

LESLIE APONTE
#3

**PETITIONER'S STATEMENT AND SUPPORTING
DOCUMENTS FOR A SENTENCE MODIFICATION**

Submitted by Nicholas Aponte

“If our society believes in the concept of rehabilitation while in prison, rather than just speaking the concept, then the petitioner’s conduct acquires merit. To not recognize proper rehabilitative conduct is harmful and promotes a dangerous standard of meaningless conduct by all prisoners.”

-Judge Raymond Norko

(Quote from a 17 page decision that reduced the sentence of convicted killer Sean Burke.)

“Because Juveniles are less culpable, and at the same time more capable of change, than adults, the Supreme Court found... that even a juvenile’s commission of a very serious crime cannot be considered evidence that he or she has a permanently bad character and is incapable of reform.”

-Former CT Supreme Court Justice David M. Borden

“Those who work in prisons confirm that people who commit crimes as kids are not cold-blooded predators 20 years later, but grow to become compassionate and insightful peer mentors, hospice workers, hospital aides, students, educators, and role models.”

-Quinnipiac University School of Law Clinic

PETITIONER'S STATEMENT FOR REQUEST OF A SENTENCE MODIFICATION

I come before you with gratitude for the time you are providing in considering my path through incarceration. This path has been one of redemption, personal, and intellectual growth. At the age of seventeen I began as an immature juvenile. Now approaching the age of 35, with over half of my life in prison and through many difficult and successful moments, I have grown to be a compassionate, mindful adult.

Discovery of oneself in an environment non-conducive to change can be daunting. Early in my incarceration, revisiting the night of the crime proved difficult: How can I have participated in something that resulted in a person's death? For a teenager, this was difficult to comprehend. I oscillated from denial to reality. After I was sentenced to 38 years, I was provided a copy of the pre-sentence investigation report. Included in it were letters by the Horan family, and it was their letter that broke through the wall I created to avoid completely feeling and facing my role in their pain and suffering.

With an open heart and mind I read each word. Most profound was the letter of Mr. John Horan. His suffering, unimaginable to me as a father, touched the depths of my heart and mind. He also showed compassion and the hope that I would reflect on the errors of my life choices, rehabilitate myself and practice "constructive efforts that can validate an altered maturity towards service to others." It was his words and examples of humanness that helped me to recognize that I was not beyond redemption.

Gradually, a maturity developed and life's lessons became clearer to me. Each institutional program that became available I participated, learned and completed. I learned life skills and became a peer mentor. I was later provided the honor of becoming a hospice and bereavement volunteer, a service I continue to provide. With the financial help of my family, I was able to expand my education and earn an Associate's Degree with a 3.8 GPA. Currently I am completing courses towards a Bachelor's Degree (Psychology Major).

Occupational opportunities provided a wealth of knowledge and experience while I worked as an Optical Lab Technician (1998-2000), Industry Shop Clerk (2000-2006), Librarian's Aide (2006-2007), Recreational Aide (2007-2008), and a Certified Nursing Assistant (2008-present). When each job offer presented itself I accepted the chance to acquire a new skill set and working experience.

Working as a ~~CNA~~ and hospice volunteer has created an insight into life that has proven invaluable to me. The ability to give myself to others, to be of service and provide care for those

suffering through disease and terminal illness has given me another dimension of personal development and life understanding.

This statement may only be a few pages in length as I try to convey significant areas of growth. Each day of my imprisonment has been filled with a plethora of human emotion that required humbleness and patience to balance reflection, shame, progress, guilt, encouragement, and remorse in endeavor to understand my place in life.

I am fortunate to have become the man I am. Thankfully, I have had so much help along the way. From the unconditional love of my family, to the guidance and direction of people gracious enough to see past my status as an inmate, each person contributed to the evolution of my maturity. Along with a formal education and personal enrichment learning I gained what was integral for the self-edification that affirmed my value as a thinking, rational, decent, moral human being.

Each avenue afforded to me by law to express my remorse has been used by me. This statement allows me another opportunity and I want to communicate my apology again. I am sorry and will forever be for the suffering I caused the Horan family. My contrition not only resides in words, but also my actions and service to others.

