

#SQUADROCE

YOU MUST LEARN LIFESTYLE ◀◀

A SECOND CHANCE

Operation Reset Gives A "Hand-Up" to Veterans and Ex-Offenders.



Since President Nixon declared a "war on drugs" in June 1971, dramatically increasing the size and presence of federal drug control agencies and pushing through measures such as mandatory sentencing and no-knock warrants, the distorted

of their convictions, leading to the "Ban The Box" movement (supported by President Obama's administration) aimed at eliminating the question about criminal convictions on job applications. Without a means of employment, ex-offenders are

of employment immediately upon their release without being restricted by their past mistakes.

"I went through my own personal trial, found myself in a difficult situation and it just kept getting worse and one day I ended up in jail," McKay says of his experiences that lead him to start the program. "Me and these guys had so much in common. I was able to identify and connect with a lot of people. One thing we all have in common is once you catch that felony conviction, everybody will one day know you spent a stay in the big house and say, 'Oh, he's got a felony charge.' [Operation Reset] doesn't care what your background is. We don't care where you've been. We're trying to get you somewhere new, where you need to be. People will get to see their past doesn't define them."

After six years of hiring men and women in search of employment as part of their parole and probation conditions, Operation Reset has set their own mark in reducing recidivism and increasing job opportunities for people returning home from prison. According to McKay, this is only the beginning.

"Now that Operation Reset has

"[Operation Reset] doesn't care what your background is. We don't care where you've been. We're trying to get you somewhere new, where you need to be." -Rocky "The Roofer" McKay

growth of the criminal justice system has forever changed the way America is viewed by the world.

For those on the receiving end of rehabilitation, going through the prison system eternally impacts how the individuals view themselves. People with arrest records and those who've been incarcerated are often disqualified from job opportunities because

not able to provide for their families or even themselves, thus losing the respect of loved ones and ultimately, their self-respect.

To combat this, an Atlanta based program known as Operation Reset was launched in 2010 by Rocky "The Roofer" McKay and his partner, Tara Cummins, giving ex-offenders the unbiased opportunity

a bit of momentum behind it, a lot of my upper echelon clients have embraced the program," he says. "People don't buy into the service. They buy into the person, so they trust me. One of our ultimate goals is to get the word out to employers that want to be involved. We want everyone willing to help inspire and create jobs." -*Sha Be Allah*