March 11, 2013

Good morning all members of the Judicial Committee. My name is Carmen Ortiz, beside me is my brother, sister, family, and wife. We are here in support of Bill # S.B. 52 & H.B. # 6581 an act concerning sentence modification of juveniles. I would like to read this testimony on behalf of my brother:

Good morning to all Committee members, my name is Wilfredo Ortiz #267596. I am serving a 27 year sentence for felony murder. I was 17 years of age when arrested and I've been incarcerated for 14 years, going on 15. Forever there will be a deep hole, a wound that can never heal. No matter how good I do, my actions hurt so many people I will live with this forever. For my victims and victim's family sorry is not enough. I was a young ignorant kid, with no education, or guidance. I lived in street areas that where filthy with drugs and gangs. At the age, I began to try to identify myself I was trying to fit in. I was looking for acceptance, love and support in the wrong places, so I joined the streets. This is when my nightmare started, the streets where all I knew. I made so many poor decisions and choices in life, because I knew no better. When running in the streets, you are made to believe the street concepts...concepts that after 14 years, lots of pain, suffering, and loss where not true. During my 14 years of incarceration I accomplished so many things of course it was a struggle in the beginning...I found myself with a 27 year sentence and nothing to look forward to. I did everything in the book that describes negative. I believed at the time, that it was over for me. Hope was out the window, how do you explain a sentence to a kid if he knows nothing? So I went from bad to worse, it wasn't until reality started to set in that I said to myself "I need to change". My family was hurting, I myself started to think and reflect and I knew in that moment I needed to change, but how? At the time I was housed in Level 5 maximum security prison. I successfully completed gang programs. I made it to general population, I started getting involved in programs D.O.C offers. Still struggling with my ways, but trying... I knew I had to serve 25 years in prison, no matter how good I did because of the charge itself of felony murder, I had to serve no less than 25 years a minimum mandatory sentence... For others, this chain of thoughts is why they continue on a negative path without any hope. For me it was more of just trying to become a better person. I was trying to really find myself. To identify who I am and what I wanted in life. I started to take full advantage of any and every program D.O.C has to offer. I went to school, learned English properly, to read and write and after 3 attempts I completed my GED a tool that is required in life. Especially in D.O.C in order to be accepted into other programs, which have changed my life around A.V.P is one of them; Alternative to Violence Program it teaches you how to change a negative situation into a positive outcome. Mainly to show you that we all possess tools in life, and to use them in a positive way. Tools that allow us all to be good, to care for others, and most importantly to sympathize and have compassion for others, and to always put yourself in other peoples shoes. I am currently a A.V.P facilitator, my experience in life has driven me to help others. Another program that I continue to be a part of is the Hospice Program in the prison. It is truly a life changer; we "The Hospice Volunteers" provide care for dying men 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. These men become part of our family, men from all walks of life. Some with family member's by their side and others with just use holding their hands. Also I am currently completing 75 hours of text book and instruction, and then I will need to complete hours of supervised practical training to become a C.N.A (Certified Nurse's Assistant) I am

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to recommend Wilfredo Ortiz in his future endeavors. During the time I have known Wilfredo Oritz, it has been a privilege to know and work with him.

Specifically I am involved in a program called Alternatives to Violence Prison Project. The program (AVP) uses experiential learning with groups of inmates to find constructive solutions to daily problems and to use alternative techniques to manage stressful situations. This program is directed by teams of facilitators, those who come from the outside world and those who are inmates. Wilfredo Ortiz is one of the dedicated, skilled and capable leaders in the AVP.

Inmate facilitators come to AVP as novice participants and attend many workshops. They are evaluated and selected to be future facilitators as they demonstrate significant positive insights and transformations through the workshops. They are the people who are committed to AVP principles of respect, nonviolence and reconciliation. AVP facilitators hold dual roles in prison, they are the most important instructional peer leaders during workshops and they are the peacemakers in the other parts of prison life. They use the tools of AVP in the most stressful environment and they are successful. Wilfredo Ortiz has been particularly dedicated to influencing the very young men who are growing up in prison. He has been an influential leader as well as a successful role model.

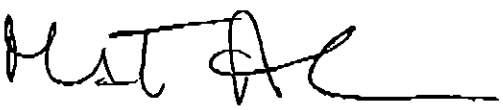
I have known Wilfedo Ortiz through training sessions and AVP workshops. We have participated in many workshops as facilitators and I have every confidence in him. I have seen him conduct workshop sessions with patience and persistence, committed always to helping others finding alternative beliefs and solutions to problems. Wilfredo Ortiz is determined in his belief that old patterns of behavior are not successful for him or for others.