My description of growth and maturity in addition to the accompanying document are what I offer as evidence of change. A change that created a value system I cannot imagine living without. I am not the same juvenile that failed David Horan, his family, my family, and society. Before you is an adult, rehabilitated, and humble that seeks a second chance in life. Hopefully all that I have submitted will provide you with insight into assessing my maturity, atonement, and remorse.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nicholas Aponte". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Nicholas Aponte

**LETTERS OF SUPPORT / RECOMMENDATION,
PRISON STAFF**

August 1, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

It is an honor to have been asked to submit a letter of recommendation on behalf of Nicholas Aponte. I have had the privilege and honor of working alongside him at MacDougall Correctional Facility in the medical infirmary for approximately 5 years. In all those years, I have witnessed caring, compassion, and concern demonstrated by Mr. Aponte that surpasses any I have witnessed anywhere or anytime throughout my nursing career. He shows a genuine respect for all he interacts with, whether it be medical personnel, custody staff, or inmate, despite what is offered to him. I have seen a level of patience and tolerance within Mr. Aponte, which I truly appreciate and admire.

We have had some difficult inmates as patients within the medical infirmary, to put it mildly. I have seen Mr. Aponte take those patients and make it his personal mission to ensure their comfort, safety, and well-being. Those same inmates are often ignored or disregarded by some of the other CNAs. But not Mr. Aponte. He is the ultimate advocate, the ultimate caregiver, for his patients, no matter their attitude or presentation.

Mr. Aponte has a marvelous work ethic as well. I have never seen him miss a shift, and those shifts are seven days a week. No vacation, no day off. He comes to work ill, injured, and exhausted. But he takes pride in his job and his work, and above all else, I believe he truly loves what he does and does not want to miss a minute of it.

There are quite a few men at MCI that need to be where they are. I do not know why Mr. Aponte is incarcerated and I do not care to know. I make an effort to live in the present and remain ignorant about a person's past. I am then able to judge a person honestly and accurately by looking at the person they are, not at the person they were. I believe, with all my heart, that Mr. Aponte does not need to be locked behind the concrete walls that he is. I believe that society is being done an injustice to not allow this man to walk freely among them. He is a unique and remarkable human being, and I am honestly honored to have been able to work with him for as long as I have. I know, in my heart, that Mr. Aponte will only continue to be the person he is, not the child he was, when he made the mistake he did that caused his incarceration. I will truly miss him, both personally and professionally when he is finally allowed to walk out that door.

Sincerely,



Elisabeth Drouin, RN
MacDougall Correctional Institute



MACDOUGALL-WALKER CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION
MACDOUGALL BUILDING

1153 EAST STREET SOUTH
SUFFIELD, CONNECTICUT 06080

9/1/12

Dear Sir/Madam:

My name is Sandra L. Oliver and I have been working for the Department of Corrections in Suffield, Ct. for nearly twenty years now. My professional title is that of Correctional Head Nurse in the Infirmary at MacDougall-Walker Correctional Institute. Our Infirmary is considered a high functioning Hospital Unit recognized by the A.C.A. nationally.

Mr. Aponte applied for and was accepted into our Certified Nursing Assistant Program in 2008. This was one of the first programs introduced into the Prison System here in Ct. The C.N.A.'s as they are called, have become an extension of the licensed nursing staff. They are held to the same standards of providing compassionate and clinically appropriate health care to other inmates within the DOC.

Being in a prison setting tends to foster a lot of negativism and a "them" versus "us" mentality. You would not think that this would render any close relationship by any stretch of the imagination. However, nursing being what it is creates a bonding, respectful, tactile and empathetic atmosphere.

How do you separate these feelings in an offender program? It is extremely hard to accomplish but it can be done and it is being done with individuals as dedicated as Mr. Aponte. He has made this transition a lot easier with his sound, confident and strong personality. He is genuine and seems effortless in trying to achieve his ultimate goals.

Therefore, I only ask that you give your utmost consideration when making a decision that will affect his future in society.

Sincerely,

 CHN



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION
24 WOLCOTT HILL ROAD
WETHERSFIELD, CONNECTICUT 06109

Wanda White-Lewis RN MS
Director of Field Services

Tel: (860)692-7643
Fax: (860)692-7646

July 23, 2012.

