

The letters below represent the correspondence between a survivor of trafficking whose vacatur/expungement petition was granted and the law enforcement officer whom she assaulted during her victimization.

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Dear [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

I would like to begin this letter with my utmost appreciation for your time and consideration you have taken on my behalf. I feel I should begin with sharing some of my story. About 2 ½ years ago I was rescued by the hands of God out of a lifestyle of Human Trafficking and drug addiction. I had been living this way for many years. I can remember praying to God for something to happen to change these circumstances. I was trapped in. And things began to unfold with me being arrested along with my trafficker. I was 4 months pregnant with his child along with a 2 year old who his family had. During my stay at [REDACTED] County Jail I began to seek God and felt safe and relieved I knew I needed this. So I began to seek a personal relationship with God. I was the Christian Coordinator in [REDACTED] the Faith base Program for the majority of my stay at the female detention center having my baby while I was incarcerated. Praying for God to help me find a family to help me while I worked on myself so I could become the mother she needed and deserved me to be. And he did all that for me I've seen God move in my life in so many ways he orchestrated every step of the way. Upon my release I went to a program [REDACTED] a home for women who have been Human Trafficked and had drug addictions. I stayed there for the next year and did a lot of work to recover from trauma. I'm so proud to tell you I am now graduated from the program. I work at [REDACTED]. I've been clean for 2 ½ years Praise God and I have recently been reunited with my children through the courts. God is my deliverance and my strength.

Now that I've shared my testimony with you. I really want to get to the sole purpose for this letter and that is to tell you that I'm truly sorry for resisting you and acting disrespectful towards you in any kind of manner. I can now see and can only imagine how this altercation could have disrupted your day. I am so very sorry for disrespecting you like that. I have the utmost respect for you and other officers of the law. I know how stressful your job can be and you don't deserve disrespect. I salute you for all your hard work and dedication. I pray that this apology will touch your heart and maybe I can one day in person give you one. I hope that you can forgive me. I'm not trying to make excuses for my behavior. I believe in my heart I was responding to past trauma and being up for days on drugs.

Now that I am clean and sober I'm trying to piece back together my life and be the mother to my children that they deserve. I did decide that I need more accountability in my life so I'm in another program [REDACTED]. I'm able to work alongside a case manager and do discipleship, as well as parenting classes. I also plan to further my education [REDACTED]. I'm truly excited to see where God will lead me and my family and would desire to keep in touch with you so I can share more of my victories. Once again [REDACTED] please forgive me. Also praying for safety for you and your family with this pandemic going on in the world. God Bless.

Sincerely, [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED],

I hope this letter finds you and your family well. Thank you for reaching out to me. I am so excited to know you are on a wonderful path with Jesus at your side! I can tell you from experience that there is no better place to be than in his grace, mercy, and peace. He will never forsake you and will always be at your side.

I want you to know that I understand (as much as I can) that you have had much sadness, grief, and trauma in your life and I would not wish that on anyone. Please accept my forgiveness and continue to move forward with your life! All is forgotten!

I'm proud of you and your accomplishments and wish you all the best! You've been given such a great and holy calling to reach out and touch the lives of so many women that need what you have found. I pray for you every day and will continue to keep you in my prayers!

Stay strong!

[REDACTED]