

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF  
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

ARTHUR C. JOHNSON, Ph.D.  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

JULIEANN RICO ALLISON  
CHIEF COUNSEL TO THE SCHOOL BOARD

OFFICE OF CHIEF COUNSEL TO THE SCHOOL BOARD  
3318 FOREST HILL BLVD., C-302  
WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33406-5813

Ph: 561-434-8500 Fx: 561-434-8105

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Ann Killets  
Chief Academic Officer

**FROM:** Iola T. Mosley  
Associate Counsel, Academics

**DATE:** December 1, 2005

**SUBJECT:** Early Reinstatement Request  
Student: [REDACTED]  
Case No.: 04/05-X-146

---

Attached for your review, please find a letter from the above-referenced student's attorney, Barbara Briggs, requesting early reinstatement. She is requesting early reinstatement for the school semester beginning in January 2006. Attached to the letter are various documents supporting her request for early reinstatement.

[REDACTED] was a ninth grade student at Park Vista High School when he was recommended for expulsion for an incident that took place on April 5, 2005. He was charged with possession of a knife.

[REDACTED] expulsion period will be completed on April 20, 2006 and he will be eligible at that time to return to a District school.

If you approve of placing this case on the expulsion agenda for early reinstatement, I will leave it on the December 7, 2005 agenda and should you not approve, I will remove it from the agenda.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

:ci

Attachments

---

S:\Public\Expulsions\Expulsions FY05 [REDACTED] memo to CAO re Early Reinstatement.doc

**LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, INC.  
JUVENILE ADVOCACY PROJECT**

423 Fern Street, Suite 200

West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Telephone: (561)655-8944 Facsimile (561)655-5269

**FACSIMILE COVER SHEET**

**DATE:** November 21, 2005

**FROM:** Barbara Briggs, Esquire

**TO:** Colleen Irvin, Paralegal

**FAX NO:** 434-8105

**RE:** Petition for Reinstatement - [REDACTED]

**NUMBER OF PAGES** (including cover sheet) 9

---

**COMMENTS:**

The information contained in this facsimile message is attorney privileged and confidential information intended only for the use of the individual or entity named above. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copy of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately notify us by telephone (if long distance, please call collect) and return the original message to us at the above address via the U.S. Postal Service. **THANK YOU!**

**RECEIVED**

NOV 21 2005

**BY LEGAL SERVICES**



# Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County, Inc.

423 Fern Street, Suite 200, West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Ph: (561) 655-8944 • Fax: (561) 655-5269 • 1-800-403-9353 (South & West County ONLY)

**Executive Director**  
Robert A. Bertisch, Esq.

**Administrator**  
Michael Spillane

November 21, 2005

**Board of Trustees**

David P. Ackerman, Esq.  
Claire Arnold  
Keith W. Babb, Jr.  
F. Gregory Barnhart, Esq.  
Bill Bone, Esq.  
Patrick J. Casey, Esq.  
Carey Haughwout, Esq.  
Thomas Kingcade, Esq.  
Jane Kreusler-Walsh, Esq.  
Richard Lubin, Esq.  
Andrea D. McMillan, Esq.  
Rafael J. Roca, Esq.

Ms. Ann Killlets  
Chief Academic Officer  
School Board of Palm Beach County  
3300 Forest Hill Blvd., Suite  
West Palm Beach, FL 33406

Re: Petition for Early Reinstatement  
Case No. 04/05-X-146

**Board of Directors**

**President**  
Robert M.W. Shalhoub, Esq.

**Immediate Past Pres.**  
Victoria A. Vilchez, Esq.

**Vice-President**  
Gary Woodfield, Esq.

**Secretary**  
Joyce Conway, Esq.

**Treasurer**  
Jerald S. Beer, Esq.

**Directors**  
Miriam Acosta-Castnz, Esq.  
Richard C. Bartmon, Esq.  
Patience Burns  
Howard K. Coates, Jr., Esq.  
Jeffrey A. Devore, Esq.  
Gary M. Dunkal, Esq.  
Melinda P. Gamot, Esq.  
Mariano Garcia, Esq.  
David M. Gaspan, Esq.  
Garry Glickman, Esq.  
Richard D. Greenfield, Esq.  
Denise Rappaport Isaacs, Esq.  
Hank Jackson, Esq.  
Carole T. Klein, CPA  
Scott C. Murray, Esq.  
Lawrence P. Rochefort, Esq.  
Matthew Triggs, Esq.  
Paul A. Turk, Esq.  
Jennifer Whelan, J.D.  
Elsa E. Waite, Esq.

Dear Ms. Killlets:

By this letter, my client [REDACTED], requests early reinstatement into Park Vista High School following his expulsion. [REDACTED] is requesting to be allowed to return to school for the second semester of the 2005-06 school year, which I believe now begins on January 9, 2006. We are requesting that [REDACTED] request be placed on the December 7, 2005 School Board agenda.