To Whom It May Concern:

This is a letter of reference for Mr. Nicholas Aponte. He is currently a Certified Nursing Assistant at MacDougall Correctional Institution in Suffield, CT.

Mr. Aponte understands the role and responsibility of a Certified Nursing Assistant and performs his duties in a professional manner. He keeps information strictly confidential and reports significant patient findings to licensed personnel as soon as possible. Mr. Aponte understands how to communicate respectfully to his patients and is able to deal well with difficult patients. He shows the ability to care for patients with physical and cognitive impairments, such as dementia, blindness, deafness and physical immobility.

I am the Director of the Certified Nursing Assistant Program. Mr. Aponte performed well in class and received a grade of 92% on testing. I have seen him work and can attest to his mastery of C.N.A. skills. He would be a fine addition to your staff.

Sincerely,

Wanda White-Lewis RN MS

Wanda White-Lewis RN MS
Program Director
Health Services Unit
CT Department of Correction

July 22, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Nicholas Aponte who has been working as a CNA in the MacDougall Infirmary since 2008. I advised him on his first evening of work, that he would have some very big shoes to fill, as the previous CNA in the position was well regarded.

I needn't have given that forecasting statement, as Nicholas has proven himself to be much more than his predecessor. Mr. Aponte is reliable, dedicated, caring, responsible, and reputable. I have relied on his observation skills to give me an accurate picture of a patient's status in the infirmary. He is first to report anything out of the ordinary with any of the patients in his care. He is reliable with the accuracy of the information reported and recorded. He is a requested CNA by many of the inmate patients in the infirmary.

I have observed Mr. Aponte's interpersonal skills. He is able to observe and calmly diffuse potentially adverse situations. He keeps a level head, and can lead others by example. He has a nurturing nature, which is a necessary skill in this profession.

He has shown that he is making a concerted effort to make the most of his time incarcerated in improving himself. He is a self-starter and is pursuing advancement in his education. His transition from adolescent to man, despite the environment he's had to negotiate, is a testament to his true grit.

I wholeheartedly endorse his appeal to the Juvenile Sentencing Reform Act program, as he has shown that with self-determination he has turned his life around. I know he has the support of his family in keeping his focus on doing good in the community.

I am willing to speak with you and answer any questions you may have about Nicholas Aponte.

Karen Hickton RN, CHN

Karen Hickton, RN CHN
MacDougall Correctional Institution
1153 East St. South
Suffield, CT 06080
860.627.2132



Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut

Marker Shop & Plastic Bag Shop

June 7, 2005

RE: Nicholas Aponte, #240834

Dear Sir/Madam:

My name is Alan Brown and I have been working for the Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut as a supervisor for over 19 Years. As I approach retirement at the end of this year, it is my privilege to present this recommendation for Nicholas Aponte.

Nicholas began working with the Marker Shop license plate program in December 2000. After two months of being a machine operator, we selected him to be the next clerk of our shop. Shop clerk comes with many responsibilities, and a level of trust from the other supervisors and myself is a prerequisite. In addition, another shop, the Plastic Bag Shop, was created in 2002 and his duties grew to being clerk for two shops.

Prison being prison, the clerk position can be a position of intense suspiciousness from the other inmates because of the close working environment of the clerk and supervisors. But despite what negative labels were directed toward him, he maintained great interpersonal skills and professionalism.

Working with Nicholas the past five years has opened my eyes to actual inmate self-improvement. In all my years of supervising, I have never seen such growth in learning the way he exhibited. He began with learning how to operate basic computer functions and in seven months created complex databases streamlining Marker Shop, and eventually Plastic Bag Shop, operations.

To say that he made our jobs less burdensome is an understatement. His records keeping, filing system, inventory control, and countless inventory reports are impeccable. Outside visitors such as accountants who visit our shop twice a year have been so impressed with his workmanship and personality that they inquired about his release so they can hire him.

Because I can only supervise Nicholas six hours a day for five days a week, my observation of him is somewhat limited. But it is my belief that he is truly a genuine person looking for forgiveness and an opportunity to show society he has something to offer. He and I have spoken on several occasions about the crime he participated in at the age of 17, and he has always expressed his contrition.

