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College essay

<u>Realizing my future so soon</u>

As a child growing up in a relatively small city of Waltham I had many inspirations such as my dad and uncle to lead me in all of the right directions to become more successful in life as time went on. At the age of 6 my dad went to Iraq for a year and during that year my uncle played a father role for me as if I was his own. From my remembrance, my uncle's first dream was to go into law enforcement

This is where my story begins as around 10 years old is where I had an idea that becoming a cop is something I wanted to do as that would be following in the steps of someone who I looked up to as an inspiration. My uncle, Joshua, started out with very basic steps in order to achieve his long life dream such as doing the student trooper program and the Waltham citizens academy. After successfully completing both of these he joined the waltham auxiliary police department where he served for 3 years to then become sergeant of auxiliary and through those 3 years even though it was auxillary I could see through his emotions when he came home that in order to stick with this job, not only can you not little things get in your head but you have to be mentally and physically tough both attributes I learned from him growing up. He knew auxiliary was not something he wanted to do forever so he looked around and had taken many police exams. Sadly he did not get in on his first 6 attempts and I remember specifically one day while he was reading a rejection letter I saw the anger and disappointment on his face and in his eyes but he didn't lose hope. This moment in my lifetime is where I learned that in order to achieve your dreams you must fail no matter how hard accepting failure is at times but you must continue on and fight to get where you want. Time came around and finally in 2013, when I was 13 he got accepted into the Lowell police academy to then graduate 6 months later into the field of law enforcement to the Salem State University police department. The next big moment which furthered my thinking that going into law enforcement was right for me was when I saw my role model walk across that stage after months of blood, sweat, and tears to receive his badge after such a long desire to get to that moment in his lifetime.

Besides learning the aspect of hard work within law enforcement through family, a lot of people ask "why would you want to become a cop knowing the dangers involved?" and even though I agree that there are dangerous aspects to the job there are also rewarding aspects. These include the opportunity to give back and help others in need, health and retirement benefits, and depending on what level of law enforcement you become, the salary. Now even though money plays a crucial role in everybody's lives, I believe that if I become a cop, if I could somehow help at least one person a day then I know my jobs accomplished and I wouldn't worry as much to what my paycheck would look like at the end of my shift.

Law enforcement in my eyes I see as a parent and society as its child, it's central role is to protect society, or its "child". Police officers are what keep a community safe to the best of their ability. Without law enforcement existing and cops doing the type of things they do to protect themselves and others, I believe society would reach its downfall and no longer function properly without some order established within communities.