



Dr. Demetrick “Tre” Pennie Bio

Dr. Demetrick “Tre” Pennie grew up in the inner-city of Houston, Texas during the height of “America’s War of Drugs,” a period marred by illegal drug use and gun violence. He was raised in an untraditional household, having his grandmother as his greatest influence.

At the age of 16, Tre witnessed the shooting death of his female cousin the day before her wedding day. This tragic incident prompted his desire to get out of the inner-city. Based on the responding officers’ efforts following the tragedy, Tre was inspired to pursue a career in law enforcement; which led him enlisting in the U.S. Army.

After serving four years in the U.S. Army and simultaneously graduating with an Associate Degree in Administration of Justice from Honolulu Community College, Tre aspired to continue a life in public service and joined the Dallas Police Department in 1999. While serving in the Department, he earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Criminal Justice from Midwestern State University and a Master’s Degree in Counseling from Prairie View A&M University in 2006.

In 2017, Tre earned a Doctorate Degree in Higher Education from Texas Tech University. Tre believes that education fuels growth and opportunity. Tre has written numerous journals, articles and publications on issues impacting education and public safety.

As President and Executive Director of The National Fallen Officer Foundation, Tre has become a legitimate force in working to “bridge the gap” between police and their communities. After realizing that problems impacting underserved communities were directly linked to socioeconomic challenges, Tre became more politically active. In 2020, he ran for U.S. Congress and became the Republican nominee for U.S. House in Texas Congressional District 30. Although he was unsuccessful in his congressional bid, he remained active in the community while serving on four community boards: Hidden Light Institute, Coalition for Safer Web, Earn-It USA Foundation and Criminal Justice Chair for the Dallas Chapter of the NAACP.

1025 Connecticut Ave NW Suite #1000
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 355-9487

Website: www.nationalfof.org / Facebook: National Fallen Officer Foundation/ Twitter: @Nationalfof

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