

Please accept this letter of endorsement/nomination in support of Sabrina H. Seville for the office/title of Queen Mother II of the Americas.

Many of you already know, or know of Sabrina, but to me, "Sabrina" – as wonderful as she is, is a costume. Yes, Sabrina is gorgeous, tall, and funny; and I love my wife, but I love my husband Matthew more. Behind all the big black hair, makeup, outfits, jewelry and "evil queen" look, is a real person. A loving and caring father and friend, and a devoted husband that I have been married to for the last 16 years.

From the beginning, Matthew has gone above and beyond in every aspect of our life together. From parenting our son and foster parenting kids from a few months old to teens, breeding and training service dogs for veterans and children with disabilities, to The ICS and ICC, he doesn't do anything less than 100%. He pours every ounce of himself into trying to be the best person he can for everyone else to rely/lean on. Matthew is not just my rock; he's everyone's.

There is so much about my husband that only a few know. He is the hardest working, most selfless, caring and genuine person you'll ever meet in both the real world and the ICS. He's the person everyone turns to for literally everything. Recipes, parenting tips, hair/makeup, ball programs, counselling sessions, court stuff, etc. the list just keeps going. I know because I'm the one sitting with him when he gets all the calls, texts, and emails. When that happens, even though he's exhausted from working 7 days a week, being the president of our court, parenting our 15 year old son and being a father figure to our 6 year old nephew (he calls him "pretty uncle") and so on, he will put on a smile, ask "what do you need me to do?" and keep going because Matthew puts everyone else first.

Having seen the sheer volume of work and effort he's put in, I can say with certainty that Matthew is one of about half a dozen people that has kept Council going. But instead of demanding credit for it, he works tirelessly behind the scenes because he believes in the ICC and the ICS.

I have told Matthew more times than I can count that he can't save everyone. And every time I do, I get the same answer. "I know. But someone has to try." Even with his nomination for Queen Mother 2, he continues to use his platform to educate, create dialogue and affect change for everyone because to Matthew, success isn't determined by who wins, it's determined by how many people cross the finish line.

I'm not going to say that my husband is perfect because no one is. I won't say that he deserves to be QM2 because I don't think "deserve" is the correct word. I think the next QM of the Americas should be someone that has earned the title through the hard work and honesty they've shown throughout their "career". Like me, there are people across the ICS that see my husband as an inspiration and role model. A person that isn't afraid to stand up for their belief in what is right and just and to keep fighting for their friends, family, and community.

Matthew's accomplishments and "court resumé" are impressive sure; but not as impressive as his commitment to the people he cares about and the organization that he credits with everything he has today. Matthew is already many things. A father, mother, uncle, aunt, son, daughter, mentor, counsellor, a shoulder to cry on, and everyone's loudest and liveliest cheerleader. I personally don't think my husband needs another title; but I know that we, the ICS, need him now more than ever and more than anyone else.

For better or worse, and with all the love in my heart
Kyle S. Hazlewood