

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA
ATLANTA DIVISION**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	)	
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	
vs.	)	CASE NO.: 1:20-CR-00296-JPB-AJB
	)	
BERN BENOIT,	)	
	)	
Defendant.	)	
_____	)	

**DEFENDANT BERN BENOIT’S CHARACTER WITNESSES – RONNIE L.
BREAUX, JR.; JAMES SMITH; RON LYLES; MAURINE LOPES;
LAWANDA C JACKSON; REBECCA KHAMMAR AND MAURICE
STEWART**

Dated this 1ST day of September, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

s/ Anthony O. Egbase
ANTHONY O. EGBASE
California Bar No. 181721
Attorney for Defendant Bern Benoit

A.O.E LAW & ASSOCIATES, INC
350 S. Figueroa Street
Suite 189
Los Angeles, California 90071
(213) 620-7070 (Telephone)
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Character Letter for Bern Benoit

Date: 6.4.21

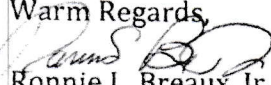
To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Ronnie L. Breaux, Jr. I am writing this letter to speak on the relationship that I have with Bern Benoit. I met Bern about 5 years ago while working on a job. I was new to the field and he took me under his wing and made sure that I understand everything about that job to the best of my ability. For that I am extremely grateful. He made sure I didn't fail. From that point on Bern and I have become great friends.

Bern is one of the most dependable people I know, his loyalty is second to none and I am truly blessed to consider him a friend. There's nothing that Bern wouldn't do for people, he gets extreme joy when people around him succeed. He will push you to the finish line by any means necessary, that's his character.

I strongly stand behind this statement of character for Bern Benoit. Please feel free to contact me if there are any additional questions.

Warm Regards,


Ronnie L. Breaux, Jr.

310.531.0741

YOUR HONOR:

I want to start off by saying I thank you for your time to take a minute to read this letter. My good friend BERN BENOIT has always been a man of class and integrity. I've always been able to count on BERN for my kids birthday parties and any other events that I've invited him to. We've been close buddies for over 10 yrs and as you can see from his background, he's not a criminal by any means. I do understand YOUR HONOR that we all make mistakes in life and I would appreciate you taking BERN'S character and background in account prior to sentencing.

Thank you again for time and consideration,

JAMES SMITH

12104 Hoffman st. Unit 202

STUDIO CITY, CA 91604

323 839-2779

I'm writing on behalf of Mr. Bern Benoit who I have come to know to be a man of Christian faith, conviction, consistency, and character.

My name is Ron Lyles and I'm a licensed Lay Minister and member of the Faithful Central Bible Church in Inglewood California.

I am a leader of a prayer group and was introduced to Bern from a friend who I've known and has been a solid member of the community for over 30 years.

Bern has been a faithful and consistent member of our 2nd Chronicles 7:14 Prayer group. He is contributed to our group greatly by his presence and contribution. We recently celebrated his physical baptism confirming his Christian faith.

I would ask, your honor, that you would have mercy in your sentencing for a man, who in my observation, has taken responsibility for his actions and his made efforts to cooperate with the investigation and exhibited a desire, going forward, to continue to be a positive contributor to his community and society at large.

I am prepared to continue to provide moral support, accountability, prayer, and spiritual advice as needed to walk along side Bern.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,
Ron Lyles

626 399-1100

Maurine Lopes
13951 Sherman Way, Unit 402
Van Nuys, California 91405

Re: Character Reference for Bern Benoit

To Whom This May Concern:

My name is Maurine Lopes and have personally known Bern Benoit for over 10 years. I met Bern through a mutual friend and we quickly became close friends.

Bern came to California with nothing to start a business and make it on his own, and I have watched him build that business and successfully run it on his own. This is all because he is an extremely hard worker and will do whatever it takes to succeed. That carries over into his personal relationships as well. He is an extremely generous person when it comes to his friends and treats them like they are his family. I recently have had to deal with some health and family issues and he has been there to help any way he could.

It is my sincere hope that the court will take all of this into consideration when making its decision, and I would be happy to speak to all of these examples if called upon to do so.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Maurine Lopes

LaWanda C. Jackson
204 Lucas Ave., Unit 202
Los Angeles, California 90026

To Whom it May Concern:

I have known Bern Benoit for more than 19 years. I first met him as a work associate of my husband Thomas. Over the years they have remained friends.

Bern is very kind and respectful. I have had many interactions with him over the years. He is a real cool guy. He has even supported a couple of our Church's fundraisers for the boys mentoring program, Sword Warriors.

Since I have known Bern, I've known him to make regular travels to visit his mother. When he goes to visit he always takes fresh baked goods to her that I bake.

Over the last few years, Bern has had an intense desire to get closer to the Lord. Just recently he was even baptized.

Overall Bern is an upstanding individual.

LaWanda C. Jackson

Rebecca Khammar
1231 South Bundy Drive #6
Los Angeles, CA, 90025

June 9, 2021

Re: Bern Benoit

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing this letter to you to provide a character reference for Bern Benoit, who I have known since 2005.

Over the last 16 years I have witnessed Bern overcome trials and tribulations, support his family who depends on him a great deal and give from his heart to his friends and loved ones. Bern and I share a Goddaughter and it is been my honor to witness his faith in action over the years. He has endured more than anyone should have to since he was a child, yet he is always full of hope and faith. It is his faith that makes it difficult for him to do anything bad without feeling intense remorse. Overwhelming remorse and sadness is what he's feeling right now. I know that he would do anything to make amends without having to be taken away from his family. The idea of not being able to support and help his mother is what is affecting him the most.

I know that he has learned his lesson. This transgression has shaken him to the core. Given the opportunity, he would make better decisions. It is my sincere hope that the court gives Bern leniency and a chance to rectify his mistakes without having to sacrifice precious time with his mother, niece and nephew.

I would be happy to speak to the court and elaborate on why I feel that Bern Benoit, a man of faith, an amazing son, brother, uncle, Godfather, friend and a pillar of the community, deserves a second chance at living an upstanding life with his family.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Khammar
310-905-9864

323-481-7490

mawreece@yahoo.com

to whom it may concern

my name is Maurice Stewart, I know Bern from work, we met in 2001 while we were both chauffeurs at a limousine company.

I am writing this letter to vouch for Bern's character and to let you know what type of person he is. Bern is a hard worker and a very motivated person. We started out as drivers but he went on to start his own Limo company and I eventually started working for him. He always went above and beyond to help everyone around him and would give even if he didn't have it. There were times when friends of ours didn't have a place to stay and Bern would let them live with him until they got on their feet, without asking to be paid back.

I hope this has given you a better picture of Bern as a overall person and thank you for taking the time to read this. Feel free to contact me if you need more information

Sincerely, MAURICE STEWART

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CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

This is to certify that to the best of my knowledge this document has been prepared with one of the font and point selections approved by the Court in LR 5.1B, pursuant to LR 7. Specifically, the above-mentioned document has been prepared using Times New Roman font, 14 point.

Dated this 1ST day of September, 2021.

s/ Anthony O. Egbase
ANTHONY O. EGBASE
California Bar No. 181721
Attorney for Defendant Bern Benoit

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BERN BENOIT,	)	
	)	
Defendant.	)	
_____	)	

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on the above date, I electronically filed this document using the CM/ECF system which will automatically send email notification of such filing to all attorneys of record.

Respectfully submitted,

s/ Anthony O. Egbase
ANTHONY O. EGBASE
California Bar No. 181721
Attorney for Defendant Bern Benoit

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