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PRISON University Project
POST OFFICE 492
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June 17, 2020

Dear Prison Project,

"Quarantine," - "A state of enforced isolation."

This is only one version of that word, from Webster's.

I'm at the "Adjustment Center" here at San Quentin in quarantine after testing negative at CIM. Only the CDC can figure that one out.

But anyway, thank you for the tasty treats and the info on this life threatening disease COVID 19. That helped in my transition to this situation. I've been doing time for a lot of years and I've never had a c/o just drop a bag in my cell... for free!

I was pretty pissed off when I was woke up at midnight on the 30th of May to transfer to San Quentin from Chino's single cell dog program. I was told that since I tested NEGATIVE, that I had to make room

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for inmates coming in that are positive. At first they put us in South / Badger unit where all the dis-informed inmates are in reception. All those inmates were freaking out yelling; "take all those COVID 19 people out of here!" In all reality 99% of the inmates are negative. From what I observed, two people got through here.

And you know what? I don't blame those dudes for getting upset because they didn't know better. Poor guys w/ no TV's or radios, have no real info to turn to. That's why I applaud you guys here with the Prison University Project for shooting out the info to help those who are confused about this virus.

Now that I've also been informed about the programs here at San Quentin, I'm stoked to hear about Toastmasters and such

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as the Offender Mentor Certification Program (OMCP).

I've had Drug Counseling experience in the past, but I've always wanted to work with juveniles.

To be the "someone" - I always wished I had to help steer me away from such disastrous choices. I've taken away from society for so many years that now it's time to give back.

I have 3 strikes already and the judge gave me ONE more chance.

Now instead of getting mad at this transfer, I'm now seeing that I have HOPE with the possibility of chasing this dream to work with at-risk youngsters.

Also, the Dr. just now walked by my cell to tell me I tested negative (again) and I can finally check out of this "adjustment Center." Thanks again and please

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continue doing what you do.
That act of kindness you did
caught the attention of this
hard-core knucklehead.

With respect,

Rick Elliott

PS

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You have

my

permission

to share

this letter!

— Buckeye

J. Elliott