invented a product that I thought would change the world of racing and possibly make me rich in the process. With the enthusiasm of a child and, quite honestly, dollar signs in my eyes, I immediately started research on obtaining a patent so the rights would be mine. Unfortunately I was led down an expensive path that ended in frustration. That failure, however, sparked motivation—I was not going to give up without a fight. I terminated my relationship with the patent attorneys I had hired and bought several books on the patent process. While I wish I could say that I obtained the patent and its rights, I did not. What I did acquire, however, is far more valuable to me: knowledge and a newly cultivated fascination with the law. Not only did I learn the basic inner workings of the complex world of patent applications, I was a first hand participant. I was excited, enthusiastic, and anxious. I couldn’t wait to hear back from the patent office. Each of the seemingly endless setbacks made me work harder, gather more information, and reconfigure my application. The process was truly challenging and exciting—and piqued my interest in law and, by proxy, law school. In addition to a desire to immerse myself in the law, I find myself at a point in my life where I actively seek challenges. I can say without hesitation, I am in the best physical, mental, and emotional shape my body and soul have ever seen. I ran my first triathlon in August, and recently completed an MBA program with a 4.00 GPA; yet, I yearn for more. Though I hope my thirst for knowledge and experience will never be quenched, I believe law school will challenge me in new and exciting ways. At 33, I have begun to realize my potential. The task of living up to my expectations is both daunting and liberating; and will not quit until I have given everything I have and accomplished all I can.

My third and probably most compelling reason for wanting to become a lawyer is that it feels right. It sounds cliché, but I have to say that something is calling me to be an attorney. Though I love my job and the people with whom I work, I am ready to move on to the next phase of my life. After many months of research, thought, and careful consideration of law school—its pros and cons, I am now willing to take a leap of faith and apply. Becoming a lawyer has not been a life-long dream of mine, as I’m sure it has for many other applicants. However, there is a fire inside of me, calling me to be a lawyer—daring me to succeed. My life has been wonderful up to this point, and now I am ready and inspired to give back the many gifts that life has given me. I believe that becoming an attorney will offer me one more tool to help people in ways I’ve never quite imagined and to do my part to better this world. I look forward to that day.

As we all know, when faced with challenges, a person’s attitude is more valuable than all the money in the world. I have spent years cultivating the person I am today, and I know that I have the attitude to succeed—no matter what kind of challenges life presents me. However, I’m not one to wait for things to happen to me; I seek them out.

That is why I am writing this letter. That is why I am applying to law school at (University Name). I hope you agree that I am the kind of person who will thrive in the competitive atmosphere of law school, and, more importantly, in the practice of law. I know I am, and I am looking forward to being a part of your institution and graduating with honors. That is my goal. I am asking you to help me realize it.