Ultimately, you will have the choice of determining whether he can rejoin society earlier than his prison sentence allows, but I ask that you please take into consideration the experience I have with him and my evaluation of his character and contribution to our workplace. He has been a pleasure to work with. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alan Brown", is written over a horizontal line.

Alan Brown, General Supervisor 1

CC: Inmate File

900 HIGHLAND AVE • CHESHIRE, CT • 06410
PHONE: 203-250-2622 • FAX: 203-272-8278

PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS



**Inmate Performance Evaluation Form
Connecticut Department of Correction**

CN 100101
REV 6/26/02

Inmate Name Aponte, Nicholas	Inmate no. 240834
MacDougall Infirmery	Date 8/27/12
Assignment Title CNA	Evaluation 1/12/12-8/27/12

Criteria	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Attendance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Initiative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Productivity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Attitude	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Overall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Comments and Recommendations: I Lieutenant Diaz is a second shift supervisor at the MacDougall/Walker facility and has supervised inmate Aponte, Nicholas #240834 for approximately 5 years. During this period Inmate Aponte worked his entire time in the infirmery as a CNA. Inmate Aponte has done an outstanding job assisting other inmates in the infirmery and staff during incidents. Inmate Aponte goes above and beyond what is asked of him and has been put in some stressful situations proving to perform accordingly i.e. acutely disruptive inmate, deceased inmate.

Inmate Aponte carries himself in a respectful manner and takes pride in his duties. Inmate Aponte is reliable and has never been late for duty nor has been disciplined for any misconduct. He works effectively with the officers, nursing staff, and inmate population.

Inmate signature <i>Nicholas Aponte</i>	
Supervisor signature <i>L. Diaz</i>	Title <i>Lieutenant</i>
Reviewer signature	Title



Inmate Performance Evaluation Form

Connecticut Department of Correction

CN 100101
6/26/02

Inmate name APONTE, NICHOLAS	Inmate no.
Facility MacDougall-Walker C.I.	Date 9/1/12
Assignment Title CNA	Evaluation Period

Criteria	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Attendance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Initiative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Productivity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Attitude	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Overall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Comments and Recommendations

Mr. Aponte is one of the most knowledgeable motivated CNA's that has entered our program. Offers many useful thoughtful and diversified suggestions to the betterment of care in our unit. He is a positive influence on our unit and an asset to nursing care of our inmates. Contributes highly to the overall program.

Inmate signature <i>Nicholas Aponte</i>	Title
Supervisor signature	Title
Reviewer signature <i>Janet Lewis</i>	Title <i>CHN</i>

ATTACHMENT A
INMATE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION FORM

Facility Maddougall Date 6/29/11

Inmate Name Aponte, Nicholas Number 240834

Assignment Title C.N.A

Evaluation Period _____

Criteria	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Attendance	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>
Initiative	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>
Productivity	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>
Attitude	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>
Overall	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>

Comments and Recommendations Inmate Aponte meets all criteria's
his attendance is Satisfactory never appears to be late
Comes to work with a positive and professional attitude.

Inmate Aponte takes the initiative to go above and beyond with his
duties.

Inmate Signature Nicholas Aponte

Supervisor/Title S. Martinez Correction Officer

Reviewer/Title MICHAEL R. BROWN JONA Coordinator

Overall Aponte is a Team Player and takes Pride with the
Position he holds as a Certified Nurses Aide.

ATTACHMENT A

INMATE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION FORM

Facility MACDONALD Date 10/22/09

Inmate Name Arante, Nicholas Number 240834

Assignment Title CNA

Evaluation Period 5 months

Criteria	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Attendance	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>
Initiative	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>
Productivity	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>
Attitude	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>
Overall	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>

Comments and Recommendations During the past five months five days
each week, I C/O Araya have witnessed I/M Arante 240834 carry out all tasks in a
patient, professional and positive manner. He has shown to be very good at receiving orders
and carrying them out in a timely fashion. I/M Arante maintains a courteous attitude when
dealing with medical staff, custody staff and other inmates as well.

Inmate Signature Nicholas Arante

Supervisor/Title ARRAYO / C.O.