Wilfredo Ortiz carries a strong leadership role in AVP. He has a bright inquiring mind that is leading him to discover the larger world. He demonstrates a calming stable influence on novice participants and uses his own maturing process to demonstrate self-reflection, responsibility and perseverance towards positive goals. Wilfredo Ortiz is consistent in his commitment to personal transformation and he shares these qualities with others.

Furthermore, as with other inmate facilitators, Wilfredo Ortiz contributes 100% of his energy, hard work and focus for the success of AVP. He brings this ability to focus and persist with hard work to his future career goals.

I strongly recommend Wilfredo Ortiz in his future goals. He will be a positive and constructive influence for his family, for the community and as a role model of a mature contributing member of our society.

Yours,

AVP facilitator 

University of Connecticut Health Center

CORRECTIONAL MANAGED HEALTH CARE

OSBORN CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION
335 BILTON ROAD
SOMERS, CT 06071

12/19/12

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of Mr. Wilfredo Ortiz. I have worked at Osborn Correctional for the last five years. Along with my job as a nurse, I am currently one of three hospice coordinator's here at Osborn. I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Ortiz when he was transferred from McDougal Correctional to Osborn Correctional in May of 2011. It wasn't long before Mr. Ortiz quickly made his mark on our hospice program.

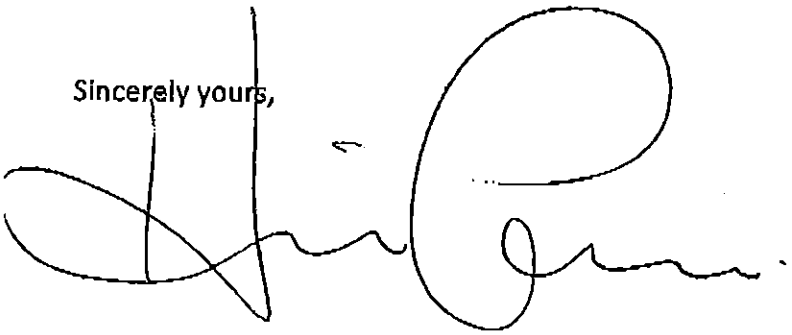
As a Hospice Coordinator, I have worked closely with Mr. Ortiz seeing first hand his dedication, empathy, and compassion to the enhancement of life, not just his own but the lives of all he comes in contact with. He is always willing to go the extra mile and when given a task he doesn't just carry it out, he fulfills it. He is innovative, motivated, and eager to learn, as well as share all that is available to him.

Mr. Ortiz has been a pillar to our hospice program here at Osborn. Since his arrival in May of 2011, he has dedicated well over 150 hours of services to our dying population. He has touched the lives of numerous dying patients, helping to ease men from all walks of life, with very different temperaments through a very difficult transition from life to death, allowing these patients to die with dignity respect, and most importantly love.

Mr. Ortiz has also been one of my best mentors for new hospice volunteers, showing them what it takes to care for the dying patient, guiding them through the various emotions that arise when doing this emotionally draining work. Mr. Ortiz has faithfully been my go-to man when a hospice patient is need of what can be some vigorous care in the middle of the night or 24-hours a day. Mr. Ortiz graciously volunteers his time despite all the hours he commits to his job as a Certified Nurses Assistant, along with his many other commitments.

It is truly a pleasure to work along side with Mr. Ortiz; he has given 100% of himself and left an amazing mark on this program. I would confidently recommend Mr. Ortiz for any future endeavors.

Sincerely yours,



Heidi Givens LPN / DCP
Osborn Correctional Facility
335 Bilton Rd.
Somers, CT 06071

Ortiz #267596 Q2-53

INMATE CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT TRAINING
INTERVIEW LETTER

To: Ortiz

From: Kristin Carabine, CN, CNA Program Coordinator

Subject: Inmate Nursing Assistant Training Interview

We would like to notify you that you have met the qualifications for the CNA program here at OCI. You are scheduled for an interview at the DR (Disciplinary Report) Room, on Tues 9/4/12 at 12:45A. Please use this letter as your pass.

If you are no longer interested, please notify myself or Sean MacRae, CHNS

Ortiz #267596 Q2-53

INMATE CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT TRAINING
ACCEPTANCE LETTER

To: Wilfredo Ortiz

From: Kristin Carabine, CN, CNA Program Coordinator

Subject: Inmate Nursing Assistant Training

Congratulations! You have been selected to participate in the Certified Nursing Assistant training program.