The incident for which [REDACTED] was expelled took place on April 5, 2005. By January, he will have been out of school for 75% of one school year, thus meeting the criteria that a student serve three-fourths of the expulsion period ordered. [REDACTED] has been in a home education program for a period of time this past fall, so there are no formal grades, attendance or conduct scores to report. [REDACTED] did attend a private summer school called "The Knowledge Zone", which is physically located at Toussaint L'Ouverture High School. He earned two As and two Bs. There are positive comments regarding his work ethic and attitude. See attached Summer School Transcript.

In addition to the summer school transcript, the following documentation is submitted to complete the criteria required by the Early Reinstatement Policy, 5.1818:

- Apology letter written to Park Vista Administration in April 2005;
- [REDACTED] Personal statement; and
- Evidence of a total of 50.75 community service hours by letters from St. Paul's Episcopal Church and Trinity Evangelical



United Way  
of Palm Beach County

Additional Funding Provided  
by the Palm Beach County  
Financially Assisted Agency Project

Ms. Ann Killeets  
November 21, 2005  
Page 2

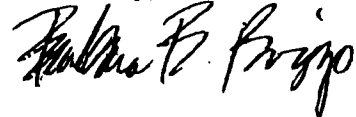
Lutheran Church and School.

We would also like to incorporate by reference the 15 testimonial letters written in support of [REDACTED] and presented to the School Board members at their November 9, 2005 meeting. These letters and the oral testimony of Mr. Riggs and Mrs. Durgan at the expulsion hearing should allay any concerns that the incident for which he was expelled, or any other disciplinary incident, will recur.

Lastly [REDACTED] did not owe restitution of any kind.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any further questions or require any additional information or documentation, please call me at 655-8944, extension 244.

Sincerely,



Barbara Burch Briggs

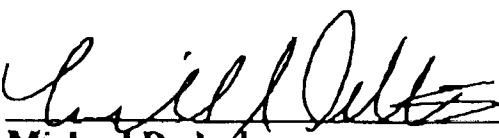
cc: [REDACTED]

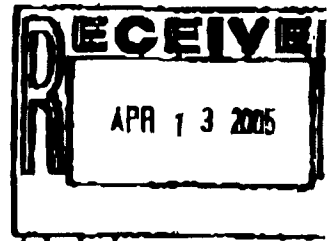
## Summer School Transcript

at  
**Toussaint L'Ouverture High School for Arts and Social Justice**  
 95 Northeast First Avenue, Delray Beach, Florida 33444  
 Phone 561.243.3136 / Fax 561.243.4070

<b>Student Information:</b>  [REDACTED]	<b>Palm Beach County School, ID#</b>  [REDACTED]	<b>To the Parent of:</b>  [REDACTED]	<b>School of Record:</b>  Park Vista Community High School
---	--	--	--

Session	School Dates	Course #	Course Description	Grade
1	June 6 to July 17	2002410	Integrated Science Hon (2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester) Cason	A
2	June 20 to July 1	1001320	English I Hon (2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester) Tinker	A
3	July 5 to July 15	0708350	Spanish I (2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester) Belardo	B
4	July 18 to July 29	1200320	Algebra I Hon (2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester) M. Dudeck	B

<p><b>Comments:</b> Summer School consists of 10 days at 7 ½ hours per day, for a total of 75 hours. This exceeds the 67.5 required hours.</p> <p>Great work, great attitude. Good luck [REDACTED]</p>	<p><b>Summer School Director:</b></p> <div style="text-align: right; margin-right: 20px;">               11/15/05         </div> <p>Michael Dudeck              Summer School Office 561.495.7014</p>
--	---



Dear Mr. Clark, Mr. Clawson, and Mrs. Rosensweig:

I want to apologize for my wrong decisions. What I did is not ok. I have embarrassed the school because of my actions. I also have wasted your time and effort on something that I shouldn't have done in the first place. I also want to say that this is not like me to do something like this. I am really a good student. I have good grades and have never gotten in any trouble. I made some very wrong decisions. You don't deserve this for the great school you have created. I feel very sorry for what I did. I also want to say that I respect your decision no matter what it is, and I hope that I will be able to return to Park Vista someday. I hope to prove to my family and Park Vista that my regretful actions are not a reflection of my values. I guess I am hoping to get a second chance and to say that I know I will make my family, friends, and Park Vista proud of me.