Reviewer/Title Nicholas Arante, CHN 10-28-09

ATTACHMENT A

INMATE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION FORM

Facility MacDagall CT Date 9/20/09
 Inmate Name Nick Aponde Number 240834
 Assignment Title CNA
 Evaluation Period D8 - 09

Criteria	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Attendance	___	___	___	✓
Initiative	___	___	___	✓
Productivity	___	___	___	✓
Attitude	___	___	___	✓
Overall	___	___	___	✓

Comments and Recommendations I have always found Mr. Aponde to be a really good worker and an excellent CNA. He is always willing to help or assist in patient care/treatments, reports important findings to the nurse immediately, and takes the initiative to do extra tasks, provides quality care, ambulates the patients and works to provide good ROM exercises to bed-bound pts.
 Inmate Signature He is an asset to the CNA program.

Supervisor/Title Nicholas Aponde
 Reviewer/Title [Signature] KW / [Signature]

ATTACHMENT A

INMATE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION FORM

Facility MWCI-MB Date 9/24/09
 Inmate Name Aponte, Nicholas Number 240834
 Assignment Title CNA
 Evaluation Period October 2008- present

Criteria	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Attendance	___	___	___	✓
Initiative	___	___	___	✓
Productivity	___	___	___	✓
Attitude	___	___	___	✓
Overall	___	___	___	✓

Comments and Recommendations I have nothing but good things to say about Mr. Aponte's performance as a CNA. Always positive, always looking for ways to help, whether in the infirmary or in out-patient
 (cont)

Inmate Signature N Aponte

Supervisor/Title EDM, RN

Reviewer/Title _____

Mr. Aponte is consistently respectful, compassionate, and caring. Not just toward the inmate patients but towards medical & custody staff as well. We are all fortunate to have him as part of

ATTACHMENT A

INMATE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION FORM

Facility MacDougal Date 9/21/09
 Inmate Name Nicholas Aponte Number 240834
 Assignment Title CNA
 Evaluation Period _____

Criteria	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Attendance	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>
Initiative	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>
Productivity	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>
Attitude	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>
Overall	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>

Comments and Recommendations Aponte arrives to work
in a timely fashion and always goes straight
to work. He shows dedication to the
inpatient inmates and always goes above and
beyond his job duties. He is a model CNA.

Inmate Signature Nicholas Aponte
 Supervisor/Title Duonne Botas, RN
 Reviewer/Title _____

Certificate of Completion

Awarded to

APONTE, NICHOLAS

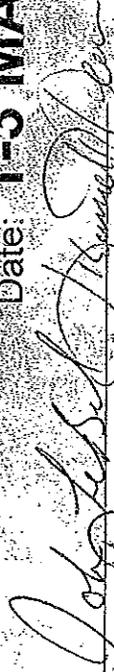
#240834

For satisfactory completion of the AVP ADVANCED Workshop

Presented by

The Alternatives to Violence Project, Inc.

Date: **1-3 MAY 09**



John L. Smith



Catherine Boucher



Facilitator

AVP, Inc. of Southwestern New England

Certificate of Completion

is awarded to

Nicholas Aponte

#240834

*For the successful and satisfactory completion
of the **Embracing Fatherhood Program (10 weeks)**
presented at the MacDougall-Walker Correctional Institution*

Date: **2 JUN 08**

Facilitator:



OC Marc Cooper

Certificate of Completion

Awarded to

Aponte, Nicholas

#240834

For satisfactory completion of the AVP BASIC Workshop

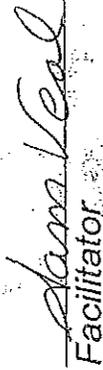
Presented by

The Alternatives to Violence Project, Inc.

