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ABACUS

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Reference: Rick Merante

To Whom It May Concern:

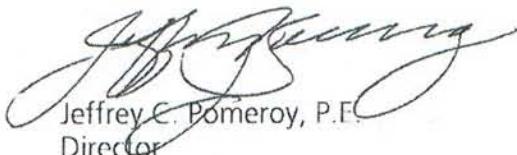
I would like to take this opportunity to recommend Rick for consideration as an addition to your team. I have known Rick, both professionally and personally for more than 2 years. We have worked on a number of business opportunities together, and through it have developed a friendship that extends beyond our business relationship.

I find Rick to be fully qualified in all aspects of business and business development in the construction industry. He has an excellent reputation and maintains a large circle of contacts within the industry. He has the ability to pursue opportunities aggressively, while maintaining a good relationship with all of the contacts he makes in the process.

He is able to quickly understand the nuance of a business situation, to creatively apply his strengths and capabilities to provide a solution, and to describe that solution, its benefits and implications. Most importantly, he is honest in all his dealings and can be relied upon, without reservation.

I believe Rick would make a good addition, to any team and I would be happy to answer any other questions you may have.

Yours Truly,



Jeffrey C. Pomeroy, P.E.
Director