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature block]

To Palm Beach County School Board,

I'm writing this in behalf of myself. I would first like to say that school is a very important part of my life. I do have plans to go onto college and to be successful. I realize what I did could have affected me more than it did. My decisions are inexcusable and I can't say I had a good reason for what I did. If given a second chance I wouldn't have made the same mistake. I want to go back to school more than you can imagine. Being in school and learning is my main priority right now. I was playing football for school which I also wish to continue. My future goal is to play football for the University of Miami and study Marine Biology. To achieve this goal I would need to continue my education at Park Vista High School. I really hope you would consider me for early reinstatement. I have work hard trying to get my life back in place after the incident. I get good grades and I've never had a discipline problem so nothing like this incident would ever happen again. I hope to get back and get straight A's. I plan to take a few AP classes next year so i'm striving to achieve. I would really love to

be in school again. Right now I am taking online classes and working, so I am keeping busy with my life. I know what I did doesn't really give me a good reputation. I also hope to end that. I'm not a violent or aggressive person at all. I just wish I could change everything. I see how much support I get from family and friends and I want to repay them by showing how good I really am. I am so thankful for all the help I've had with my situation. At least I can out of this situation with a new perspective on things. I learned a lot about the law too so maybe I will be a attorney. All I know is I've learned new things and know to think about my actions before I do it. Thank for ever considering me for early reinstatement it means a lot to me that I can get a second chance. No matter what your decisions is I agree and back you up 100 percent.

Sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.





# St. Paul's Episcopal Church

188 South Swinton Avenue  
Delray Beach, Florida 33444

The Rev. William H. Stokes  
Rector

September 20, 2005

State of Florida  
Department of Juvenile Justice

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter will verify that [REDACTED] has performed 14.75 community service hours at St. Paul's Episcopal Church from August 27, 2005 to September 14, 2005.

Sincerely,

William C. Hurd  
Parish Administrator

Telephone: 561/276-4541  
Fax: 561/276-0304  
Office Email:  
stpauldb@aol.com  
Music Line: 561/278-6003  
Music Dept. Email:  
stpauldb4@aol.com  
Visit our website  
www.webstorpauls.org



**TRINITY**  
Evangelical Lutheran  
Church & School

www.trinitydelray.org

9/22/05

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing on behalf of [REDACTED]. He served as a CIT (Counselor in Training), for SUNFUN Summer Camp at Trinity Lutheran Church and School for a total of thirty six hours.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me @ (561) 276-8458 x 230.

In Christ,

Allison Kepford  
Early Childhood Director & Special Programs Director

The Rev. C. Scott Gress  
*Senior Pastor*

Mr. Timothy M. Quelzow  
*Principal*

Mr. Robert M. Burgess  
*Assistant Principal*

Mrs. Joan B. Mooney  
*Director of Music*

Mr. K. Anthony Durante  
*Director of Discipleship*

Mrs. Allison K. Kepford  
*Early Childhood Director*



400 N. Swinton Avenue  
Delray Beach, Florida 33444  
Church Office: (561) 278-1737  
School Office: (561) 276-8458  
FAX: (561) 272-3215  
e-mail: mail@trinitydelray.org

# 1. Testimonial Letters

IN: SHARON MAHONEY

*Michelle L. Laino  
4763 Fox Hunt Trail  
Boca Raton, FL 33487  
561-994-0013*

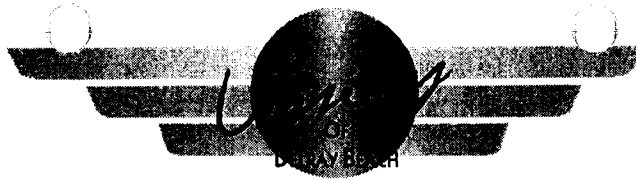
Testimonial for [REDACTED]

To whom it may concern:

I have known [REDACTED] since he was born and he has been one of my daughters best friends since as they are only 6 months apart. [REDACTED] has been with us on weekends at a time and I have always complimented him on what a great kid he is. He is helpful, considerate, always polite, personable and exemplifies values, he is a part of our family. I was shocked and disappointed to know he had committed a wrong doing. I truly believe in him that he has learned his lesson from this.

Sincerely

*Michelle Laino*  
Michelle Laino



DEDICATED TO SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION  
THROUGH PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY

July 9, 2005

To whom it may concern:

I have been asked to write letters on behalf of many people over the years, but none give me more pleasure than this one. I am so happy to write to you on behalf of [REDACTED]

I have known [REDACTED] for about ten years. As Sunday School Director at Unity of Delray Beach, I have had the privilege of being his teacher for many years, as well as observe him on his spiritual path. His mother has been totally dedicated to seeing that [REDACTED] have this experience and [REDACTED] has been an active and supportive participant in all of his classes. He is a joy!

