



*Police Department*

905 Court Street • Lynchburg • Virginia • 24504

[www.lynchburgva.gov/police](http://www.lynchburgva.gov/police)

February 2017

Dear Glenn,

Thank you for your visit to our house. Kathryn and I always enjoy speaking to or visiting with you. As you know, the three of us share much in our backgrounds, from our convictions to our time in the United States Marine Corps. Also, we've shared common experiences based on our time as Bookmen (and women – on behalf of my wife).

I am pleased to hear of your continued efforts to build the character of young men and women and help them realize and develop their skills and potential through the Varsity Internship Program. I'm sure you remember that Kathryn and I worked with Varsity for one year each. Kathryn, arguably, had the more challenging assignment as she walked throughout the summer. I can't even remember how I ended up in that first meeting in DeMoss, when it was only one story, learning about the Varsity program, or what I was thinking when I signed up for it. It wasn't that Varsity was such a crazy proposition; it was that I never imagined myself addressing complete strangers several times a day, day after day, for an entire summer. Thankfully, through God's strength, I excelled and finished the summer strong, despite having to move to another location after my first roommate had to return home.

The skills I developed and practiced for a summer have helped me in my future endeavors, two of the biggest being the United States Marine Corps and my career as a police officer. The work ethic that was honed during the summer helped me get through boot camp, deployment, and other related military issues. It also helped as I sustained six months of training at the Central Virginia Criminal Justice Academy followed by various work hour assignments with the Lynchburg Police Department. More important than the work ethic was the ability I learned to communicate with almost anyone, in any circumstance. I spoke to men and women of every age, race, religion, political affiliation, and social-economic class.

Much of my success at the Lynchburg Police Department can be traced to communication. Whether it was communicating my thoughts and ideas during the hiring process or promotional review boards, getting irate offenders to calm down, or getting unwilling victims to confide in me and in court, communication is key. As I have progressed within the department, I have had the opportunity to be on the Tactical Unit for eleven years, ten of which also serving as one of the department's snipers. I am a General Instructor through the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). I am currently a Sergeant and have supervised the K9 Unit, a platoon in patrol (which sometimes included being the senior officer for the entire city), as well as the Police Training Officer program – which is responsible for training our new officers once they are out of the academy. My success in these areas required and





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continues to use communication skills I learned and practiced on the bookfield. I don't know of an area where a person can be exposed to as much diversity as knocking on doors. Just as we're taught not to judge a book by its cover, I learned you should never judge a person by the door they answer.

I would highly recommend the Varsity Internship Program to any college student looking to challenge themselves, broaden their horizons, and learn how to communicate with anybody in any situation. I appreciate the opportunity you gave me years ago. I am pleased to see you are still engaged with today's youth in this area. They have a great mentor to help them find direction in this world.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bryan Williams".

Bryan Williams  
Sergeant, Lynchburg Police Department

