

Orlando F. Salazar III

A quick bio on me in relation to The Crime Prevention and Control Commission.

I grew up in West Denver.

10th and Federal.

I lost 2 best friends during the summer of violence, Dorian Gallegos and Clint Martinez.

My step dad went to prison for attempted murder.

I'm a high school drop out.

A 2 time felon, robbery and felony theft.

I attempted suicide in 2002.

I've been a homeless teen sleeping in the alleys on 16th Street Mall.

I'm now a City of Denver employee.

A homeowner in Northfield.

The owner of a catering and food trailer business, @ThaMooVment.

I have a 800 credit score.

I invest in crypto, virtual real estate and NFTs.

I have 4 great children and a wonderful wife that works The Denver Collaborative Partnership.

She's the one that suggested I participate in this.

I know what it takes to be a criminal, and more importantly, I know what it takes to stop being a criminal.

My qualifications are:

I've done it.

I know that getting a real, practical, valuable education can not only change a person's perspective, but their life.

Even if it came by sitting in a jail cell for a year just reading books.

I understand the history of this country.

The know the results of land theft, both from the Natives, Hawaiians and Mexicans, slavery, Asians during WWII, Jim Crow, Red Lining, Iran Contra, The Crack Epidemic, The War on Drugs, Privatizing Prison, etc.

I also know that the information hoarding by group of privileged people in this country, can be erased with a simple word search in Google. By De-Fi. By NFTs. By untapped virtual opportunities. By starting with something as simple as: this is how to purchase a house. Or a car. Or get an LLC. Or manage credit. Or how to act when dealing with a police officer.

I believe this generation can make equality/equity happen for disenfranchised groups in this country.

I have the experience, the empathy, and the first hand knowledge of a world that cant be fully understood or explained by a book in a college classroom.

The Why?

Bobby Kennedy once said "Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring, those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance."

I'm obligated.

And I know it's possible because I'm proof.

Idk if this is what you're looking for but I would really love to have a chance to be a part of this program.