



In this week's Alumnae Spotlight, we feature Laura Tavitas Lopez, from the Class of 1991.

Laura is a Public Information Officer for the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) in the San Antonio District. She has been in this position for 22 years. As the department's spokesperson, she is responsible for working with the media and communicating information regarding details about department projects, closures due to inclement weather, and other traffic safety campaigns. She's also responsible for communicating with the public and answering questions regarding construction, traffic, and highway concerns.

Laura's passion for writing bloomed when she was a Freshman at Providence. She began to write poetry and tapped into her creative side. She became the Literary Editor for the Pro-Vue, the school newspaper, and the Co-Editor in Chief for the Providence Anthology. She was also involved in SADD-Students Against Drunk Drivers Organization.

Following graduation from Providence, Laura attended Our Lady of the Lake University. Growing up in a media family, Laura decided to major in journalism. She pursued an internship at Univision, and during this internship, she realized her calling was in marketing. Following this realization, she changed her major to Business Administration. The summer prior to graduation, she received a summer position at TxDOT, as an Assistant Public Information Officer. Upon graduation, she received a full-time position offer, and has been working for TxDOT ever since. Though her degree path changed and was no longer in journalism, Laura fulfilled her goal of being able to be in front of the camera and reporting great and pertinent things that TxDOT is doing for the state. She can frequently be seen on various news channels, reporting on behalf of TxDOT.

Laura is grateful for the opportunity to attend Providence. She shared that her mother dreamt of attending Providence herself, but was unable to because her grandparents were unable to afford it. Because of this, her mother was determined to send her to Providence, and she indeed made it happen. Her mother made education a priority and would consistently tell her, "You can lose everything- your house, your job- but no one can take you education away, because you earned it."

Laura describes her Providence education as being challenging at times. She had to put in extra work and effort to complete her work and be successful. At times, she wanted to transfer due to rigorous curriculum. However, her mother intervened and motivated Laura to work hard and finish what she started, and graduate as a Providence woman. She is thankful to her mother for this, as Providence

prepared her for college and life. She credits her Providence teachers who guided her and prepared her for the college experience, equipping her with structure, independence, and discipline.

Providence also prepared her spiritually. She learned the importance of never losing faith, stating, "Never lose faith. Lose everything but your faith in God, and you'll lose nothing; lose your faith in God, and you'll lose everything."

Laura's words of wisdom to current Provets are: "Providence prepared me for college and life, but it also gave me lifelong friends that are my sisters. It's a bond that a lot of friends that went to public school don't understand. In time of need, my sisters are there, in person or in prayer. Cherish every moment, create those bonds and make memories."

Congratulations, Laura, on a wonderful career thus far! Thank you for sharing your story, as you are an inspiration Provets, current and alumnae. We look forward to seeing many more successes unfold for you, and are so proud that you are a part of the Providence Sisterhood.