[REDACTED] is a sensitive, thoughtful, kind young man. Whenever I have needed help, he is always there to offer a hand. He is responsible and dependable. [REDACTED] has grown up with my 15 year- old son [REDACTED] and is one of [REDACTED] best friends. My husband and I always look forward to [REDACTED] visits to our home. He is a joyful presence and my husband and I are very grateful he is our son's friend. I consider our family very blessed to know [REDACTED] and to call him our friend.

Most Sincerely,

Laurie Durgan  
Youth Education Director/Adm Director  
Unity of Delray Beach Inc.

July 7, 2005

Shannon Mahoney P.A.  
120 S. Olive Ave.  
Suite 400  
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Re: Testimonial Letter for [REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

We have known the [REDACTED] family for more than 9 years. During that time we have consistently found [REDACTED] to be a very responsible, well mannered person. Due to our younger son, [REDACTED]'s friendship with [REDACTED] younger brother [REDACTED] there were several occasions when [REDACTED] would baby-sit for [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. We never hesitated to leave our son under [REDACTED] care.

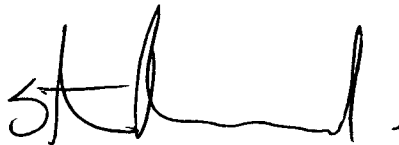
Throughout the past several years we have watched [REDACTED] grow into a wonderful young man. Our older son, [REDACTED] was pleased to play on the same in-line hockey team as [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was the goalie that the players and coaches wanted to have on their team. In a sport where traditionally anger and frustration is shown by most players, that is something that we never saw from [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] is a player that always has control of his emotions even when things aren't going his way. I think this is a trait that he has acquired from his mom who I have never known to lose the smile on her face no matter what the circumstances.

[REDACTED] is a very responsible, mannerly, high spirited young man with potential to enjoy many successes in his life ahead.

Sincerely,



Denise Romanowski



Steve Romanowski

THOMAS L. MCGOW

July 10, 2005

Dear Sir or Madam:

I have been leading *Uniteens*, a youth group at the Unity of Delray Beach church for the last 10 years. [REDACTED] was an active member of that group for five years, ending last September. I have also kept in touch with [REDACTED] at church since then. [REDACTED] is now a member of next age group *Youth of Unity*. My wife, Kimberlee McGow, is a leader in that group and as such I am able to keep in touch with [REDACTED] on a regular basis and hear of his progress in that group as well. Even though he is no longer a member of *Uniteens* [REDACTED] often stops by the meetings to "touch base".

After his first year in my *Uniteen* classes [REDACTED] on his own, assumed a leadership position in the group. While he was rambunctious as any normal teen I found that when placed in a position of leadership he could be counted upon to keep the group moving in a positive direction.

During his time with the *Uniteen* group [REDACTED] participated in quite a few retreats with the group. Each lasted two or three days and brought our group together with hundreds of other teenagers. It was during these retreats [REDACTED] demonstrated a level of responsibility I came to rely on. Within any group of teenagers peer pressure can form the foundation for the way the entire group functions, often in a negative manner. On at least two of these types of occasions I took [REDACTED] aside, expressed my concerns for the way the group was behaving and asked for his help. The results were always good, with [REDACTED] working within the group, understanding what I was asking for, and making it more palatable to the other members. To a large extent [REDACTED] abilities in this area are directly related to his overall good humor and non-confrontational nature. His position within our teen group was earned by his actions, as [REDACTED] led by example. He asked if he could help and participated in activities while others were content to sit back.

I always enjoy seeing [REDACTED] these days, as he is growing into a young man who can converse freely and honestly with adults, and is just plain fun to be around. Anyone who works with teenage groups will always have a special few individuals they are fond of and hope to keep in touch with after they graduate. [REDACTED] is one of those special people I have had the blessing to come in contact with.

I would be delighted to provide any additional information if required.

Sincerely,

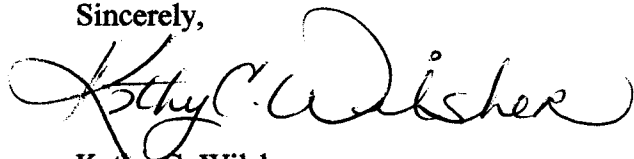
  
Thomas L. McGow

TESTIMONIAL LETTER FOR [REDACTED]

To whom this concerns,

I have known [REDACTED] for the past twelve years. I was his first grade teacher and also for three of his brothers and sisters. I have been close to this family for at least twelve years and hold them very close to my heart. I am aware of the bad choice [REDACTED] made to bring knives to school and also of the punishment given to him. I feel that [REDACTED] has been through a lot with his family problems and I would really like to see him stay in school. [REDACTED] has a heart of gold and has made a very bad choice in doing what he did. I feel he is truly sorry for what he did and has indeed been punished. and learned a valuable lesson from this crime. I would be happy to speak with you regarding [REDACTED] and his family at any time. I keep them in my prayers daily.

