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To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Armando Arrastia for 18 years, seven of which he served as an information officer in the office of Media Relations for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

As Director (now retired) of Media Relations during the period of Armando's employment, I am pleased to unequivocally recommend him because I found him to possess all the qualities needed to fulfill his important and sensitive assignment.

..He carried out his varied responsibilities, including the day-to-day interchange with a massive bi-state news media, preparation of press statements, news releases and speeches, with a high degree of skill and professionalism.

It should be noted that the Port Authority is an agency that is responsible for some of the most heavily used facilities in the world-- the World Trade Center, LaGuardia, John F. Kennedy and Newark Liberty Airports, George Washington Bridge, Lincoln and Holland Tunnels and the sprawling containerport at Port Newark and Elizabeth, N.J.

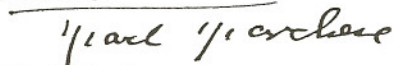
Armando played an integral part in the Agency's responses to major crises such as multiple major air crashes requiring work schedules of more than 18 consecutive hours, or coordinating responses to complex community and political issues.

His fluency in Spanish and his early recognition of the growing importance of the world markets enabled him to deal directly with editors of international trade publications to expand the Agency's important trade agenda.

In closing, I strongly feel that Armando carried out his responsibilities with dedication and professionalism and set a standard of excellence for all his colleagues to follow.

Please call me if you need any further information.

Sincerely,



Mark Marchese