



My name is Melissa Locklear. I am originally from North Carolina and now living in Washington, D.C. I am Information Technology Developer at the Department of Treasury agency for over 2 years. I graduated with double Bachelor of Science degrees in Accounting and Information Technology.

I am currently graduate student in Accounting and Financial Management program. My goal is to become a professional certified public accountant to prevent populations from facing tax criminal penalties and promote financial success.

Being the first Deaf Lumbee American Native Indian government employee is honored to be nominated for a position on the SAIGE Board. I am interested for serving on the Board because I want the best for American Native Indian community, culture and education to become successful in the workplace. I am member of Sacred Circle – Intertribal Deaf Council. Every year, I would attend the conference and listened deaf and hard of hearing and blind American Native Indian people's need in the workplace or educational purpose. According to the American Indian Law, the Lumbee (my tribe) have been seeking federal recognition for over one hundred years but have been denied for a variety of arbitrary reasons. My motto is "never GIVE up for what you believe in". In my entire life, I overcame my obstacles as a deaf person. The only time you should ever look back, is to see how far you've come. My mission is to serve American Native Indians to strive for the best in United States of America.