Training will take place in approximately 2-4 weeks. You will have 70 hours of classroom and 120 hours of clinical to complete. You will be notified of the time and location for the first class. Please bring a pen or pencil to each class, but specifically a pen on the first class.

If you have decided to decline the training program, please notify myself or Sean MacRae prior to the start of classes. Thank you.

Have Completed and now Certified.

State of Connecticut

This Certifies That

Wilfredo Ortiz

has satisfied all requirements pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes 10 - 5, as amended, and is therefore awarded this diploma in compliance with the rules and regulations of the State Board of Education.

High School Diploma

No. 244504 Date January 8, 2004

Secretary, State Board of Education

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

GENERAL EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

OFFICIAL REPORT OF TEST RESULTS

UNAUTHORIZED COPY

This certifies that the following High School Level Examination results were achieved by:

Wilfredo Ortiz
Garner Ct
Newtown, Ct 06470

ID Number: OrWi10001
Date of Birth: 10/10/1980

TEST TYPE	SUBJECT	Standard Score	Percentile
TESTS OF GENERAL EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT - ENGLISH (GED E)	Language Arts - Writing	490	46
	Science	450	31
A nationally standardized test used in Connecticut since March, 1967. A passing score is 2,250 (450 average) with no one test subject score below 410.	Social Studies	440	27
	Language Arts - Reading	440	27
	Mathematics	450	31
	Standard Score Total:	**2270**	
	Standard Score Average:	**454**	

* PREPARED BY THE GED TESTING SERVICE OF THE AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION

BASED ON THE ABOVE TEST SCORES, CONNECTICUT STATE HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA NUMBER 244504 WAS ISSUED ON 1/8/2004 TO THE ABOVE NAMED INDIVIDUAL.

GED ADMINISTRATOR, CT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ***

Carl G. Paternostro

January 9, 2004
Date

COPY COPY COPY

GEDTR(1/09)

03/13/2013 14:53 8608289737 CENTER FOR UROLOGY PAGE 10/25

TIER 2 COMPLETION CEREMONY

FEBRUARY 10, 2005

9:00 a.m.

MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM

- OPENING REMARKS
- KEYNOTE SPEAKERS(S)
- PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES
- REFRESHMENTS

GRADUATES
TIER II

Antoine, Guyeens
Beatty, James
Bunker, Michael
Carter, George
Coover,Robert
DeJesus, Robert
Delgrasso, Michael
Herbert, Richard
Huchet, Jason
Johnson, Terry
Mainiero, Anthony
McDermott,Sean
McGregor, Everett
McKinnie, Jonathan
Menedz, Angel
Morris, James
Ortiz, Wilfredo
Pelletier, Lawrence
Perry, Kevin
Pettway, Kenneth
Reed, William
Rivera,Edwin
Rodriguez, Francisco
Torres, Richard

03/13/2013 14:53 8608289737 CENTER FOR UROLOGY PAGE 11/25

Certificate of Merit

Wilfredo Ortiz
267596

For participation in focus groups for HIV Awareness
MacDougall/Walker Correctional Institution

Presented by
The BEYOND FEAR Program

Tuesday, September,23, 2008

Margaret L. Moriarty, Health Educator

Dennis O'Neill, Program Manager

This Is To Certify That

WILFREDO ORTIZ
267596

has completed nine hours of substance abuse programming, meeting the requirements for the completion of
TIER I
on June 28, 2002
at Corrigan-Radgowski Correctional Center

Program Counselor

Counselor Supervisor

Major

Warden

03/13/2013 14:53 8608289737 CENTER FOR UROLOGY PAGE 13/25

CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Wilfredo Ortiz

#267596

has successfully completed the

Tier II Addiction Services Program

Program at the MacDougall-Walker Correctional Institution.

10 February, 2005

Ida M. Terry, LADC

F. O'Gorman, CC

Certificate of Completion

Awarded to

ORTIZ, WILFREDO

#267596

For satisfactory completion of the **AVP BASIC Workshop**

Presented by

The Alternatives to Violence Project, Inc.

Date: **4-6 NOV 05**

Marla Ludwig

Facilitator

VP, Inc. of Southwestern New England

03/13/2013 14:53 8608289737 CENTER FOR UROLOGY PAGE 15/25

Certificate of Completion

Awarded to

ORTIZ, WILFREDO

#267596

For satisfactory completion of the **AVP ADVANCED Workshop**

Presented by

The Alternatives to Violence Project, Inc.

