

My NAME IS _____ I AM CURRENTLY
 INCARCERATED FOR MAIL FRAUD AND TAX EVASION
 PRIOR TO MY INCARCERATION I WAS EMPLOYED AS AN
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF A NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
 KNOWN AS GRAND URBAN ENTERPRISE ASSOC. G-UEA
 AS IT WAS KNOWN BY ITS ACRONYM, WAS A QUASI-GOVERNMENT
 ORGANIZATION. THE ORGANIZATION WAS BIRTHED OUT OF
 STATE LEGISLATION THAT WAS INACTED IN 1985. THROUGH
 THIS LEGISLATION URBAN COMMUNITIES WITHIN THE STATE
 OF INDIANA COULD APPLY FOR WHAT WAS CALLED AN
 ENTERPRISE ZONE. THESE ENTERPRISE ZONES BY
 LEGISLATION WERE ABLE TO GIVE STATE TAX ABATEMENT
 TO BUSINESSES THAT WERE LOCATED WITHIN
 THE BOUNDARIES OF THE ZONE. IN RETURN FOR THE
 ABATEMENT THE BUSINESS WOULD GIVE A CONTRIBUTION
 TO THE ORGANIZATION. G-UEA WOULD IN TURN INVEST
 THE FUNDS INTO THREE CORE AREAS: ECONOMIC, COMMUNITY,
 AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.

PRIOR TO MY EMPLOYMENT WITH G-UEA I ATTENDED
 DEVRU UNIVERSITY FOR COMPUTER SCIENCE. LOOKING BACK,
 ITS CRystal CLEAR TO ME THAT MANY PEOPLE START LIFE
 NOT REALLY KNOWING WHAT IT IS THAT THEY WANT TO
 DO FOR A LIVING. I WAS NO DIFFERENT. WHILE ATTENDING
 DEVRU I QUICKLY LEARNED THAT WHILE I HAD A
 LOVE FOR COMPUTERS IT WAS NOT MY PASSION. THIS
 WAS NOT WHAT I WAS MEANT TO DO FOR THE REST
 OF MY LIFE. AFTER LEAVING SCHOOL I HELD A
 FEW ODD JOBS UNTIL I ARRIVED AT G-UEA. WHEN
 I STARTED AT G-UEA I WAS A TEMPORARY RECEPTIONIST

I WAS ONLY TO WORK A 30 DAY ASSIGNMENT. THAT 30 DAY ASSIGNMENT ACTUALLY TURNED INTO A TEN YEAR CAREER. AT THIS TIME CUEA WAS RELATIVELY SMALL. WE HAD 5 EMPLOYEES 2 MAJOR PROGRAMS (A CATCH KEY PROGRAM AND A SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM) AND A BUDGET THAT WAS LESS THAN \$200,000 ANNUALLY. TWO AND A HALF YEARS AFTER COMING TO CUEA I WAS PROMOTED TO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. IN HIND SIGHT I MUST ADMIT THAT THIS WAS THE MAKING OF A DISASTER. AT THIS POINT I HAD NOT RECEIVED ANY REAL FORMAL TRAINING TO SPEAK OF. I REALLY HAD NO IDEA WHAT IT MEANT TO OPERATE A NON PROFIT. I HAD NO IDEA HOW TO MANAGE AN ENTERPRISE. UNFORTUNATE FOR ME I WAS SADDLED WITH BOARD OF THIRTEEN WHO WAS JUST AS CLUELESS AS MYSELF. I GUESS THE ONE BRIGHT SIDE AT THAT PARTICULAR TIME WAS THE SIZE OF THE ORGANIZATION.

ALL OF THAT WOULD CHANGE IN THE FALL OF 1996. I ATTENDED MY FIRST COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE. IT WAS A COMPLETE EYE OPENER FOR ME. FOR THE FIRST TIME I SAW THE TRUE POTENTIAL OF A NON PROFIT AND I FOUND MY PASSION. I WOULD ATTEND TWO ROUND TABLE WORKSHOPS THAT SET THE TONE FOR THE WORK THAT THE ORGANIZATION WOULD DO FOR THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS.