Sincerely,



Kathy C. Wilsher

Trinity Lutheran School  
400 N. Swinton Ave.  
Delray Beach, Fl.  
33444

739-9539-home  
252-0709 cell #



Attention: Shannon Mahoney  
 From: Lisa Karney  
 Contact # 561- [REDACTED]

In reference to [REDACTED]

To whom it may concern:

June 13, 2005

My name is Lisa Karney and I am a wife and Stay-at-home Mother of two. I am also practicing martial arts and work with teenagers while doing so. All though I am not an instructor, I am an adult in class with them as a student. Some of them are more advanced than I, and I must give respect to them for being a higher rank. This is important for me to tell you this because I get a chance to interact with the average teenager as a Mom, as a friend, or as a fellow student. Some of the kids I am around are sweet and respectful, some are a little bit hard around the edges. And some just do not like to be around adults. I am not sure if I can judge how I was as a teen, (as I am a little biased now that I am a Mom.). I am sure I made mistakes and pushed some limits at home. I now see it as normal growing pains. Back then, I probably just thought that my parents did not understand me, as we all do.

I also would like to add that I am the team Mom for the Park Vista High school J.V. roller hockey team. Of which [REDACTED] is a team member and one of our two goalies. [REDACTED] is not only a well-rounded player. He is also well liked by his teammates and their parents and the coaches. The first time I met [REDACTED] was about 6 years ago. My son had never played the sport before and was put on a team that did not have a goalie and most of the players had not played before. Needless to say I was really concerned that this was going to end badly. However, the league director told us that he found a very experienced goalie from another league that wanted to play for us. The only problem is this goalie was committed to another team across town from us and would most likely miss a few games or come late to them. The parents and players said okay and we went on with the season.

The goalie was [REDACTED] This poor kid would go to school, play for the other team and rush to get to our games on time, twice a week for 12 weeks! Our team barely made any goals and every game we lost [REDACTED] would say he was sorry for letting the team down. We would all tell him how good he was but he would still insist that he should have stopped more goals. Even though he really did not have any defense or offense to help him out. He was the only experience the team had. He would give the players pointers and direct them out on the rink. When we were in the 11<sup>th</sup> week, close to the playoffs, we finally won a game. It was great because we beat the number one ranked team! This meant we still had a chance in the playoffs! We all went to get ice cream so the kids could celebrate their victory. Even though it was a school night, we all knew they needed the moral booster. While we were having ice cream, I congratulated [REDACTED]. I told him that the team seemed to get better due to his persistence. I also told him how proud



his parents must be because I never heard him complain about playing with a bunch of newcomers. He just smiled and went on to tell me about how the other players had improved. Never saying anything to give himself praise. I could not believe how humble this kid was. Being in martial arts you see that a lot, but from a hockey player? I was impressed to say the least.

Both of my children have been playing since that season. My son and [REDACTED] have been on teams together since then. And they have also been on rival teams. And as soon as the game would end they would tease each other and play around. Hockey is a rough sport and when teenage tempers flare up, it can get nasty. But I have never seen that out of [REDACTED]. I remember one game when my son finally scored against [REDACTED]. He came up to my son after the game told him how he knew it was a matter of time for him to get a goal. He also told him he was playing a lot better than that first season. It made him feel good to hear it from [REDACTED].

Thanks to hockey we still get to see [REDACTED] and his family. I was so happy when I found out that he was on the high school team. I was as happy for [REDACTED] as I was for my own son. I also had heard about [REDACTED] parents splitting up, and how his sister was sick. I knew it must be hard for him. He had to change from private school to a very large public school, on top of moving to a new house. At his age he also has had to help out with the younger siblings. I know he has been forced to grow up real fast over the last year or so. Even grownups have a hard time dealing with these issues.

I give [REDACTED] a ride to and from games when his Mom has to work. I usually ask him how he is doing. He always says he is fine but he would be honest and tell me if his sister was having problems or if his Mom was stressed out. I would always tell him he is a good kid and good things come to good people. But, about 6 months ago when I asked him how he was, he looked really sad. I really do not remember what he told me that night. I just looked in his eyes and could tell that something wasn't right. The way he looked that night haunted me. I could not believe how hollow and sad he looked. I thought that all of the troubles his family had been going through caught up to him. I asked my son if he knew anything. He told me that [REDACTED] was hanging around with a different crowd. I told my son to be patient with him because he was probably going through a rough time. But he would end up all right. I knew this because his Mom is such a good Mom and [REDACTED] and his siblings are such sweet and respectful kids. I knew they all had good hearts.

