A pillar of PEP culture is embracing and embodying a servant-leader mentality; it is one of our 10 driving values. While we know it is something that is perfected overnight and may go against everything we once thought, it is alive in our program. There are some brothers who have taken this value and applied to their lives whole heartedly, one in particular Raphiel B.

Ever since I first met this brother he has been here to help Fall ’18 succeed. Always positive and full of energy, he presents himself with a smile and a helping hand. I know it can get frustrating in here for us being away from our loved ones while taking a course that takes way out of our element (some more than others), just to continuously nag and complain about what we’re going through; this doesn’t dampen Raphiel’s enthusiasm. He is a Soldier Of Spring ’18 and he gets up every morning with Fearless Fall ’18, goes to the PEP room and sits through classes he’s already finished. Why? I believe it’s because of servant-leader mentality. To me, Raphiel embodies this driving value and it inspires me to strive for such a powerful and influential leadership trait. I’m proud to call him my brother.
We are the Fittest of all! It’s intense when our second wind kicks in and we go into overdrive, this is what we come out here for! Everyone wants to be a beast until it’s time to do what beast do. We are the wolf pack and we work hard every day, some of us work twice a day! We’re more than just a group of individuals intensively working out together, we are a brotherhood in which we built overtime with an unbreakable bond who together shed our own blood sweat and tears on and off the field. We do more than just work out together, we do life together. I love getting to know new people and encourage them to join Health & Wellness. I can guarantee if you dedicate yourself you will achieve your goals. Perfect example: Alvaro L., endured through adversity and he came out for a whole week straight. Now he’s adjusted to the workouts and is now plowing through, I believe he will be a great success story because he is so dedicated. Brandon G., when he came out he could barely finished, now he is one of the most athletic out of the entire group. When I first came out I thought about quitting and didn’t come back until the next week. After completing a full week of Health & Wellness, I told myself “Yeah this is what I want to do, this is my passion”. Not only did I gain valuable insight about fitness, but I learned many life lessons. I am able to compare daily work out routines to real life experiences. As a facilitator for my body weight group, I wake up every day looking forward to leading my group through another crucial work out. This is something I want to do as a profession! The guys out here in Health & Wellness inspire me every day I would not be where I’m at right now without them. Max B., Max (Scary Feet)B., Jacinto T., Conan R., Daniel C., Jeremy T., Joel B., Gilbert F. and everyone else, I love you brothers, keep up the hard work!

“This is what I want to do, this is my passion!”

GABRIEL M. AKA “BUTTA CRUNCH”
Survey the world! Twice, to see the Changes! Hello my name is Kristopher P. I am the founder and will be the COO of Accurate Surveying. We at Accurate Surveying aim to provide the housing and development industry with exquisite surveys while offering competitive pricing and customized next-day service. Providing accuracy in a timely manner. This will be a full time effort beginning the month I am released. I will be utilizing an incubator to support my first two office personnel, i.e. a seasoned computer aided drafter as well as a Registered Professional Licensed Surveyor. As I secure our first client, I will be fielding this workload myself, being immediately transferred to and completed by office staff within that same day and ready for delivery to client, as promised, the very next day.

My goal is to acquire new clients to partner with at a pace that will allow me to hire and to train a crew to match their needs. This way I will ensure the completion of each survey within the requested time period. With each contract for complete annual service, Accurate will provide a dedicated field crew to meet each client’s needs. As we will be serving the Houston and Greater Houston area, I am very aware that there are several competitors in our geographic radius, though none that offer to guarantee next-day service with a contractual agreement. With but few certain clause in each contract, for things such as difficulty of survey or size of property tract to be surveyed, I aim to price our service of an agreed upon term for all residential title surveys. Essentially hiring one crew per annum contract signed.

I will be holding the first weeks’ pay and paying every two weeks. With this strategy, I believe we can lower our start-up cost. Specifically, I believe this strategy will allow Accurate to initially fund it’s payroll expenses. Also, to hold down startup cost, we will be leasing our equipment instead of making outright purchases during our first year. It helps that I have built great working relations with equipment rental companies such as, Capital and Western Data Systems. These survey supply stores will allow me to access the most state-of-the-art survey instrumentation available. Keeping Accurate up to date.

