



## **Jasmine Kirby, Tennessee State University- c/o 2021, Criminal Justice**



**Name :** Jasmine Kirby

**Your HBCU :** Tennessee State University

**Graduation Year :** 2021

**Major :** Criminal Justice

### **1. Where are you from? Who introduced you to HBCUs?\***

I was born and raised in Nashville, Tennessee. I was introduced to HBCUs when my sister attended Tennessee State University. Ever since then, I've been a HBCU girl.



I always represent my university on my shirt

### **2. Why did you choose an HBCU over a pwi?\***

Because a pwi said "I had wonderful grades but I didn't have enough extra curricular activities." It made me hurt because they didn't understand that I lost my home in November, then my grandmother in December, and my auntie that I look too and raised me as her own had cancer. So it's like they wanted me to set aside my family. But family is second cause God is first.

### **3. What is the story of your "experience" at Your HBCU given its heralded status as a stellar and prestigious institution?\***

My first year at Tennessee State University was wonderful! It taught me independence and dedication. Even though I had to medically withdraw. I'm not giving up.

### **4. "First time" experiences at your HBCU?\***

It had to be meeting new people. I wasn't shy but being with the same people since middle school, I wasn't ready for meeting new people. But on day one people came up to me. And I had no choice but put myself out there. Eventually my friends that visit me from different schools were like we can't go three minutes without someone saying hello to you.

### **5. Who are the professors that have impacted your life in and out of the classroom? How did they do that?\***

Dr. Smith was like that person I could vent to about anything. She knew I was very sick and it was becoming difficult to finish my first year. She became my journal that I could tell everything to and she wouldn't judge me.



Last picture I took on campus. I always look back because I want to go back one day

**6. How are you positively active on campus? (e.g. clubs, SGA, etc.)**

I joined Soul Fire. It was a poetry group.

**7. What was your happiest moment in your life to date?**

When I graduated because people said I couldn't do it.

**8. What was your saddest moment in your life to date?**

When I lost my grandmother. She was my rock and I know she's proud of me.