

Letter of recommendation for Alex Criswell

16 April 2011

I worked as a Banquet Sales & Catering Director at a full service hotel in January 2006. Approximately a year and a half later I met Alex Criswell while he worked at the properties restaurant. After several months working in the restaurant Alex transferred to my department and became a Banquet Server in fall 2007. Alex remained under my employment till my lay off in January 2010. After which time; Alex and I have kept in contact and a friendship has blossomed out of a professional association.

During the time I have known Alex I have seen him grow into the young man he is today; I am honoured to call him my friend. When I first met Alex I must admit he was a little annoying to be around for extensive amounts of time because of his immaturity. But over the years Alex has grown leaps and bounds into an intelligent, detail orientated and exceptionally conscientious academic and life student. Alex has exceeded expectations as he has matured whether he takes on academic or personal projects.

While Alex earned his degrees from Ivy Tech he sought my input and experience while working on projects. One project in particular I recall was a buffet line set-up with an array of food, beverage and culinary items. Alex impressed me with his forethought projecting potential outcomes and scenarios which could arise during service. He anticipated potential outcomes or possible problems and addressed them beforehand. This type of detailed forethought is imperative for research projects in gradate school; thus allowing for comprehensive results.

Graduate school is about research, writing and thought expansion. Alex would be an exceptional candidate for Purdue University Calumets' Communication Graduate program because he has a broad background in research. His research background is not on the scholarly level but the familial level. Alex took it upon himself to research his maternal and paternal family trees. Over several years he has used oral communication, governmental documentation, pictorial information, widespread road trips and other means to document his families' tree. With his research skills and the exceptional graduate professors at Purdue University Calumet I know Alex will excel under their tutelage.

Letter of recommendation for Alex Criswell

Alex Criswell will thrive as a graduate student at Purdue University Calumet. He has a background in an environment, culinary and hospitality, which offers a wide range of communicative discovery for him. His career path to this point has allowed him the exceptional skills in dealing with people. This past experience has given him a perspective to discover, apply, research and write on non-verbal, interpersonal, small group, hierarchal and family communication in the culinary and hospitality industry. I can see with the career background and the theories Alex will learn in gradate school the possibilities for research are endless.

Without doubt or hesitation I highly recommend Alex Criswell as a candidate for Purdue University Calumet's School of Communications Graduate program.

If I may answer any questions or concerns with regard to this letter please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Debbie Parker
PUC –BA '96, MA '98

Deborah E. Parker

Portage, IN 46368