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Re: Matt Highland

To Whom It Concerns,

I am writing to recommend Matt Highland to you without reservation. Since January 2006, Mr. Highland has worked tirelessly and with a high degree of proficiency at *Random Lengths News*, showing a maturity that has kept pace with his growing responsibilities. While accepting an increasing set of challenges he has added a surprising degree of skills to analyze and deconstruct information that informs his ability to comprehend and contextualize the intersections of visual design, politics and history.

His work and activism at The Center and in the LGBT community in Long Beach has added an important dimension to our publication. However, his perspective on current events from this politic is not exclusive to his understanding of the greater expanse of civil rights. His accomplishment of earning a master degree in political science at California State University Long Beach demonstrates a determination toward expanding his knowledge.

Mr. Highland's contributions to *Random Lengths News* have been instrumental in keeping the enterprise viable in the midst of a major economic downturn, during a time where the publishing industry has undergone rapid change and contraction. Mr. Highland streamlined and digitized our advertising sales tracking and discovered new technologies and solutions that have kept the paper competitive and innovative, all while being very cost-conscious. This has resulted in the creation of new products, services and added revenue streams, which has simultaneously served to reinforce our brand in the eyes of our readers and advertisers.

While he has evolved in his role with our progressive publication, which covers the seven cities surrounding the Los Angeles/Long Beach harbors, it is clear that he aspires to make more widespread contributions. Thusly, he would make an exemplary candidate for any position or career he chooses next. I have the greatest confidence in Mr. Highland's attitude to succeed in any field he may apply himself to.

Matt has been my right-hand-man for nearly a decade now, and his departure will be a serious adjustment for us at *Random Lengths News*. It is with a heavy heart and pride, that I highly recommend him to you.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions about Mr. Highland's qualifications for your organization.