

Bronwyn, Macfarlane
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Compass Academy
Idaho

Hello, my name is Bronwyn, I am a Senior in high school. I am going to Idaho State University (ISU) this coming fall of 2024. I have always been so fascinated by the criminal justice system and the psychology of criminal actions. I am going to ISU to major in psychology and minor in criminology. My goal is to receive my Master's Degree and apply for an internship with the FBI office in Pocatello.

My first job was at Jiffy Lube, it was the most rewarding start I couldve had with getting into the professional world. My coworkers and my manager were so nice to me, since I was the only girl there it was intimidating but they treated me like a little sister. This job paved the way for me by giving me valuable communication skills and taught me how important work ethic is.

I have definitely been through some troubled times. I grew up with a single mom with an Acquired Brain Injury, who drank somewhat heavily because of the stress of a full-time retail job and trying to raise a small child.

My father abandoned my mom before I was born. He left the state and died several years later. My mother was heartbroken because he was abusive, but also gave her false hope through unkept promises. My father's behavior, according to my family, indicated he had his own struggles with mental illness. The stress and pressure of trying to raise a child had become too much for my mom after 11 years. As a result, I have been living with my grandparents who are my legal guardians since 2017. They have provided me with a loving, supportive, and nonabusive environment.

In 2018 my grandparents and I moved to Idaho Falls, and I started my 7th-grade year at Eagle Rock Middle School. When I moved, I developed depression and severe anxiety as a result of the

big changes in my life. It was a difficult time, but my grandparents provided me with the professional counseling I needed.

I am so grateful that I have never gone down a path of crime or any kind of misbehavior in school. The main reason that I want to study psychology and get into the FBI is to be a helping hand to families that have lost a member to homicide or suffered from some other violent crime. I want to be a part of the Juvenile system to help kids and teens who live in abusive households find the safe places they deserve. It breaks my heart to see kids stuck in households that are keeping them from expressing their true feelings and emotions, which in turn has them become disobedient and begin to follow a life of crime that will no doubt keep them stuck, and end up spending time in detention and probably jail when they become adults.

This scholarship will be extremely helpful since my grandparents and I live on a fixed, small income and I have always lived in a low-income household. It will mean the world to me because helping families find justice and helping kids out of abusive situations is something that I am passionate about. I have so many friends that are in and out of detention. Their living situations helped me understand why their lives are so tragic. I am Bronwyn Macfarlane and this is what drives me.