

Darius ~~in~~ Billing Salary # C-34626
SQSP, 4N5U
San Quentin, ca 94974



Prison University Project
Post Office 492
San Quentin, CA

94964



MAY 27, 2020

Dear Prison University Project (PUP)/Mt. Tamalpais College,

My name is Darwin Billingsley, #C-34626. I learned about PUP via San Quentin Prison Newspaper while housed at California City Correctional Facility. In 2016, I wrote a letter to Heather Hart, Staff Coordinator who was instrumental in expediting my request for transfer to San Quentin to enroll as a student with PUP. In 2017, I became a student, welcomed by a host of approachable staff, teachers, tutors and student residents. Everyone's perspective appeared to be focused on education, encouraged confidence in learning ability and rehabilitation. PUP allowed me a variety of styles to learn through a network of organized staff with a sincere passion for teaching. Many options: Tutors, Study Group, Study Hall, etc... were available to assist with my educational needs. PUP also afforded me opportunities to explore additional productive programs offered at San Quentin. Thank you PUP for your continuing effort and encouragement towards building productive returning citizens (like myself) as opposed to building more prisons. In conjunction with this letter I am also writing to express my sincere "THANKS" and "APPRECIATION" to PUP Staff for the following reasons: 1) making that tough decision to suspend the College Program in re: of the Covid19-Pandemic; 2) The huge number of people out there advocating for releases and reduction (however possible) of the

citizens

prison population; and 3) for the unbelievable gift package of food items and stationery/stamps paid for by Friends of PUP...

... A BIG SHOUT OUT and Special THANKS also to Warden, Ron Broomfield and his staff for their effort towards keeping San Quentin Residents safe during the Covid 19 Pandemic; and for their support in organizing the issuance of PUP's gift packages to all residents of San Quentin. It cannot be an easy task to coordinate various programs within a Facility of various levels and security needs... I wish for everyone to stay healthy, safe and to prioritize human life and freedom over material things... I give my consent for your organization to edit, and share my letter on the Prison University - Project Website and/or in email messages to the community.

Sincerely,

Darwin Billingsley May 27, 2020

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