By focusing on our core customers, such as realtors, title companies, and banks, we will be selling the ability to help our clients close their deals in a timely manner without the need to call for pricing and or availability. This will place Accurate Surveying at the forefront for all ALTA/NSPS title surveys in our demographic region. Again by creating strategic alliances with realtors, title companies and banks, we at Accurate Surveying aim to take our industry by the horn and develop loyal service/client relationships, customizable to each contract, so as to ensure accuracy, dependability and favorable service over and above our competitors.

With the guidance of the Prison Entrepreneurship Program (PEP) and the help of our executive volunteers, I truly believe, without a shadow of a doubt, that I will have the knowledge, dedication and support that will allow me to soar to the pinnacle of my chosen profession. Thank you PEP!
A WHISPER OR A DREAM

Sunlight streams across her hair of spun gold.

Sounds of August rush the shore from the sea.

This morning has its own kind of rhythm,
    Echoing the million that came before.
Closing her eyes, she welcomes the cool breeze.

I watch as her fingers brush through the sand,
    Drawing images of soft silhouettes
As the sun traces the shadow of her hand.

So graceful as she turns to smile at me,
    She is a gift from the eyes to my heart.
And just as moments become memories,
So the evening brings on the sighing stars.

“Forever my love” — I still hear her sing,
Forever yours — a whisper or a dream.

A sonnet by Paul P.

Paul P.
aka
"Cinnamon Toast Crunch"
**Tell Us about yourself?**
Serial entrepreneur—started 3 companies in energy and now I’m starting another company in digital health technology.

**Why do you choose to give your time to PEP?**
I want to help other entrepreneurs be successful and I believe in a GOD who gives second chances. PEP is a great organization for both missions.

**What inspires you to push yourself everyday?**
I love building things and bringing people together to accomplish a common goal.

**What is one thing that you would like to share about todays event?**
We are all in this together. I am no different than you. If I can build 3 companies, so can you.

**Any words of wisdom that you would like to share?**
Never, never give up. Love GOD and work hard.

**Will you continue to come back to PEP?**
Absolutely.

*Executive Of The Month: Chris S.*
Tell us about yourself: I’m 49 years old, proud father of five, country boy from the city. I love the outdoors; hunting, fishing, horses and dogs. I grew up to be super competitive, and I love team oriented activities. I’ve excelled in sports and appreciated the relationships that sports has brought me. I’m the most loyal person you know. I love people but I have no understanding for laziness.

Why Did You Choose To Come To PEP?
For the opportunity to finish something. To gain more knowledge of the business world and to sharpen my skills to better my business and to network. A lot more has come to my “why” since getting here.

What’s your sweet name and describe to me how you own it?
I’m Pinky from the movie(s) Friday. I say “PEP y’all all fired”, Then the class says “Dae Dae is this your cousin?”, then I say “you fired too!”

What’s the best moment you’ve had in PEP so far? And tell us why
Going thru phase1 character development. Being able to analyze myself as a man and being able to take advantage of the small group sessions. Have a direct knowledge from a biblical stance on dealing with personal, social and spiritual things.

Name a few PEP brothers who have been a positive influence throughout your journey in PEP?
Terrance S., Michael G., Travis W., Francisco G., Thomas J., Roger L., Stephen G., Freddie H., Raphiel B.

Any words of encouragement for you and your classmates?
- Don’t look at what’s behind you, CONCENTRATE on what’s ahead.
- Keep waking up smelling the coffee.
- If you can taste it you can have it.
- Believe in the power of PRAYER.

What Pushes You To Keep Going Forward?
Each time that I’ve encountered a setback in my life, I’ve always came back better and stronger. I use to be immune to the setbacks from youthful standards. Now I’m older, smarter and grounded in GOD. No more room for setbacks, only GROWTH.

Lee D. Aka “Pinky”