Date: **7-9 APR 06**

Manager Mike Andrew Burston

Carolann Boucher
Facilitator

AVP, Inc. of Southwestern New England

03/13/2013 14:53 8608289737 CENTER FOR UROLOGY PAGE 16/25

ServSafe®

Certificate of Achievement

This certificate is awarded to

Wilfredo Ortiz

Congratulations!

You have completed
ServSafe® Food Handler Training.

Instructor G. Lavenstein Date 10/2012

Organization USD #1 Location Wethersfield, CT.

NATIONAL RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION®

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8608289737
03/13/2013 14:53

Unified School District #1

Certificate of Achievement

presented to

WILFREDO ORTIZ

in the **CULINARY ARTS** Vocational Education Program

in recognition of demonstrated proficiency indicated by the completion of the following curriculum modules:

MODULES 1. ORIENTATION/SAFETY 2. HYGIENE/SANITATION 3. CAREERS IN FOOD SERVICE 4. TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT 5. ORGANIZATION SKILLS

Superintendent of Schools

Principal

Instructor / Teacher

11/2/12

Date

Unified School District #1

Certificate of Achievement

presented to

WILFREDO ORTIZ

in the **CULINARY ARTS** Vocational Education Program

in recognition of demonstrated proficiency indicated by the completion of the following curriculum modules:

MODULES 6. BREAKFAST COOKERY 7. BAKE SHOP
8. SOUPS, STOCKS, SAUCES 9. MEAT AND POULTRY
10. FISH AND SHELL FISH

Superintendent of Schools

Edward Koza, Jr.
Principal

Instructor / Teacher

11/29/12
Date

Unified School District #1

Certificate of Achievement

presented to

WILFREDO ORTIZ

in the **CULINARY ARTS** *Vocational Education Program*

in recognition of demonstrated proficiency indicated by the completion of the following curriculum modules:

MODULES: 11. FRUITS AND VEGETABLES 12. POTATOES STARCH 13. SALADS AND DRESSING 14. FOOD SERVICE MATH 15. CUSTOMER SERVICE 16. TRANSITIONAL TRAINING

Superintendent of Schools

Edward Lopez Jr.
Principal

Instructor / Teacher

12/17/12
Date

United School District #1

Certificate of Completion

presented to

WILFREDO ORTIZ

in recognition of satisfactory completion of the

CULINARY ARTS

Vocational Education Program

This program requires proficiency in **16** *curriculum modules*

Superintendent of Schools

Principal

Instructor / Teacher

1/11/13

Date

Inmate Performance Evaluation Form

Connecticut Department of Correction

CN 100101
6/26/02

Inmate Name: Ortiz, Wilfredo	Inmate No.: 267596
Facility: MacDougall – Walker C.I.	Date: 29 December 2004
Assignment Title: Tier II Mid-Term Evaluation	Evaluation Period: Nov. 4 – Dec. 28, 2004

Criteria	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Attendance	☐	☐	☑	☐
Initiative	☐	☐	☑	☐
Productivity	☐	☐	☑	☐
Attitude	☐	☐	☑	☐
Overall	☐	☐	☑	☐

Comments and Recommendations:

Mr. Ortiz attends group and shares honestly about his life experiences. He has a positive attitude and appears ready to make new changes in his life. Recommend he take healthy risks to share more deeply about himself.

Inmate signature	Wilfredo Ortiz	
Supervisor signature	T. O'Gorman	Title: Corr. Counselor
Reviewer signature	J. Mahoney	Title: Corr. Counselor

Inmate Performance Evaluation Form

Connecticut Department of Correction

CN 100101
6/26/02

Inmate name ORTIZ, WILFREDO | Inmate no. 267596

Facility MacDougall-Walker C.I. | Date 3/15/07

Assignment Title BARBER | Evaluation Period SEPT 06 - MAR 07

Criteria	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Attendance	☐	☐	☐	☒
Initiative	☐	☐	☐	☒
Productivity	☐	☐	☐	☒
Attitude	☐	☐	☐	☒
Overall	☐	☐	☐	☒

Comments and Recommendations

IN ADDITION TO BEING AN EXCELLENT BARBER, HE CONSISTENTLY DEMONSTRATES INITIATIVE WITH REGARD TO MAINTAINING THE APPEARANCE AND CLEANLINESS OF THE BARBERSHOP AREA. HE CAN ALWAYS BE COUNTED ON TO ENSURE THAT THE NIGHTLY WORKLOAD OF HAIRCUTS ARE COMPLETED IN A TIMELY FASHION.