Date: 29 FEB 08 – 2 MAR 08



Valeria Pyle



Facilitator

AVP, Inc. of Southwestern New England

Hospice, Palliative and Bereavement Volunteer
Program Members

Aponte, Nicholas

Barboza, Manuel

Bell, Leon

Birch, Ralph

Carter, Daniel *

Davis, James

Dixon, James *

English, Kyle

Fernandez, Joseph *

Gayle, Alkeith

Henderson, Mitchell

Holbrook, Michael*

Jimenez, Francisco *

Lindo, Bryon

Lugo, Benito *

Martinez, Johnny

McClam, Gregory

Moye, John *

Ortiz, Wilfredo *

Price, Marcus*

Robinson, Gregory

Santiago, Edison *

Singleton, Ronald *

Smith, Aaron

Stokes, Michael

Sullivan, Brian

Sulser, Troy *

Walker, Vaughn

Wargo, Lance

New Graduates

CERTIFICATE

OF COMPLETION

awarded to

Nicholas Aponte

In recognition of successful completion and participation in the

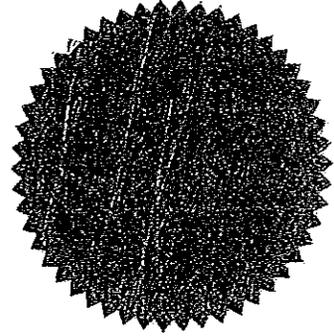
FAMILY TIME PROGRAM

with Families in Crisis, Inc.

Held at MacDougall Correctional Institution, #240834

Sharon Riley Seymour
Sharon Riley-Seymour, Group Facilitator

on this 15th day of May, 2007.





CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Nicholas Aponte

#240834

has successfully completed the

Tier II Addiction Services Program

Program at the MacDougall-Walker Correctional Institution.

1 March 2007


B. Segura, CCS, LADC


F. O'Gorman, CSAC, CAC



CHESHIRE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #7



CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

EVENING PROGRAM – INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY

PRESENTED TO

NICHOLAS APONTE

Instructor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Nicholas Aponte", written over a horizontal line.

Principal

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Joseph Berwin", written over a horizontal line.

MAY 13, 2003
Date

Unified School District #1

Certificate of Achievement
is presented to

NICHOLAS APONTE

in recognition of completing
the enrichment course entitled

WORKPLACE SAFETY

Superintendent
of Schools

11-7-00

Date

Principal

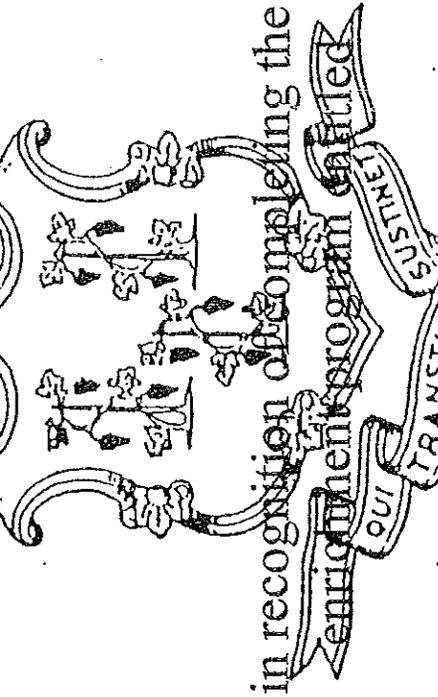
Teacher



Certificate of Achievement

is presented to

Nicholas Agente #240834



Anger Management Group

C. R. F. W. _____
Group leader

David J. _____
Facilitator

Mary Morgan Wynn
Warden

8/13/97
Date



Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut Marker Shop & Plastic Bag Shop

June 7, 2005

RE: Nicholas Aponte, #240834

Dear Sir/Madam:

My name is Alan Brown and I have been working for the Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut as a supervisor for over 19 Years. As I approach retirement at the end of this year, it is my privilege to present this recommendation for Nicholas Aponte.

Nicholas began working with the Marker Shop license plate program in December 2000. After two months of being a machine operator, we selected him to be the next clerk of our shop. Shop clerk comes with many responsibilities, and a level of trust from the other supervisors and myself is a prerequisite. In addition, another shop, the Plastic Bag Shop, was created in 2002 and his duties grew to being clerk for two shops.

Prison being prison, the clerk position can be a position of intense suspiciousness from the other inmates because of the close working environment of the clerk and supervisors. But despite what negative labels were directed toward him, he maintained great interpersonal skills and professionalism.

Working with Nicholas the past five years has opened my eyes to actual inmate self-improvement. In all my years of supervising, I have never seen such growth in learning the way he exhibited. He began with learning how to operate basic computer functions and in seven months created complex databases streamlining Marker Shop, and eventually Plastic Bag Shop, operations.

