



SAN MATEO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
A TRADITION OF SERVICE SINCE 1856

NEWS RELEASE

FIRST INCARCERATED FEMALE TO GRADUATE WITH A DIPLOMA FROM A SAN MATEO COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

Incident Date and Time: 04/28/2022 AT 12:30 PM

Location: 1300 Maple Street, Redwood City, CA. 94063

Incident: GRADUATION CEREMONY

MEDIA INSTRUCTIONS:

- No limit to the amount of media allowed but please arrive at 11:30 am.
- You must take a rapid Covid-19 test, which we will provide and administer for you by our correctional health.
- Masks must always be worn inside the correctional facility.
- Do not wear orange-colored clothing.
- Do not bring contraband into the facility.

Summary:

The Sheriff's Office is pleased to announce that Ms. Monet Pierson is the first woman to complete her high school diploma while in custody. On April 28, 2022, the Sheriff's Office will honor Ms. Pierson in a graduation ceremony to be held at the Maple Street Correctional Center.

Sheriff Carlos G. Bolanos will preside over the ceremony and Ms. Pierson's teacher, Mr. Pavel will present her with the diploma. Ms. Pierson will share a few words about her experience as an incarcerated person.

Ms. Pierson overcame barriers of chronic incarceration and mental health to achieve her diploma. Programming has been a vital component of her success. *"Providing the incarcerated population the programs and services they need to help rebuild their lives is the right thing to do. It gives them dignity and courage to make changes in their lives,"*



says Sheriff Carlos G. Bolanos, who is committed to incorporating programs, case management, and reentry planning into Corrections.

Five Keys Schools and Programs launched inside the Maple Street Correctional Center in July 2016, and expanded to the Maguire Correctional Facility. Five Keys provides students with a continuum of services, so those who start their education while incarcerated are able to continue, post-release. To date, 31 men have graduated while incarcerated and 22 men who started classes while in custody continued in the community and graduated.

Written by: Detective Javier Acosta
Release Date: 04/26/2022

