

The Honorable Araceli Martinez-Olguin
United States District Court Judge
San Francisco Courthouse, Court 10-19th Floor
450 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Judge Martinez-Olguin,

I'm Steve Nathan, a Semi-Retired Woodworker/Philosopher and Nonpartisan Political Consultant. I ran for State Senate in Nevada in 2008. I have a political consulting practice, StrategicCampaigns.org. I'm a veteran who ultimately became a Mission Director for the "Red Forces Ground Forces (Surface to air missiles and Anti-aircraft artillery) for the first 13 Red Flag Exercises. This program (Red Flag) is still run as the Air Forces Fighter Weapons School. (Their version of the Navy's Top Gun".)

After deciding my energies were better utilized outside of the military industrial complex, I became a Building Superintendent/Resident Manager of large New York City Co-Op apartment buildings. I understand what ethics, integrity and responsibility are. The do not hand the keys to buildings, stores and hundreds of apartments to just anyone.

4 years ago I was not very healthy and realized I needed to leave NYC. I moved to Grass Valley, CA, 3 years ago. I met Aaron not long after moving here. We had both just moved here. I went back to NYC to bring the rest of my woodworking shop. Aaron and I immediately became friends with our similar interests as veterans and aspiring woodworkers. When I brought my woodworking shop back, Aaron was the first to help get it unloaded and secured for me. I think he realized that as a senior citizen and disabled vet, I could use some help. And we have become good friends, understanding that we each have skills and abilities to help each other.

I have also seen how supportive he is with others as well. He has truly embraced being a member of the "Downtown Grass Valley community".

In the almost 3 years I have known Aaron, I have become aware of his case. He's been very open, forthright, and responsible about what he's done. I know he regrets the decision he made and is willing to be responsible for his actions. I have learned that none of us are perfect except that we are all perfectly imperfect.

While we have our own wood shops, I have been happy to serve as a mentor and a friend for him. I would hire him as he's teachable, as well as coachable. He is not what I would call "of the criminal type". I believe we will collaborate on projects as soon as our shops and businesses get set up.

I truly believe society is better with Aaron around.

If you have any questions, I can be reached at:
nateskey@gmail.com (personal)
Steve@strategiccampaigns.org
(347) 819-0510

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Steve Nathan
nateskey@gmail.com
347-819-0510 cell