

The Second Look Bill means that I would be able to demonstrate to the courts that I have changed and how I have changed. It would also show that I have spent my time productively instead of just existing without change.

When I committed my offense in 1992 I was a person who put himself first and everyone else second even my wife and son. I thought that violence, threats and intimidation was the process to solving life's problems. I lacked basic communication skills and blamed everyone else for my problems. Since that time I have taken several other programs that added to those initial skills. Programs such as Relapse Prevention, R.A.R.E, Celebrate Recovery, Abused Boys Wounded Men and Substance Abuse. The combination of these programs as well as others along with self help books on Criminal and Addictive Thinking, Anger Management and learning about internal and external triggers have helped me become the person I am today.

In my early days in prison I took a program called S.T.P Strategies for Thinking Productively. This was a cognitive thinking program that taught me critical thinking and communication skills I could put to use even in prison. I was determined to change even if I was to live in prison for the rest of my life. I learned how to work everyday by keeping a job throughout my time spent here. For the past 8 plus years I have been training future service dogs for Paws With a Cause. When they started taking applications for this program I was unsure I wanted the responsibility but decided the cause was to great. I wanted to give something good back to the world after all the bad I did and maybe help balance the scales so to speak. I can without a doubt say the dogs have taught me more than I ever taught them. I have learned compassion, empathy, responsibility, dignity, kindness, patience and to put others first. I am now a trainer assistant and teach others how to train dogs. Being a trainer assistant has given me better communication and problems solving skills by learning that everyone is different in the way they learn and communicate.

I can now look myself in the eye which wasn't possible almost 32 years ago and know that I have changed and am no longer a threat to society. The Second Look would allow me to show the courts and my community that no matter the crime people can and do change for the better.

Sincerely,
Wayne Carter #230125
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