TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE

CENTER *for* LEGAL *and* JUSTICE STUDIES

Building Fund

Husband-and-wife team Pablo and Maria Osorio are Fall 2020 graduates of the Paralegal program, both plan on pursuing bachelor's degrees in related fields. "The opportunities we have found here at TSC is the beginning of new chapters for all of us," Pablo, a retired police officer, said. "I have the chance at a second career—to help others—and I feel fulfilled." Maria, a retired U.S. Army veteran, has already found employment as a federal employee after completing her Paralegal Studies program internship at a local law firm. "TSC was my jumpstart," she said, "and I wouldn't be where I am today without it."

As the 21st century legal and justice systems become more sophisticated, earning a college degree has become the standard for candidates seeking careers in these fields across the United States. At TSC, students learn concepts and skills related to law and justice as well as develop academic tools, such as critical thinking, problem solving, and negotiation.

Texas Southmost College is developing the next generation of community leaders in its legal and justice-related programs:

- Associate of Arts in Criminal Justice
- Associate of Applied Science in Criminal Justice
- Associate of Applied Science in Paralegal Studies
- Certificate of Proficiency –Level 1 in Legal Assisting
- Basic Peace Office Certification through the Criminal Justice Institute of the Workforce Training and Continuing Education division

Graduates of these programs are prepared for careers in law

"After serving in the military as a missile technician, I'm now attending TSC on the GI bill to pursue my passion in criminal justice.

The new building will be a lab space for the program and will give students a taste of what it's like to work in the field. In addition to building specific skills, the labs will help build the proper mentality to operate in different settings."
- Devin Perez, Associate of Arts in Criminal Justice Degree program student

enforcement, government agencies, corrections, courtroom settings, law offices, and major corporations.

Growing Capacity

The labor market for law enforcement officers and paralegals continues to grow, and TSC faculty have the expertise to cultivate the next generation of legal and justice professionals. Faculty have experience in the following fields: police, probation, parole, corrections, juvenile corrections, large law firms, individual law practices, and the federal judicial system.

TSC's certificate and associate degree programs lead students directly into dynamic, well-paying careers. Many graduates also choose to continue their education to earn a bachelor's degree in criminal justice or a graduate degree in law.

To better prepare students for the workforce and to serve as a community training facility, TSC is embarking on a campaign to develop the Center for Legal and Justice Studies. Comprised of 4,457 sq. ft. of renovated space, the facility will serve as the home for TSC legal and justice studies programs, public workshops, and special continuing education training. It will also become home to the Cameron County Law Library Annex. The newly renovated space will create a home for legal and justice programs, with dedicated classrooms, a law library, and a courtroom.

Courtroom Simulation

Students learn by doing. TSC will build students' knowledge and confidence as they participate in mock trials and other procedures in a simulated courtroom setting. The facilities are designed for use in everyday coursework and competitions.

Rudy de la Garza Law Library

The new space will become home to the Cameron County Law Library Annex, providing additional access to resources for students, faculty, law enforcement agencies, and legal professionals.

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Fundraising Goal: $350,000

With programs, equipment, and the law library agreement in place, TSC invites you to join in topping off the building fund for essential renovations.

Supreme Court

Courtroom ➤ **$150,000**

District Court

Rudy de la Garza Law Library ✓ **$50,000** **Dedicated**

Criminal Justice Classroom ➤ **$35,000**

Paralegal Classroom ➤ **$35,000**

County Court

Cloaking Room/Judge's Chambers ➤ **$20,000**

Jury/Conference Room ➤ **$20,000**

Donors' Circle Lobby ➤ **$15,000**

Municipal Court

Donor Wall Recognition ➤ **$1,000** ***or more***

Scan to donate

To donate online, visi **tsc.edu**/justice or scan the QR code.

To donate by mail, send your check to:

Texas Southmost College Foundation
80 Fort Brown, Brownsville, TX 78520

Please reference the Center for Legal and Justice Studies project.

In compliance with current IRS regulations, this is to acknowledge that no goods, benefits, and/or services have been provided to you in exchange for this gift. Your contribution is tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. The TSC Foundation is classified as a tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization under the Internal Revenue Code and the tax number is 74-2338565.