

Law Admission Essay

At the age of 18, barely out of high school, I took my oath of enlistment into the U.S. Army. I was born and raised in Washington Heights a predominantly Dominican community located on the Upper West side of Manhattan in New York. In June of 2005, while the rest of my class was attending their graduation from Fashion Industries High School, I was in South Carolina in fort Jackson low crawling in the mud. Since then I have served my country with honor and due diligence fulfilling a variety of job titles and positions not just limited to my original contract as a mechanic.

A few months after my enlistment I arrived at my unit in January 2006 in Schweinfurt Germany only to hear we would be deploying soon. In October of 2006, Weighing 110 pounds, I wore over 40 pounds of gear as I awaited my flight into Kuwait, where my unit would train for three weeks before reaching our true destination into Iraq. Upon arrival I was informed of my new duty position, as a guard for the detention facility. I was the one female guard on my shift, for the most part I did admin for the prison. My days were a routine, daily a bus would pick me up then drop me off after a 12 hour shift at the prison.

One afternoon my first sergeant approached me, he informed me that there would be a female facing a court martial trial, and since I was the only female in the platoon who was trained I would be hand cuffing and guarding the soldier throughout the process. To my horror, that soldier, was one of my best friends. XXX, small, hardworking Mexican girl with long red hair. XXX was facing Court Martial for pulling her weapon on a fellow soldier. This soldier attacked her yelling out racial slurs. He was a little over 6 feet tall, white with blue eyes. I had one thought "Its self-defense, it should be alright". The night before the Court Martial, My First Sergeant came to my trailer and informed me of the arrangements and handed me the cuffs I was to use.

My palms were sweaty as I walked to the court martial because I already knew the findings and sentence. The guy openly admitted to have been attacking her over a misunderstanding, and also stated that if he would have reached her before she pulled her weapon on him, he is uncertain what damage he would have done to her. Either way Isabel was sentenced to prison time. Once the court Martial was done her rank of Specialist was removed from her chest. I placed the cuffs on Izzy's wrists with the constant ball in my throat feeling that this was wrong. I asked her to separate her legs so I can place the ankle cuffs, she looked down back to me and whispered "not so hard Ellie" and I felt her tears sprinkle on my forehead as I looked up at her, and my face began to pour out in disbelief.

I still remember the desert sun beaming in my face as I led my best friend into the van, heading to lock up. I began taking college courses only to compete in military boards, but found a passion in learning. In 2010 I was deployed in Afghanistan, when I completed my associate's degree. The University of Maryland set up curriculum with instructors in Afghanistan, and I took full advantage of the opportunities. I'd walk into class place my rifle on the weapons rack and my gear under my seat, and forget I was in a combat zone. I then completed my Bachelor's degree with Saint Leos University while stationed in FT Eustis, Virginia. I took one intro to law course there that shaped me goals and aspirations.

I am a proud American Soldier, what some people call a hero, but in the end I am human. I am a student, a mother, a daughter, a sister, and I should have the same equal rights as any other human. The Uniform Code of Military Justice does have due process, it is a court system, but it is far from perfect. I want to continue to serve my country in a different way, I want to help serve Americas heroes from within. I plan to be there, for all the Isabel's who didn't have a fair shot. I don't want to complain about the things I've seen, I want to be part of the change. I am taking my commitment another step further.

Need to impress the admission committee?

Our editors can assist you get enrolled.

[Order Now](#)