

A Story of My Career

All people have their own goals and careers to pursue. To some of them, an educational goal would be getting a college degree. To others, the objective would be enhancing skills or mastering a profession. My career goal is to pursue a professional career as a successful accountant, a goal which was triggered in my early life by my mother. During the time living in Vietnam, I was in charge of the accounting work for a local bank where I had several meaningful experiences.

I was born at the time my country was in the process of recovering after the war in 1975. Life was hard and many families were poor. At that time, everyone had to struggle with poverty; some did not even have enough food to survive. Therefore, they were not concerned about their education. Living in a large family with eight people, my brothers, sisters and I were luckier than other children because my parents never neglected our studies. My father was a teacher and my mom own a small book store. In my memory, when I was fourteen, after school I had to come to the store to help my mom to arrange books neatly on the shelves whenever I finished my homework. Moreover, day by day, my mom taught me basic book-keeping which helped keep track with the business. I quickly acquired the skills and enjoyed doing part-time work for this job. Realizing that I was patient, careful, and good at math, my mom allowed me to help her with book-keeping and some reports for the store as well. I felt very happy to help my mom. I love numbers and book-keeping.

When I turned eighteen, I decided to enter Banking II College and major in accounting. After three years, I received a college degree. Through an employment service, I got a job offer for an accountant position from Agricultural Bank of Khanh Hoa province. By searching information, I knew that this place was a reputable bank in my country, so I quickly made a

decision to work for them in June 2000. While working there, I put all my effort into completing the work and received an excellent rating. After three month probation, I accepted a salary increase and many benefits, such as yearly bonus, annual leave, and medical insurance. In May 2004, I was promoted to assistant accounting manager. Moreover, I got the service award for the year 2003. I was very happy to be working in a positive environment and had many opportunities to learn and grow. Besides completing the efficient tasks, I was very good at solving customer complaints, planning budgets, and tracking budget expenses. I really enjoyed working there and was very sad to have to resign from this bank in December 2011.

Then, a major challenge arose; our family immigrated to the United States in early 2012. I had to start learning from the beginning again. I wanted to apply for a job as an accountant. However, the language barrier and the different culture, especially the difference in accounting systems, prevented me from reaching that goal. In order to support the family, I found a job with low pay at T.J.Maxx, working as a sales associate. My duty was to bring merchandise from the backroom to the store and arrange the items correctly. This job was boring, with no experience necessary, no degree, and no future. I told myself that this job was just the beginning, so I try stayed there. After six months working, I realized that to continue to work this job was a waste of my time. Then, after consideration, I made a decision to stop working at T.J.Maxx and return to school to pursue an accounting degree.

Looking back, I am glad I returned to school to fulfill my dream of education, and I also experienced a successful period of time working in the past where I gained valuable experience working in the accounting field. I believe that after graduation, many opportunities will arise for me to accept a better job and enjoy a better life in the future.