

Hi,

I'd like to thank you all for welcoming me here. My name is Christine Lapointe Jackson, and I am currently an ambassador for the HTI /AGO

The reason for my testimony today is to shed some light on why there is a record.

And to open the door for others that may come after me that have experienced the same thing. Due to their trafficking situation and the mental health/addiction aspect of it all...

All our stories are different, but we are one.

I was desperate, and desolate. During my trafficking I became addicted to drugs, and I was arrested for many crimes/36 plus. Including and not limited to prostitution/possession and theft. I did all of these under the influence of someone or something.

And even though I've worked hard to get where I am. I still do experience prejudices when it comes to applying for jobs or even volunteer work in certain areas. Even for housing we do get denied access to stable living.

The things that happened to me as a child and teenager paved the road for the trafficker. I'm hoping today and in the future the road will be paved for success. I'm hoping today that we begin opening the door for those that really didn't have a choice and give them a choice / voice.

Thank you for taking the time to listen. Forever grateful.