



LOUISIANA SENATE

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CONTACT: SENATOR BISHOP

PHONE: 504.242.4198

TODD JULUKE TO RECEIVE FULL PARDON WITH THE HELP OF SENATOR WESLEY BISHOP

Todd Juluke, 52, of New Orleans, will be awarded a master's degree in social work next week from Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO), where State Senator Wesley Bishop serves as Associate Vice Chancellor. Senator Bishop is proud to announce that in addition to a master's degree, Juluke will receive a full pardon from Gov. John Bel Edwards.

"I am so very proud of Todd for his efforts and accomplishments," said Sen. Bishop. "I am also tremendously grateful that I have had the opportunity to have met and to have worked with him on this year-long road to both a degree and a pardon."

Juluke's story has not always had such a positive outlook. After graduating from St. Augustine High School, where he was a member of the 1982 star basketball team, Juluke attended Florida Memorial University Miami on a basketball scholarship. It was during college that Juluke's life took a turn and poor decisions and drug abuse landed him in prison. At some point during his 10-year prison sentence, Juluke made the decision to turn his life around and vowed to help others avoid making the same mistakes he made.

District Attorney Leon Cannizzaro, the then Judge who sentenced Juluke, hired him as a diversion counselor, who had already earned his undergraduate degree in counseling. Juluke also works as a resident support specialist at Odyssey House, an in-patient drug treatment center.

State Senator Wesley Bishop noticed Juluke's dedication while he was enrolled as a master's degree student at the university. "In Juluke I saw a man who had overcome adversity and his own self-destructive behavior to be a person who not only worked to better himself, but to also help others overcome the same types of challenges," says Sen. Bishop.

Senator Bishop introduced Juluke to Governor Edwards after his speech at the school's graduation last year. Sen. Bishop says, "It was just running through my mind that if anyone deserved a pardon, Juluke did. And, knowing the Governor and knowing that if he heard what I heard, he'd act accordingly."

Todd Juluke will graduate with a master's degree and receive a full pardon next week.

In case you missed it, this story was also featured in the news:

<http://www.wvltv.com/news/local/investigations/mike-perlstein/ex-convicts-come-full-circle-make-the-most-of-second-chances/436608562>.

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