



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

MARINE FORCES NORTH
2000 Opelousas Avenue
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70114-5400

IN REPLY REFER TO
1000
MEPLO IV
23 Oct 17

From: Colonel Paul C. Fagan, Region IV MEPLO, Marine Forces North
To: Department of University Admissions

Subj: NICHOLAS JESSEN CHARACTER REFERENCE

1. Nicholas Jessen contacted me and asked if he could use me as a character refernce. Besides presently being a Colonel in the USMC, I have coached Nicholas for five years as a head lacrosse coach at Signal Mountain Middle High School. It is in this capacity that I have observed and interacted with Nicholas.

2. Nicholas is an outstanding young man of exceptional character. In the years I have known him, he has always treated others and me with respect. When I think about Nicholas, I think of someone who is a pleasure to coach with an unwavering commitment. He is a "coach's player," in that he will do what he is asked to do, and will try as hard as he can while doing it, no questions asked. Nicholas is the first one on the field and the last to leave. I truly believe people are not natural born leaders, but it is something they grow into. I have watched Nicholas grow from a quiet young boy to a leader of young men. Our team desperately needed leadership this past year. As a sophomore, Nicholas worked to fill that void and provide the guidance and stability that we needed, leading us to the second most wins our school has had in a season. He was voted the team's Most Valuable Player and made All-State for the second year in a row. Even though Nicholas was by far the best player on our team, and he needed the least amount of coaching, there wouldn't be a week that went by where he didn't come up and shake the coaches' hands and tell us "thank you." His leadership isn't limited to the high school team, either; Nicholas approached me and asked to run some youth clinics. He then planned and ran numerous youth lacrosse camps during the season with the 12U players as a way to pay it back.

3. I have been around many young men in my military career and as a coach. I truly believe this young man is special in character and heart. It's a privilege to be one of Nicholas's character references.

4. If there are any questions, or if I can be of any further assistance, please contact me at 423-309-6481.

P.C. FAGAN