A few weeks went by and I was giving [REDACTED] a ride to a game. I asked him how he was. This time he told me things were pretty bad. He also told me he might not be able to play for the High school any more. I asked him why and he said he was in trouble. My son told him that I would not care about it and tried to get him to tell me. I asked [REDACTED] if he was too embarrassed to tell me and he said "yes". I told him that it doesn't matter what he did. I have always thought he was a good kid and I always will. What ever he did was a mistake and he is the type to learn from them and not repeat them!

I have since heard what happened and I still believe in him. I have also fought to keep him on the team. Some other parents have fought with me about it. But, we are a club, not a sport that is recognized by the School Board. Plus, he did not do anything that would affect him at the hockey rinks and he paid his fees and was always at every game and never gave any of the coaches a hard time. Unlike some of the other players. We gave them chances and we should give [REDACTED] one too. I am not saying he should not be punished. He made a very bad decision and he should be taught a lesson. But, how much should he have to pay? I do not know. He is banished from school, lost a lot of friends and has had kids and parents spreading rumors about him. Not to mention the punishment he received at home. Hockey was the only thing he had left. And even that ended in May. If he is not allowed back at school in August I am not sure he will be eligible to play for the team. So I am happy he finished last season. I will do my part to try and get him back on the team next year. My only hope is that [REDACTED] gets another chance to show his true self to his teachers and peers of Park Vista High. I have all the confidence in the world that he will stay out of trouble and be the best he can be. I would love to see that face light up and look happy again.

Thank you for your time.  
Sincerely,  
Lisa Karney

# The Knowledge Zone

A Division of Education Building Services, Inc.

1090 Sea Grape Circle, Delray Beach, Florida 33445

July 14, 2005

Re: Character Reference for [REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Michael Dudeck; I am a full time teacher and have been for more then 12 years. I am also the Owner/Operator of The Knowledge Zone, Inc., which is a company that specializes in Standardized Test Preparation and Tutoring since 1998 and oversees the operation of the Summer School Program at Toussaint L'Ouverture High School for Arts & Social Justice in Delray Beach.

I was recently asked if I would consider writing a character reference for [REDACTED]. As a teacher and coach of 24 years, I have always felt honored to speak on behalf of one of my students. Although I have only know [REDACTED] for a short time, I understand the importance of this particular request and am more then willing to submit the following reference.

I have spent the last six weeks with [REDACTED] and we plan to spend the next two weeks together as well in Summer School. When I first meet [REDACTED] he was a very quiet and somewhat reserved young man. Being the father of a fifteen year old boy myself, I found [REDACTED] to be very much like my son and many of his friends. [REDACTED] has reported to school everyday, without fail and has never been late for school or from any break given during our seven hour day together. He has displayed consideration for others and has offered help to a few of his peers that were struggling with their assignment.

During this time, [REDACTED] has displayed excellent social skills with an extremely diverse summer school population and has been befriended by every student he has come in contact with. He has remained focused for every lesson and has completed all is work to date at a high level of mastery. Of course six weeks is a very short period of time to really get to know someone, however I have found through the years that students that take the time to attend summer school, complete their work with a positive no nonsense attitude, and are not a behavior problem are generally high quality individuals.

At this time I would be honored to vogue for [REDACTED] character and diligence in his academic endeavors. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at your earliest convenience at 561.441.4915.

Sincerely,



Michael Dudeck

July 13, 2005

Testimonial Letter for [REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern,

I have known [REDACTED] since he was 6 years old and babysat for his mother frequently throughout his adolescence. [REDACTED] is a responsible, helpful, and trustworthy young man. He was very supportive when I would babysit and helped me to take care of his younger brother and sister, which he still helps with today. He was always asked to take care of neighbors dogs growing up and I still trust him to take care of mine when I take vacations. Furthermore, [REDACTED] is respectful of others. Growing up in a big family he learned the values of hard workmanship, trust, and love. He is an extremely gentle, social, loving person that is a genuine pleasure to know, talk with, and watch grow into a young man.

Sincerely,

Tara Hughes



2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher at  
North Grade Elementary

To Whom It May Concern:

By way of introduction, this letter is in reference to [REDACTED]. I was his fifth grade teacher for the 2000-2001 school year, and I remember him very well because he was such a memorable young man. Allow me to start by saying that he is a caring person with a great heart. He was on the honor roll here at Trinity Lutheran School 3 out of the 4 quarters that he was in the fifth grade. He was well liked by his teachers, his classmates, and by the parents of his classmates.

I have been teaching long enough to see fifth graders grow up to be productive adults. Based on their performance and their personalities in the elementary years of school, it is not difficult to predict which students will most likely meet success. [REDACTED] is sure to find success in both the academic world and in the workaday world as well.