Inmate signature Wilfredo Ortiz

Supervisor signature [illegible] | Title C/O

Reviewer signature | Title

K. Hospice and Palliative Care Inmate Volunteer Performance Evaluation Form

Facility: Osborn Date: 8/28/12

Inmate Name: Wilfredo Ortiz Number: 267546

Assignment Title: Hospice Volunteer

Evaluation Period 5/2011 – present

Criteria:	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Attendance			✓	
Initiative			✓	
Productivity			✓	
Attitude				✓
Overall			✓	

Comments and Recommendations: You're a hard working volunteer who puts in alot of hours. Your very kind & caring to your patients and are very helpful to others including staff. You're very dedicated and it shows in your work. Thank you for all that you do. Continue to improve with your communication & interaction with staff.

Inmate Signature: Wilfredo Ortiz

Volunteer Coordinator: [signature]

Correctional Facility Liaison:

OFFENDER WORK PERFORMANCE & PROGRAM REMOVAL/REFUSAL FORM

CN 100101
Revised 08/12/11

Inmate name: Ortiz, Wilfredo	Inmate number: 267596	Facility: Osborn
Current Job/Program Assignment: VOICES	Performance Evaluation Period: From: 4-23-12 To: 4-27-12	

Criteria	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Attendance	☐	☐	☐	☑
Initiative	☐	☐	☑	☐
Productivity	☐	☐	☑	☐
Attitude	☐	☐	☑	☐
Overall	☐	☐	☑	☐

Comments: Mr. Ortiz completed the ten sessions of VOICES

Inmate Signature: [signature]	Date: 4.27.12
Staff Signature: [signature] Cruz, CSAC	Date: 4-27-12

The area below is to be used for a Program or Job refusal.

OFFERED ASSIGNMENT	PROGRAM/JOB NAME	PROGRAM CODE	1ST Refusal	2ND Refusal
Addiction Services				
Offender Programs				
Education				
Job				
Other				

I do not wish to participate in the program or activity being offered to me at this facility at this time. I may request to be placed on the wait list at a later date.

I understand that refusal of an OAP program or activity may jeopardize my eligibility for Risk Reduction Earned Credit or community release programs.

Inmate Signature:		Date:
Staff Name (Print or Type):	Staff Signature:	Date:
Supervisor Name (Print or Type):	Supervisor Signature:	Date:

*** This information will be noted in the RT3 system, on the Program Activity Log, and a copy maintained in Section 6 of the Inmate Master File.

OFFENDER WORK PERFORMANCE & PROGRAM REMOVAL/REFUSAL FORM

CN 100101
Revised 08/12/11

Inmate name: MR. ORTIZ	Inmate number: 267596	Facility: OSBORN
Current Job/Program Assignment: Student	Performance Evaluation Period: From: 9/2012 To: 1/2013	

Criteria	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Attendance	☐	☐	☐	☒
Initiative	☐	☐	☐	☒
Productivity	☐	☐	☐	☒
Attitude	☐	☐	☐	☒
Overall	☐	☐	☐	☒

Comments: Outstanding student and very supportive to other students need. Always willing to help out.

Inmate Signature:	Date: 11.9.12
Staff Signature:	Date: 12/2012

The area below is to be used for a Program or Job refusal.

OFFERED ASSIGNMENT	PROGRAM/JOB NAME	PROGRAM CODE	1ST Refusal	2ND Refusal
Addiction Services				
Offender Programs				
Education				
Job				
Other				

I do not wish to participate in the program or activity being offered to me at this facility at this time. I may request to be placed on the wait list at a later date.

I understand that refusal of an OAP program or activity may jeopardize my eligibility for Risk Reduction Earned Credit or community release programs.

Inmate Signature:		Date:
Staff Name (Print or Type):	Staff Signature:	Date:
Supervisor Name (Print or Type):	Supervisor Signature:	Date:

*** This information will be noted in the RT3 system, on the Program Activity Log, and a copy maintained in Section 6 of the Inmate Master File.

