

Application video for the Fallen Freaks scholarship:

Video: <https://youtu.be/PStnEa9szsY>

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I have lived in New Mexico my whole life, and although it has its good parts, and I love it; it has a lot of bad. Crime here is at a all time high. Our murder rate per year keeps going up and violent crimes just keep on getting worse. We are the first in every bad category, and last in every good category. I love my state, and I want to help make it better and safer. I have also always loved science and criminal justice. So choosing forensic science as a career path always felt so right and I am so grateful that I get to help my state with something that I am passionate about.

Growing up I always had a great passion and interest in forensic science. I always knew that I wanted to do crime scene investigation since I was in high school. I recently graduated from the University of New Mexico with my Bachelor's degree in Biology with my minor in Chemistry and Psychology. UNM did not offer a Forensic Science major when I started, however I always attempted to take courses that were aimed towards my future career. When I started at UNM I was not certain what exact career path I wanted to go down, but while studying Biology, I learned how much I love investigating blood, DNA, and other biological fluids.

During my time at UNM I received a job as an Autopsy Technician for the Office of the Medical Investigator for the State of New Mexico. This was an amazing opportunity that allowed for me to learn so much about forensics. It allowed for me to learn that I was actually cut out to be in this field and that I was able to handle seeing some of the brutal things that comes with working in this field. I worked on many standard cases but also many violent suspicious deaths and homicides. I learned how to take photographs, collect evidence, and conduct a forensic investigation. I loved the chance to take care of people's loved ones who had passed away, and to help bring them closure by investigating their deaths.

Although I loved my time at OMI, and I loved taking care of peoples loved ones who had passed away, I knew I had to follow my passions and keep going. I got an amazing job as a Crime Scene Technician at the Santa Fe Police Department in New Mexico. I love my current job and have learned so much in my time there. I have learned how to conduct an investigation from start to finish. I have gotten to go to Crime Scene Investigation and Forensic Photography trainings, and I am hoping to go to more in the future. I want to learn as much as I can in this field in order to help as many people as possible.

When I graduated from UNM I was engaged to the person who I thought I was going to spend the rest of my life with. I was really excited and at the time very happy. I had never considered the possibility of going back to school because we wouldn't have been able to afford it. By the week after I graduated, everything had changed. I was heartbroken and confused. Nevertheless, I started my new job and found that I wanted to keep bettering myself in every way possible. I decided to go back to school. I applied to the University of Florida forensic program. I was accepted and my degree will be a M.S. in Pharmacy, Specializing in

Pharmaceutical sciences, and concentration in Forensic DNA and Serology. I have completed my first semester and I have already learned so much. I am hoping once I graduate and get my IAI Crime Scene Investigator certification to become specialized in Bloodstain Pattern Analysis. I want to help as many people as I can in this state, and I am so excited to see what the future holds for me.

Thank you so much for the opportunity to apply for this scholarship and for the chances that you are giving other people in this field. I am eagerly looking forward to your response. Thank you!