



March 13, 2014

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Dear Mr. Schmitt and Carmen G.,

I enjoyed receiving each of your letters. I'm happy to answer your questions.

Let me start out by telling you that I believe math is one of the most important and useful subjects you will learn in school. I regularly use math, and various mathematical concepts, that I learned in middle school as well as in high school.

For example, I own and operate my law firm. I am responsible for making sure that I set appropriate budgets for various items my office needs to run smoothly. I also make decisions on my employee's salaries and bonuses. I therefore use simple math to help me calculate future budgets, costs, and to project necessary income to meet these obligations.

In my area of expertise, I often rely upon experts to help me win in court. One of the experts I regularly use is someone called an accident reconstruction expert. This person uses complex mathematical formulas to "re-create" what happened in an accident. Often times we need to estimate how fast a vehicle was traveling, or how fast a person may have been walking or running. Therefore, I need to understand these mathematical formulas so I can understand the basis for my expert's opinions, and also so I can explain them in simple terms to a jury if the case ever goes to court. My prior classes in Algebra and Geometry (which I also learned in middle school) has helped me in this area of my profession.

Another example of where mathematics has helped me is when I am required to calculate a client's future damages. For example, if I represent a person who has been seriously injured, that person may no longer be physically able to work. In this situation, I often will hire an economist to help me calculate my client's future lost earnings. To do this, you must have a firm understanding of how to calculate "present value" of future lost earnings. Again, I need to understand the mathematical concepts and equations that my expert uses to calculate the present value of future losses.

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These are just a few examples of how I use mathematics in my current job. However, I can tell you that learning mathematics also helps you to develop a sharp and analytical mind which is beneficial no matter what occupation you may choose for yourself.

To answer your other questions Carmen, I became a lawyer so I could help people. I chose my current field of personal injury because I wanted to represent people as opposed to businesses and corporations. Sometimes I am privileged to help make a huge difference to someone that has been hurt through no fault of her own. Other times, I am able to help families discover the truth of how a loved one has been killed, and then hold the responsible parties accountable. I also sometimes work closely with various police agencies and detectives, as well as prosecuting attorneys, in my quest to represent my clients' financial and personal interests.

Carmen, I wish you continued success with your studies. Please know that working hard in school and getting good grades will pay off for you in the long run. I know it has for me. Take care.

Very truly yours,

DAVIS LAW GROUP, P.S.



Christopher M. Davis
Attorney at Law

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cc: file