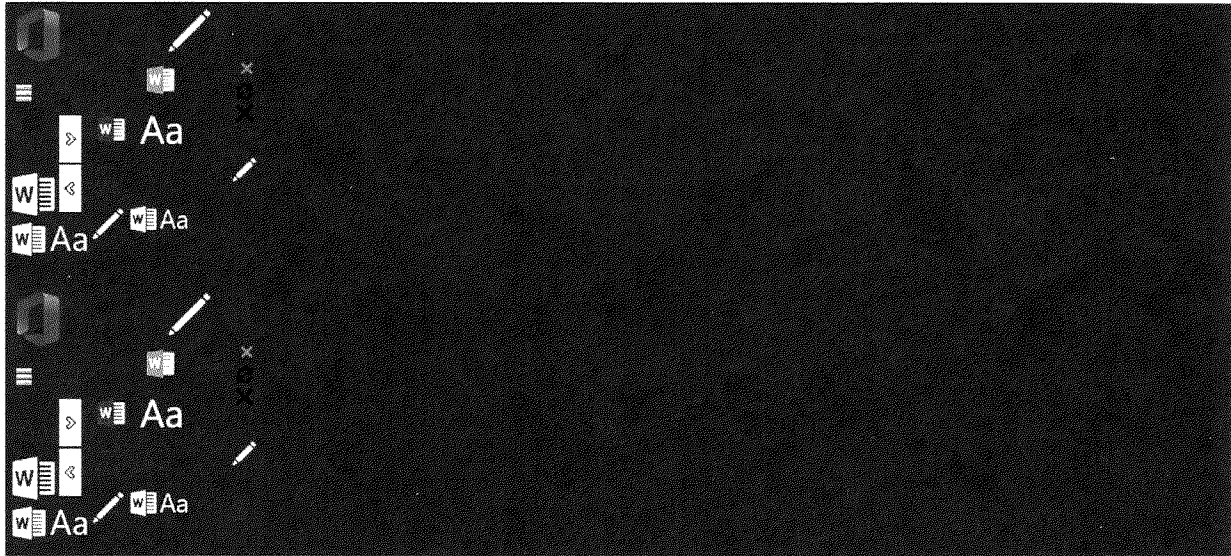


Youth staements 2024 against PO's..docx



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When I was on probation as a youth, my PO was very hard to get a hold of, never seemed to be in whenever I needed his support. However, whenever He wanted to reach me, he would threaten to put me in custody if I didn't come into the Probation office whenever he wanted to see me. He didn't care that I was at school or at work and could have lost my job or that I didn't have a way to get there. I was just supposed to drop everything and prayed he didn't arrest me. This PO still works there, and I am afraid of retaliation from him if he knew my name that's why I am not giving my name even though I have another PO today.

When I was on probation, the Gang Task Force invaded my house and went through everything, they scared my Mom and my little sister, but they didn't care. Even though they didn't find anything, I told them I didn't have anything, and I was doing everything I'm supposed to. I remember one Officer saying to me" **I will be watching you and make sure you end up in prison with all your homies**" I was 17 yrs old, going to school and had a job after school to help my family. Probation never looked at the fact that yes, I made a mistake, but I never hurt anyone and that I was really trying to stay

out of trouble and working to help my family. **I am older now and no longer on Probation but I have No Trust in the Probation department because I have experienced how they abuse their power and lie about saying they just want to help but in reality they are just waiting for you to make a small mistake to lock you back up.** Probation is all about locking up young people, *especially from Watsonville* to make themselves look good and make money off us. Now that I am older, I can see their TRUE COLORS. Today, I am in college because of the REAL people who supported and believed in me from Barrios Unidos and Rising Scholars. **To that Officer who hoped to put me in prison I want him to know that “Someday I will be a lawyer (will take the BAR exam soon) to protect the young people of my community against the injustice, so in a way I guess I should Thank that Officer, nah, I will see him in court someday”.**

Respectfully,

Aka A.F.

I refuse to give my real name because I have worked hard to get where I am and will not lose all that I have accomplished but trust me everything I stated is true and I am sorry I could not be there in person, like I said I'm in Law School.