Success often comes as a result of the proper combination of talent, attitude, and work ethic. These are positive traits that are easy to see in [REDACTED]. Most of us do not find success strictly on our own, however. More often than not, successful people also point to a time in their lives when some caring adult reached out to help. It is said that it takes a village to raise a child. I have witnessed the truth of that statement many times in my 36 years of teaching. This "village" consists of caring people like you who are willing to provide assistance and guidance to keep the maturing process moving in a positive direction.

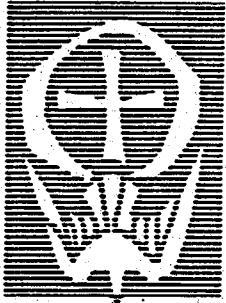
Most of us encounter bumps along the way as we mature, and it takes wise, caring adults to guide the youth through the rough spots to enable that maturing process to continue uninterrupted. [REDACTED] is the kind of young man that I would willingly reach out to help in any way. You have become a member of the "village." I am praying that you will use your wisdom, tempered with compassion, to assist this fine young man along the road to successful, productive adulthood. He is definitely worthy of your consideration. If I can be of any further assistance to you or to the [REDACTED] family, please contact me through Trinity Lutheran School.

Sincerely,



Timothy Riggs

June 30, 2005



**TRINITY**  
Evangelical Lutheran  
Church & School  
www.trinitydelray.org

7/5/05

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing on behalf of [REDACTED]. I have known [REDACTED] for the past five years. He has served as a CIT (Counselor in Training), for SUNFUN Summer Camp at Trinity Lutheran Church and School for two of those years. His responsibilities included; contact with parents, planning organized indoor/outdoor games, assisting counselors with the supervision of students, and assisting the SUNFUN Director.

[REDACTED] served well in all of his roles. He demonstrates a conscientious attitude toward his work. [REDACTED] is dependable, cooperative and dedicated to serving the needs of children and families at Trinity. He is self-motivated. Most importantly [REDACTED] has a very supportive mother, who follows through and is very involved in her son's life.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me @ (561) 276-8458 x 230.

In Christ,

Allison Kepford  
Early Childhood Director & Special Programs Director

The Rev. C. Scott Gress  
Senior Pastor

Mr. Timothy M. Guelzow  
Principal

Mr. Robert M. Burgess  
Assistant Principal

Mrs. Joan B. Mooney  
Director of Music

Mr. K. Anthony Durante  
Director of Discipleship

Mrs. Allison K. Kepford  
Early Childhood Director



400 N. Swinton Avenue  
Delray Beach, Florida 33444  
Church Office: (561) 278-1737  
School Office: (561) 276-8458  
FAX: (561) 272-3215  
e-mail: mail@trinitydelray.org



**TRINITY**  
Evangelical Lutheran  
Church & School  
www.trinitydelray.org

The Rev. C. Scott Gress  
Senior Pastor

Mr. Timothy M. Guelzow  
Principal

Mr. Robert M. Burgess  
Assistant Principal

Mrs. Joan B. Mooney  
Director of Music

Mr. K. Anthony Durante  
Director of Discipleship

Mrs. Allison K. Kepford  
Early Childhood Director



400 N. Swinton Avenue  
Delray Beach, Florida 33444  
Church Office: (561) 278-1737  
School Office: (561) 276-8458  
FAX: (561) 272-3215  
e-mail: [mail@trinitydelray.org](mailto:mail@trinitydelray.org)

July 8, 2005

To Whom It May Concern:


I am writing on behalf of [REDACTED] a former student at Trinity Lutheran School, Delray Beach, Florida. [REDACTED] has been enrolled at Trinity for most of his elementary years through eighth grade, when he graduated. I have served [REDACTED] as both a teacher and administrator.

[REDACTED] has had a good experience in all his years at Trinity. He has been a conscientious student, a positive leader in a quiet way. He is cooperative, anxious to please, helpful. I had found [REDACTED] to be quite dependable, someone who I could turn to when I needed someone to count on in a variety of needs. I have always found [REDACTED] to be honest and to take responsibility for his actions. In times when discipline of some kind needed to be administered, (and this was rare and only for minor infractions), [REDACTED] accepted his consequences.

[REDACTED] has had to endure a number of situations and transitions regarding his family life. Serious health issues with his sister and the separation and divorce of his parents were two events that [REDACTED] had to deal with at a young age, and he handled them and continues to handle them well. [REDACTED] and I worked through some of these feelings through a support group over several years, and I was amazed at his ability and desire to continue to work hard in school and to be a good citizen.

While I am surprised and disappointed in the recent choices that [REDACTED] has apparently made, I am confident that the characteristics I know about [REDACTED] will be a part of a positive resolution to this issue. Please do not hesitate to contact me if further information is needed.

