

Tournament of Friendship and Committee and Supporters,

My name is Pedro Valdez IV and I received the Tournament of Friendship scholarship in 2011/2012. I grew up in a low-income family with four siblings; therefore, my parents were not able to assist me in going to college. In order to successfully attend Michigan State University I had to pay for it myself. This scholarship assisted me in making that possible. Since I received this tuition assistance I was able to work less and be more involved in several Criminal Justice Organizations and activities at Michigan State University (MSU). As a result, I was able to build my professional network and obtain a job working for the Lansing Police Department right after graduating from MSU.

Since graduating from MSU I have obtained a Master of Arts degree in Forensic Psychology. In addition, I also plan to further my education by obtaining a Ph.D. in Criminology. I currently work as a Contract Investigator for the Federal Government, where I conduct investigations pertaining to national security. I believe this scholarship played a large factor in where I am today. Without the assistance of the Tournament of Friendship Scholarship, continuing my education at Michigan State University may not have been feasible at that time, and for that I am very appreciative.

Sincerely,

Pedro Valdez IV