FAX

3/13/2013

TO: Justice Committee (Attn: GEORGE)

FAX: 860.240.0196

PHONE: 860.240.0530

FROM: Rachael Ortiz

FAXED MAR 13 2013

PHONE: 860-944-8019

PAGES 3

RE: Wilfredo Ortiz # 267596 "Testimony for Public Hearing on 3/11/2013"

CC:

COMMENTS:

Dear George,

Per. our conversation this morning attached you will see the documents Wilfredo Ortiz #267596 testimony for the Public Hearing on 3/11/2013.If you can please scan these documents for testimonies from the youthful Offenders pertaining to these bills (S.B 52 & H.B 6581. Any furture information please contact me at the number listed above. Thank you again for adding this info to the Justice Committee Meeting "Public Hearing" dated 3/11/2013.

Sincerely,

Rachael M. Ortiz

Rachael M. Ortiz

☐ URGENT

☐ PLEASE COMMENT

☐ PLEASE REVIEW

☐ FOR YOUR RECORDS

March 11, 2013

Good morning all members of the Judicial Committee. My name is Carmen Ortiz, beside me is my brother, sister, family, and wife. We are here in support of Bill # S.B. 52 & H.B. # 6581 an act concerning sentence modification of juveniles. I would like to read this testimony on behalf of my brother:

Good morning to all Committee members, my name is Wilfredo Ortiz #267596. I am serving a 27 year sentence for felony murder. I was 17 years of age when arrested and I've been incarcerated for 14 years, going on 15. Forever there will be a deep hole, a wound that can never heal. No matter how good I do, my actions hurt so many people I will live with this forever. For my victims and victim's family sorry is not enough. I was a young ignorant kid, with no education, or guidance. I lived in street areas that where filthy with drugs and gangs. At the age, I began to try to identify myself I was trying to fit in. I was looking for acceptance, love and support in the wrong places, so I joined the streets. This is when my nightmare started, the streets where all I knew. I made so many poor decisions and choices in life, because I knew no better. When running in the streets, you are made to believe the street concepts...concepts that after 14 years, lots of pain, suffering, and loss where not true. During my 14 years of incarceration I accomplished so many things of course it was a struggle in the beginning...I found myself with a 27 year sentence and nothing to look forward to. I did everything in the book that describes negative. I believed at the time, that it was over for me. Hope was out the window, how do you explain a sentence to a kid if he knows nothing? So I went from bad to worse, it wasn't until reality started to set in that I said to myself "I need to change". My family was hurting, I myself started to think and reflect and I knew in that moment I needed to change, but how? At the time I was housed in Level 5 maximum security prison. I successfully completed gang programs. I made it to general population, I started getting involved in programs D.O.C offers. Still struggling with my ways, but trying... I knew I had to serve 25 years in prison, no matter how good I did because of the charge itself of felony murder, I had to serve no less than 25 years a minimum mandatory sentence... For others, this chain of thoughts is why they continue on a negative path without any hope. For me it was more of just trying to become a better person. I was trying to really find myself. To identify who I am and what I wanted in life. I started to take full advantage of any and every program D.O.C has to offer. I went to school, learned English properly, to read and write and after 3 attempts I completed my GED a tool that is required in life. Especially in D.O.C in order to be accepted into other programs, which have changed my life around A.V.P is one of them; Alternative to Violence Program it teaches you how to change a negative situation into a positive outcome. Mainly to show you that we all possess tools in life, and to use them in a positive way. Tools that allow us all to be good, to care for others, and most importantly to sympathize and have compassion for others, and to always put yourself in other peoples shoes. I am currently a A.V.P facilitator, my experience in life has driven me to help others. Another program that I continue to be a part of is the Hospice Program in the prison. It is truly a life changer; we "The Hospice Volunteers" provide care for dying men 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. These men become part of our family, men from all walks of life. Some with family member's by their side and others with just use holding their hands. Also I am currently completing 75 hours of text book and instruction, and then I will need to complete hours of supervised practical training to become a C.N.A (Certified Nurse's Assistant) I am

determined to complete my state exam and get my C.N.A license. Finally I am completing the "Culinary Art" vocational program, I am trying to stay focused and busy in this prison environment. If I got anything from a bad decision that got me 27 years in prison was that I learned to appreciate life, to respect anything, everything, and everyone. To be a humble individual, to have compassion for others, and I can proudly say that today I am a better person. I am not the 17 year old kid that knew no better, and I continue to strive to be a better person every day. I believe in second chances, and I cannot undo my past but I am sorry for all the hurt and harm I caused but I know that I am living proof of change. I know that if given the opportunity I will be a productive member of society and I sincerely hope that my testimony can create a positive outlook from the prospective of someone who has lived it, matured, and been rehabilitated. To see the change of whom I was, to who I am today. Thank you for allowing me to present my testimony.

Respectfully submitted

Wilfredo Ortiz #267596