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Student Bar Association
Delegate for the 1L Class, Cohort 3
Personal Statement

I have never been one to believe that experiences make leaders. I believe that lessons make leaders. Learning how to see and hear others are two of those lessons. Many of the positions I have held in the past have revolved around the responsibility of listening to and representing the comments and concerns of students. I have learned how to see people for who they are, and hear their voices for what they were. Each student brings a unique perspective to the school and any community that they take part in. Validating a student's perspective, and acknowledging how their perspective influences their wants and needs has always dictated my plans of action. This lesson has motivated me to ensure that their points were never lost in translation as they were being transported to their destination.

Confusion and conflict do not always manifest themselves verbally. This concept has taught me the lesson of reading. Being able to read a room, and read people, has allowed me to gauge students' feelings and what needs to be done in response. I believe that as a member of the SBA, it is a delegate's duty to recognize when something is affecting students and act appropriately, especially during times when such communications are left unspoken.

The most impactful lesson that I have learned from my experiences is recognizing conflict as a natural force whose main accomplice is pressure. In acting as a voice for a student body, several smaller student communities, and two collegiate athletic teams, I have also been met with the responsibility of leading others through difficult times. As a leader in these spaces, I can now acknowledge that conflicts can arise at any moment, and will affect students differently. One student may need a certain form of direction, advice, and representation that drastically differs from another.

Seeing conflicts for what they are, hearing individuals for who they are, and reading into communications that are not always obvious are three lessons that I have turned into a passion. Using my voice to serve and benefit others has become a passion that has dictated my choices in pursuing new experiences. These are the lessons that I believe I can offer the Student Bar Association as a delegate for Cohort 3 of the 1L class.