

# PCTI STUDENT OF THE MONTH

March 2017

## Dedicated to the Pursuit of Truth DIANA DEONATE

Diana Deonate is a young woman from Paterson who has always been fascinated with solving puzzles in the literal and figurative sense. "I used to do lot of those in youth, but I would never look at the picture on the box. It was figuring things out on my own that I really enjoyed."

It's no surprise that this young woman's penchant for abstract thinking has carried through to her educational pursuits. As a member of the Academy of Criminal Justice & Public Safety, Diana aims to use her problem solving capabilities to help the wrongfully accused, by embracing a career as a lawyer.

She's well on her way to achieving her dream. Diana currently holds a position with Batista Law Office in Clifton. Through PCTI's STC program, she works twenty hours a week. The job has allowed Diana to use her bilingual talents to communicate effectively with clients. "Working under a lawyer and municipal judge gave me a real taste of the legal system," she says. "It's like my third home, with PCTI being my second."

Amidst a packed schedule, Diana is also involved in numerous activities, including Mock Trial, ERASE, and Book Club. She is a Certified Dispatcher and is CPR Certified. Additionally, Diana has been selected



for the World Language Honor Society.

It comes as no surprise that this Bulldog ranks in the top four percent of her class with a GPA of 4.19. She also has the potential to graduate with fifteen college credits.

Diana has worked hard to achieve her dreams. She's already earned full rides to Fairleigh Dickinson University,

Felician College, and William Paterson University. She's also been accepted to Seton Hall and Rutgers University.

Whatever university she chooses, Diana's goal is the same; she will pursue a Bachelor of Science in Legal Studies and will eventually attend Law School.

When asked what direction her life will take after all that

education, Diana says, "I enjoy Criminal Law so maybe I'll become a Prosecutor."

While Diana is direct in her academic pursuits, she is equally clear on what she values. In short, it's finding out the truth. "Ever since coming to PCTI, I've realized that you need to personally do the research to reach your own conclusions. It's important to think for yourself and question everything."

This particular quality will serve her well in her career endeavors. Congratulations Diana, a young woman who knows the value of hard work!

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Ranks in the top 4% of her class
- Will graduate with a potential 15 college credits
- Certified Dispatcher and licensed in CPR
- Involved in Mock Trial, ERASE, & Book Club; selected for WLHS
- Holds job at Batista Law Office
- Goal: Graduate from a university with a Bachelor of Science degree in Legal Studies, attend Law School, become a Prosecutor