



City of Detroit

CITY COUNCIL

CHARLES PUGH
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

May 5, 2010

Hello:

My name is Charles Pugh and I would like to tell you something about me most people don't know. I had a very tough childhood growing up. When I was just 3 years old, my mother was murdered by her drug-dealing boyfriend. I was devastated by this, but things got worse. At the age of 7, my father, who had just been fired from his job, committed suicide. I was the one who found his body lying on the floor. This is as tough of a childhood as any child growing up in Detroit.

It would have been really easy for me to give up, but I couldn't. I had too much pride to allow my life to be over before it really began. With encouragement from my grandmother, I went on to graduate from Murray-Wright High School and then the University of Missouri. I set a goal to be a TV news anchor in high school, and 10 years later, I accomplished this goal as a reporter on Fox 2 News. I even had the opportunity to be a radio personality on WJLB and now I am the President of the Detroit City Council. I say all this to say that it doesn't matter what your upbringing has been like, you can achieve whatever you have the will to achieve.

Life is not easy and it never will be! However, with a proper education things can get a bit easier. So I want to encourage you not to give up but to give your all to be a success. I wish you the best and hope that this letter offers some insight on how you can overcome obstacles.

Stay Engaged,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles Pugh".

Charles Pugh
Council President