Sincerely,

  
Timothy Guelzow  
Principal



\*\*\*Testimonial for [REDACTED]\*\*\*

July 11, 2005

To whom it may concern:

Within the last year of being neighbors with [REDACTED], he has proven himself to be a respectful, thoughtful and focused young man. We have spent a lot of time with [REDACTED] because he is constantly assisting us with landscaping chores and watching our home and pets while we are traveling. Through the many interactions and time spent with [REDACTED] if given the opportunity, we are sure he will one day be an asset to society and accomplish whatever he puts his mind to. [REDACTED] has proven to us that he is an honest, reliable young man. We would be more than willing to testify to his character in a court of law or any other forum. Please contact us if you would like to discuss this matter in more depth.

Sincerely,



Derrick C. Lewis  
5652 Pebble Brook Lane  
Boynton Beach, FL. 33437  
(C) 561-523-5576



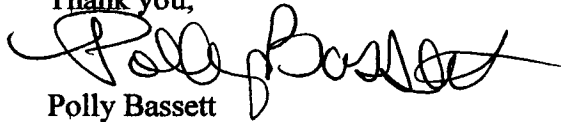
Tina Torres  
5652 Pebble Brook Lane  
Boynton Beach, FL. 33437  
(C) 561-843-6606

Polly Bassett  
8278 Bermuda Sound Way  
Boynton Beach, Florida 3343  
561-752-9772  
July 6, 2005

To whom it may concern,

I have known [REDACTED] from present day back since he was 6 years of age. He was in my daughter's class at Trinity Lutheran School in Delray Beach as they attended kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade in the same class. Then, once the children completed 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, I was employed at Trinity on a full time basis as a Kindergarten assistant, summer camp counselor, camp manager and substitute teacher pre-school-8<sup>th</sup> grade. [REDACTED] has, in my presence always exhibited moral and Christian attitudes and behaviors. He participated throughout middle school in our TOTS (teachers of tomorrow) program that included weekly assistance to Early Childhood teachers and always exhibited a Christian attitude and was eager to assist in any way. [REDACTED], in my opinion, has the ability, parental guidance and upbringing to turn attitudes and behaviors into a life-learning lesson to benefit himself as well as to assist others from making unhealthy choices.

Thank you,

  
Polly Bassett

Testimonial Letter for [REDACTED]

7/15/05

To whom it may concern.

I am writing this letter on behalf of the character of [REDACTED]. I have known [REDACTED] two years . The first day I met him I have been so impressed by this bright young man with such great qualities and integrity.

[REDACTED] has always been respectful and polite; as you may notice in today's society that alone is a rarity! [REDACTED] has determination and the willingness to be successful in life. As a father of two teenagers,I understand just that; they are teenagers and their whole life is ahead of them. I want to reiterate [REDACTED] is a young, and his whole life is ahead of him. With his own determination, he will be successful life. I ask that you show favorable consideration towards [REDACTED]. He will show all of us, given the opportunity, just what an inspiring young man he is!

Thank you  
Marc Hannan.

*Marc Hannan.*  
561-929-8542.  
District Account Manager  
Arizona Iced Tee Co.

Shannon M. Mahoney, P.A  
120 S Olive Ave.  
Suite 400  
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Testimonial letter for [REDACTED]

My family and I have had the privilege of being backyard neighbors with the [REDACTED] family for 10 years while residing in Delray Beach. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] 4 youngest children were close in age to ours. Our children crossed paths not only as playmates in the backyard but as schoolmates in several schools. We shared similar styles in raising our families- lots of time with family, having a home that is open to friends, a love of the outdoors, and a devotion of personal and family time to school and church.

Unfortunately, the wholesome family life that the [REDACTED] lived slowly began to change as their father struggled with substance abuses. At the same time period [REDACTED] older sister was diagnosed with OCD and that slowly led into Anorexia. It is hard to witness bad things happening to really good people. [REDACTED] has done a remarkable job as a mother. She sought out guidance in counseling to help everyone through the changing times they faced.

[REDACTED] was a preteen when this all began and I think the loss of his father in his life had a strong affect on him. Losing a family life he was so comfortable with, losing the emotional and physical bond with his father at a very important time in his life, leaving a home he'd lived in for 10 years... [REDACTED] is a gentle, kind, caring individual who would never seek to intentionally hurt a soul.

Our family was numb after learning about the selling of knives at Park Vista High School. I strongly believe though, that the circumstances that took place in [REDACTED] recent years had a strong impact on him making the large error in judgment at Park Vista. I truly believe [REDACTED] understands his wrongdoing and is ready to return to a normal high school education. I do hope you realize he has a good strong moral core- training from a great school with solid Christian teachers and continues to have a good family life- it just has more bumps than it used to and [REDACTED] has had to learn how to recognize how to negotiate those bumps. Our family hopes that you give [REDACTED] the opportunity to show you the responsible young man he is becoming.

Thank-you,

The Brewer Family  
Ted Brewer

[REDACTED]