STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Law School Name

Student Name

As a young boy, my only goal was to make it to the basketball team of a well-known sports camp in my town. I spent the majority of my childhood rushing home after school so that I could run around in the driveway, dribbling the ball and aiming endless shots at the board. When I was not on my makeshift court, I would be watching the sports channel and mentally dissecting basketball games. The year that I turned fifteen, I finally became eligible to participate in the basketball team. That year was a busy one for me; I put extra effort into my shot, conditioning, and defense, all the while desperately hoping that I would be chosen for the team. To my delight, tryouts went exactly as I had anticipated, and I was told that I could make the team. I will never forget the first time I stepped on to the court wearing a jersey with my name on it. I felt the feeling of excitement rising in my throat as I surveyed the scene around me; I was finally living my dream! As my very first game on the team progressed, I caught a pass, turned to shoot, and jumped up into the air, lobbying the ball at the net. The next thing I knew, I was on the ground, shaking with terrible pain shooting up my leg from my ankle. As the agony clouded my vision, I knew one thing: my dream was crushed.

The road to recovery was long and tedious, but I was determined to get back to sports. Although I never was able to fully participate in the camp basketball team, I turned my attention to a new passion: football. Throughout high school, I practiced my skills, hoping to play on competitive teams in college. Aside from football, though, another subject sparked my fascination: Talmudic Law. Talmudic Law appealed both to my fascination with legal studies, as well as to my strong connection with my Jewish tradition. I enjoyed the intellectual challenge that Talmudic Law brought me, and the way in which I could use logical reasoning to argue a position. My dual passions in football and Talmudic Law lead me to a premier post-high school yeshiva in Israel, which was well-known for both its excellent Talmudic Law program and its leading football team. My efforts at football, however, once more did not go as planned. An attempt to catch a low pass on the field one day resulted in a severely broken foot, months of physical therapy, and the crushing realization that there would be no sports comeback this time.

My motivation to succeed, however, was not diminished; it was merely redirected. I could no longer pursue a career in football, but I was still strongly passionate about Talmudic Law. My struggles to succeed at sports had taught me that determination would always lead me to my desired destination, and this became my motto for my career in Talmudic Law. When my study abroad was over, I transferred to Derech Avson Rabbinical Seminary in Far Rockaway, New York, known for its prominent program in Talmudic Law. As with my previous motivation for sports, I was extremely conscientious about my work; I would study for hours each day, flipping through large volumes of Talmudic teachings. As I gained a deeper and more comprehensive knowledge of Talmudic Law, my professors noticed my diligence and offered me the opportunity to lecture younger classes on topics such as contract and property damage law. I also began pursuing study opportunities with professors outside of my college. Now that I have finally accomplished my goal and received my Bachelor’s degree in Talmudic Law, I hope to complete my journey by continuing on to graduate-level legal studies.

I look forward to pursuing my degree in law, and hope that I have the opportunity to do so at Law School Name. I am motivated, conscientious, and strongly dedicated to the field of law. Moreover, I have a strong background in legal studies. Due to my academic acumen and personal characteristics, I am confident that I would greatly contribute to Law School Name as a J.D. candidate.