

January 6, 2019

To: American Bar Association, Law Student Division, Selection Board
From: Miguel Aguilera, Golden Gate University (Class of 2020)

Subj: DELEGATE OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION PERSONAL STATEMENT

My name is Miguel Aguilera and I am a Hispanic, Gay, disabled, combat veteran having served in the U.S. Marine Corps for the past 17 years holding the rank of Captain. Additionally, I have been employed as a Deputy Sheriff for Contra Costa County in the State of California for the past 12 years.

Public service has been one of my strongest passions in life which is why I chose to attend Golden Gate University School of Law. I became informed and interested in holding a position with the American Bar Association (ABA) as a Delegate of Diversity and Inclusion after ABA President Carlson visited our university last month. Since attending law school, I have noticed disabled veterans and LGBT students are unrepresented in our legal community. In reference to the disabled veteran community, I have come to find veterans are unaware of the various resources available to them for their honorable service to our country. Services that can assist them in successfully pursuing and attaining a professional legal career which we can help by making this information more known and shared with the veteran community.

Serving in the military under “Don’t Ask Don’t Tell” was a terrible time for me but an experience that made me a stronger individual as I understand and experienced the fears associated with LGBT individuals not wanting to come out in fear of it potentially negatively affecting their careers or lives. Having a Gay Dean and hearing about his experiences has helped me tremendously in dealing with these fears so much that I myself recently “Came Out” to all my friends and family at the end of 2018. A decision I only regret not doing sooner.

Being a police officer and dealing with the public on a daily basis for the past 12 years has developed my communication skills along with my experience as a senior military officer in giving high level briefs and presentations to senior officials. I believe these communication skills are invaluable and can be beneficial in assisting me in promoting and advocating diversity for the ABA.

If selected for the position, I will do everything in my power to be a voice and advocate for these unrepresented individuals and will work with leaders in creating a more inclusive legal atmosphere. I am greatly honored and thank you for considering me for the position of Delegate of Diversity and Inclusion.

Sincerely,



Miguel Aguilera

MIGUEL AGUILERA

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2010 - Current U.S. Marine Corps Reserve

Bell and Miramar, California
Portland, Oregon

Manpower and Legal Officer

Human Resources Director for units consisting of up to 3,000 personnel located at separate training sites across the United States. Supervise an administrative staff of 2 Managers, 3 Supervisors and 24 Administration Clerks. Supervise and coordinate administrative matters of internal staff sections and external agencies at the executive staff level. Conduct and review Administrative Investigations of personnel misconduct or injuries occurring in the line of duty. Act as the equal opportunity advisor for the command and integrate policies regarding diversity and inclusion. Formulate and supervise the execution of command administrative policies, receive and route correspondence, handle and safeguard classified material, prepare responses to special correspondence and establish and maintain the command reports control, and forms management programs. To include: casualty reporting, awards and decorations, evaluation reports, legal matters, and postal functions.

2006 – Current Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff

Martinez, California

Deputy Sheriff

Provide for public safety by maintaining order, responding to emergencies, protecting people and property, enforcing motor vehicle and criminal laws, promoting good community relations. Conduct criminal investigations, identify pursue, and arrest suspects and perpetrators of criminal acts. Record facts to prepare reports that document incidents and activities. Review facts of incidents to determine if a criminal act or statute violations were involved. Render aid to accident victims and other persons requiring first aid for physical injuries. Testify in court to present evidence or act as witness in traffic and criminal cases. Evaluate complaint and emergency-request information to determine response requirements. Monitor, note, report, and investigate suspicious persons and situations, safety hazards, and unusual or illegal activity in a patrol area. Monitor traffic to ensure motorists observe traffic regulations and exhibit safe driving procedures. Issue citations or warnings to violators of motor vehicle ordinances. Direct traffic flow and re-route traffic in case of emergencies. Process prisoners and prepare and maintain records of prisoner bookings and prisoner status during booking and pre-trial process. Inspect public establishments to ensure compliance with rules and regulations. Maintain a good rapport and relationships with community leaders.

2005- 2006 Legal Services Support Section, U.S. Marines

Camp Pendleton, California

Military Justice Clerk

Assist in pre-trial investigations, drafting charge sheets, serving charge sheets to accused', serving subpoenas to witnesses and dealing with the transportation of expert witnesses. Enter File pleads with court clerks. Prepare affidavits of documents and maintain document files. Deliver or direct delivery of subpoenas to witnesses and parties to action. Direct and coordinate activities of law office employees. Act as a law librarian, keeping and monitoring legal volumes and ensuring legal volume are up to date. Search patent files to ascertain originality of patent application.

