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August 21, 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: **Michael L. Stern**

I have had the privilege of knowing Michael Stern for over twenty years. I first met Mike when he was an associate in the law offices of a prominent Honolulu attorney with whom I had been a former partner. Mike successfully settled many cases at the law firm. He also worked on a product liability case that achieved a high jury verdict, lots of publicity, and established precedential law in Hawaii on loss of consortium and punitive damages.

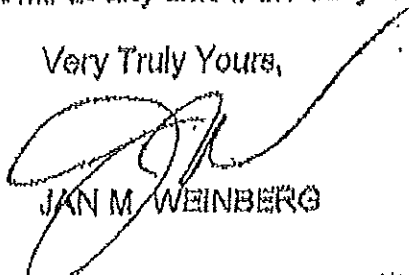
Mike opened his own law practice in 1992. His practice thrived because of his legal skills and his empathetic personality. It was much to my disappointment that Mike left Hawaii and relocated with his two children to Burlington, Vermont. Our professional relationship had become a friendship. I also referred cases to Mike, many of which had exceptional outcomes.

Mike's integrity is very high. He is extremely likeable and is well regarded in the community by other professionals and the judiciary.

Suffice it to say that Mike would make an invaluable contribution to any firm with which he is associated. It has always been a pleasure to work with him. I wish him and the firm, which is fortunate enough to have his services the very best.

Please feel free to contact me at any time if the subject is "Mike."

Very Truly Yours,


JAN M. WEINBERG

JMW/jnn

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