

March 23, 2021

Testimony for HF1825

My name is Taylor Hohmann

I struggled with binge drinking alcohol from the very first time I tried it at 15. I used it as an escape and a way to cope with the rejection, bullying and depression I experienced throughout middle and high school.

Things came to a head when I was 20 years old and got into a domestic dispute with my dad. I had been drinking one evening at his house and had invited a friend over without his permission. At the time I was incorrigible, selfish and mad at the world. I blamed everything outside of myself for my problems. In an attempt to get my friend to leave his house, my dad pulled out a baseball bat. I took the bat from my dad and popped him in the back of the leg.

That split second decision in my drunkenness has followed me for the past 11 years. My step mom called the police to come de-escalate the situation. My dad told them that he just wanted my friend to leave and for the rest of us to go in the house and to bed. In my interaction with the police I was verbally combative, angry.

They ended up arresting me.

I was charged with second degree assault with a deadly weapon. A felony offense.

My dad wrote letters to the prosecutor asking her not charge me with this level of offense and that it was a domestic dispute amongst family, but it was no use.

My main ask of my attorney was that he help me so that I didn't have to go to prison. I ended up pleading guilty to the charge and had to serve 1 year in the workhouse. At least it wasn't

prison. I eventually got to go through the long-term program at Mn Adult and Teen Challenge. Finding my faith and the programming there significantly changed my life and these past 7 years in recovery have truly been a gift.

That deal I took kept me out of prison, but it has had far harsher consequences for me throughout the past 10 years.

I want to be able to give back to the organization that has helped give me a life and helped me into recovery. I want to be able to come alongside the clients at Minnesota adult and Teen Challenge and share that there is hope. That they can come out of addiction. I want to be able to mentor clients and young people.

I am a certified personal trainer and I want to be able to coach youth and train them for their sports.

I am unable to do all of this because of my disqualification due to 245.c.15

This disqualification has prevented me from numerous jobs, and so much more over the past 10 years.

I will forever regret the choice I made and the harm I caused my father, but I am sharing my story with you in hopes that we can find a way to allow people like me another chance at a full life and to be able to give back.

Thank you

Taylor Hohmann  
763-614-0667