

DPO II MARIESHA COLLINS HONORED WITH MEMORIAL CANDLELIGHT VIGIL



SERVED WITH PROBATION DEPARTMENT FOR OVER 27 YEARS

On December 20, 2021, the Los Angeles County Probation Department hosted a memorial candlelight vigil honoring Deputy Probation Officer II, Mariesha Collins.

Deputy Collins was killed tragically in a two-car traffic collision on December 10, 2021. She was returning from the store where she had purchased gift cards for a church charity event she was organizing, "Angel Tree," which provides donated gifts for children whose parents are in prison.

Over a hundred Probation staff, community supporters, family, and friends gathered at the intersection of Baseline Ave. and San Savaine Road in Fontana to remember and pay homage to this beautiful and valuable wife, mother, daughter, sister, co-worker, and community servant.

Attendees held lit candles, and soloist Shontell Jene sang the inspirational ballad "Hero" by Mariah Carey. Chief Deputy Probation Officer Dr. Adolfo Gonzales briefly shared a story of DPO Collins' genuine compassion and connection with the young people she worked with. He shared how she would read bedtime stories to detained youth because many had never experienced such a privilege. The Chief concluded his statement by offering condolences to the family, saying, "The men and women of the Los Angeles County Probation Department will always have the Collins family in our hearts. It's not just tonight, but forever, she will never be forgotten."



Mariesha Collins with her son Marlon



Family, friends, and co-workers came together to honor the memory of Mariesha Collins



Candlelight in honor of Ms. Collins



DPO II MARIESHA COLLINS HONORED WITH MEMORIAL CANDLELIGHT VIGIL (CONT)

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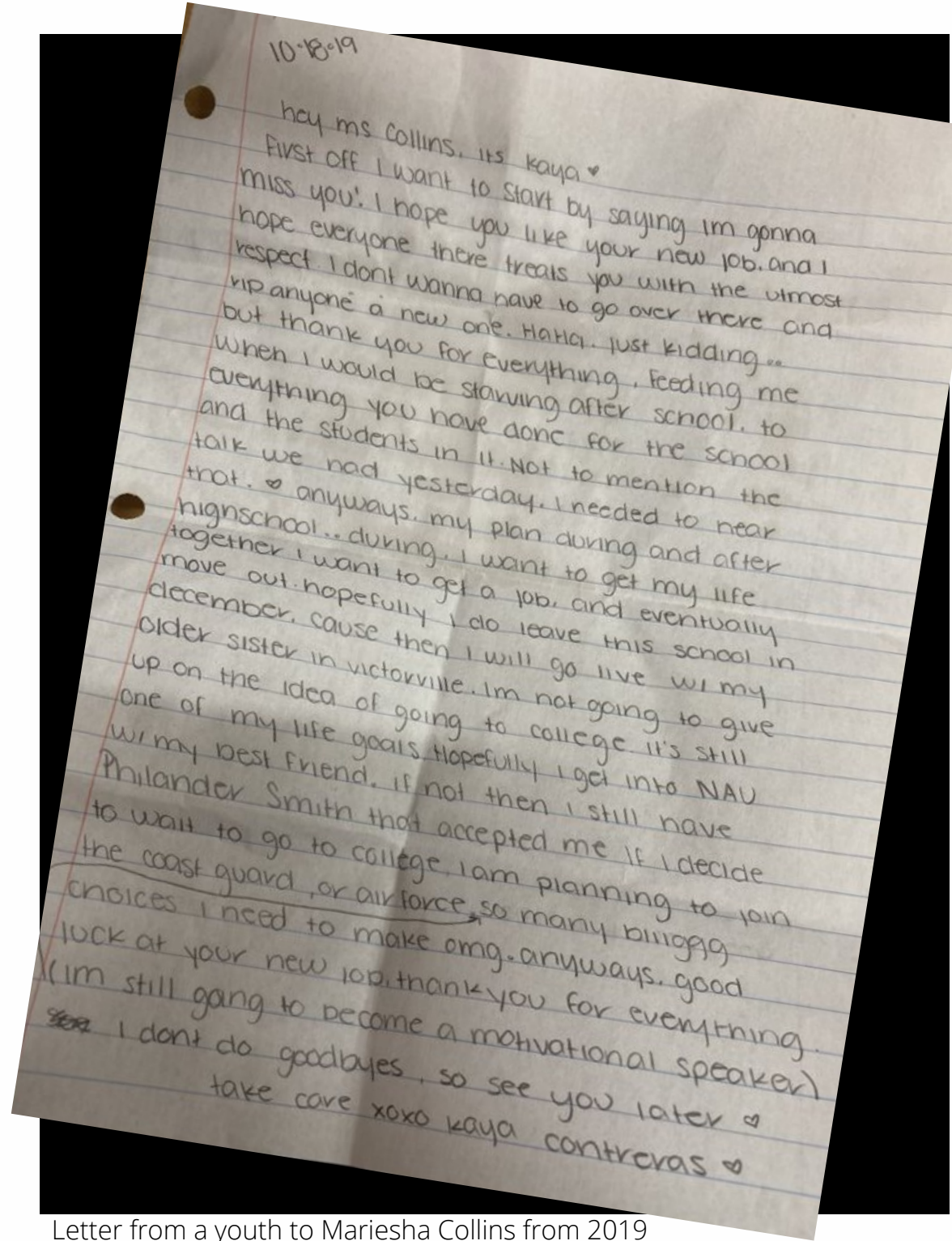
Fontana Mayor Acquanetta Warren also offered condolences and spoke of memories of DPO Collins participating in charitable city events. She declared that the city of Fontana will continue to make sure the public is safe by working with the community and the local police department to create bridges and execute a plan.

DPO Collins' son and sister also shared heartfelt sentiments with vigil attendees. "My Mom helped so many people on so many different levels. She always made sure that she did everything she could within her field, but also in life, to make sure that she helped whoever needed it," expressed her son Marlon Collins. "This vigil is not just for Mariेशa, but for all the people who lost loved ones from reckless driving," stated Deputy Collins' sister and fellow Deputy Probation Officer II Carr-Smith. DPO II Carr-Smith pled with all drivers to be careful, pay attention and slow down.

Deputy Probation Officer II Mariेशa Collins passed while serving and taking care of others. She exemplified the meaning of a giver, showing compassion and empathy for all those she encountered. DPO Collins served the Los Angeles County Probation Department for over 27 years. Her colleagues and probation family will miss her greatly.

Thank you, Mayor Warren, Chief Green, the Fontana Police Department, and the community for welcoming the department and supporting our honor of one of our most valuable colleagues.

Probation News



Letter from a youth to Mariेशa Collins from 2019



In Memory of Mariेशa Collins



Mourners lighting candles