

Dear Tournament of Friendship Committee Members:

My name is Michelle (Foresman) Cooper and I knew from the time I was in high school that I wanted to major in Criminal Justice in the hopes of someday working within Federal Law Enforcement. Growing up, I had always heard that MSU's program was one of the best. My entire family bleeds green and white as my two older brothers and both of my parents graduated from MSU, therefore, I should have naturally wanted to go there as well. Initially, however, I was more interested in going to a smaller school for my education. Fortunately for me, I had the opportunity to visit my older brother, who was a current student at the time, and I instantly fell in love with the campus. So much so that I didn't apply to anywhere other than Michigan State University.

After applying and being accepted to MSU and the Criminal Justice program, I was honored to have been selected to receive the Tournament of Friendship Scholarship for the 2001 through 2002 academic year, during my sophomore year. It helped me to focus more on my degree and extracurricular activities, by minimizing the financial burden of tuition and allowing me to work fewer hours at my jobs. This helped catapult me towards accomplishing my ambition of working for the Federal Government. For the past 14 years, I have worked in downtown Detroit for the Drug Enforcement Administration as a Diversion Investigator, and the opportunities I have received are immeasurable. At a time when I was paying my own way through school, every dollar amount I received made a huge difference, and I am so thankful for everything receiving this scholarship has done for me.

Thank you to all who make this scholarship award possible.

Sincerely,

Michelle (Foresman) Cooper