I returned to the organization from that conference energized and prepared to build. But building required funds, something we did not have at the time. A couple of months later GUEA was able to expand its boundaries which gave it the opportunity to raise more funds. It was at this point that GUEA went from annual revenue of less than \$200,000.00 to having about \$3,000,000. With funds securely in place we started a whole new direction.

This direction consisted of developing a comprehensive training program and affordable housing. The training program was designed for young adults from the ages of 18-30 who were considered at risk and/or underserved. The training program had three components: basic skills, life skills, and job skills. The job skills component dealt with construction. From there GUEA started purchasing property at county tax sales. During this period GUEA purchased over 200 properties.

Through its training program GUEA started rehabbing dilapidated houses from there we decided to develop new affordable housing. During this period there was no one within the organization that understood how to develop affordable housing. The organization hired the expertise that was

NEEDED TO COMPLETE APPLICATIONS FOR.

HUB HOME FUNDS AND THE LOW INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDIT. ONCE THE PROJECTS WERE STARTED MOST OF THE EXPERTISE WAS GONE WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THOSE WHO WOULD FILE THE MONTHLY REPORTS.

During the pre development period of the affordable housing project known as the EMERSON RENAISSANCE. A construction budget was put in place. From there the project was put out for bid. At this point the "politricks" began. The organization started receiving pressure from the political power brokers to accept bids from certain contractors even though they over priced for the project. There were constant threats of shutting down the project. There were even several occurrences of theft of material from the job site. By all accounts there were several times when the project should have been stopped because of budget constraints. But we continued at the expense of the organization. We used contractors who did not have the capacity to carry out the work, causing the organization to have to pay another contractor to fix and complete the work. They were there because of their political connections.

Looking back I operated from a position of fear. Not fear for my life, but a fear of loss and a fear of failure. The problem with

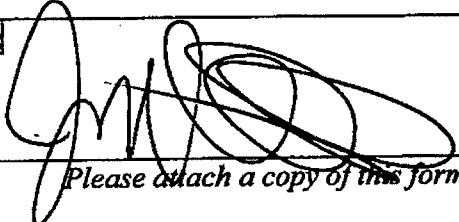
With that thought process was I feared losing something that I wasn't completely equipped to operate. My passion to build and change lives kept me going. But my lack of knowledge and fear of failure caused me to step out of my integrity and mortgage my passion, and future with an a moral lender.

One of the really good things about computers is when they are messed up you can reboot them. By rebooting the computer it doesn't necessarily allow you to start over. It allows you to start from where you are. The only thing you need to do is use the right commands. Today I'm humbly rebooting myself. I'm using the right commands to rebuild a sustainable future for myself.

United States House of Representatives
Committee on Financial Services

"TRUTH IN TESTIMONY" DISCLOSURE FORM

Clause 2(g) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives and the Rules of the Committee on Financial Services require the disclosure of the following information. A copy of this form should be attached to your written testimony.

1. Name:	2. Organization or organizations you are representing:
"Jane Smith"	N/A
3. Business Address and telephone number:	
N/A	
4. Have you received any Federal grants or contracts (including any subgrants and subcontracts) since October 1, 2008 related to the subject on which you have been invited to testify?	5. Have any of the organizations you are representing received any Federal grants or contracts (including any subgrants and subcontracts) since October 1, 2008 related to the subject on which you have been invited to testify?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <i>N/A</i> <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <i>N/A</i> <input type="checkbox"/> No
6. If you answered yes to either item 4 or 5, please list the source and amount of each grant or contract, and indicate whether the recipient of such grant was you or the organization(s) you are representing. You may list additional grants or contracts on additional sheets.	
7. Signature: 	

Please attach a copy of this form to your written testimony.