To say that he made our jobs less burdensome is an understatement. His records keeping, filing system, inventory control, and countless inventory reports are impeccable. Outside visitors such as accountants who visit our shop twice a year have been so impressed with his workmanship and personality that they inquired about his release so they can hire him.

Because I can only supervise Nicholas six hours a day for five days a week, my observation of him is somewhat limited. But it is my belief that he is truly a genuine person looking for forgiveness and an opportunity to show society he has something to offer. He and I have spoken on several occasions about the crime he participated in at the age of 17, and he has always expressed his contrition.

Ultimately, you will have the choice of determining whether he can rejoin society earlier than his prison sentence allows, but I ask that you please take into consideration the experience I have with him and my evaluation of his character and contribution to our workplace. He has been a pleasure to work with. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Respectfully,



Alan Brown, General Supervisor 1

CC: Inmate File

900 HIGHLAND AVE • CHESHIRE, CT • 06410
PHONE: 203-250-2622 • FAX: 203-272-8278

ATTACHMENT A

INMATE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION FORM

Facility MACDOUGALL Date 10/22/09
 Inmate Name Aponte, Nicholas Number 240834
 Assignment Title CNA
 Evaluation Period 5 months

Criteria	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Attendance	___	___	___	✓
Initiative	___	___	___	✓
Productivity	___	___	___	✓
Attitude	___	___	___	✓
Overall	___	___	___	✓

Comments and Recommendations During the past five months, five days
each week, I, C/O Arayo have witnessed JIM Aponte, 240834 carry out all tasks in a
patient, professional and positive manner. He has shown to be very good at receiving orders
and carrying them out in a timely fashion. JIM Aponte maintains a courteous attitude when
dealing with medical staff, custody staff and other inmates as well.

Inmate Signature Nicholas Aponte
 Supervisor/Title ARROYO / C.O.
 Reviewer/Title Michael B. [Signature], PHN 10-28-09

**ATTACHMENT A
INMATE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION FORM**

Facility MacDougall Date 6/29/11
 Inmate Name Aponte, Nicholas Number 240834
 Assignment Title C.N.A
 Evaluation Period _____

Criteria	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Attendance	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>
Initiative	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>
Productivity	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>
Attitude	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>
Overall	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>

Comments and Recommendations Inmate Aponte meets all criteria's
his attendance is Satisfactory never appears to be late
Comes to work with a positive and professional attitude.

Inmate Aponte takes the initiative to go above and beyond with his
duties.

Inmate Signature Nicholas Aponte

Supervisor/Title S. Martinez Correction Officer

Reviewer/Title Michael R. Johnson CNA Coordinator

Overall Aponte is a Team Player and takes pride with the
 position he holds as a Certified Nurses Aide.

ATTACHMENT A

INMATE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION FORM

Facility MacDagall CT Date 9/26/09
 Inmate Name Nick Aponte Number 240834
 Assignment Title CNA
 Evaluation Period D8 - 09

Criteria	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Attendance	___	___	___	✓
Initiative	___	___	___	✓
Productivity	___	___	___	✓
Attitude	___	___	___	✓
Overall	___	___	___	✓

Comments and Recommendations I have always found Mr. Aponte to be a really good worker and an excellent CNA. He is always willing to help or assist to patient care/treatments, reports important findings to the nurse immediately and takes the initiative to do extra tasks, provides quality care, ambulates the patients and works to provide good Rom exercises to bed-bound inmates. He is an asset to the CNA program.

Supervisor/Title Nicholas Aponte
 Reviewer/Title [Signature] / [Signature]

ATTACHMENT A

INMATE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION FORM

Facility MWCI-MB Date 9/24/09
 Inmate Name Aponte, Nicholas Number 240834
 Assignment Title CNA
 Evaluation Period October 2008- present

Criteria	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Attendance	___	___	___	✓
Initiative	___	___	___	✓
Productivity	___	___	___	✓
Attitude	___	___	___	✓
Overall	___	___	___	✓

Comments and Recommendations I have nothing but good things to say about Mr. Aponte's performance as a CNA. Always positive, always looking for ways to help, whether in the infirmary or in out-patient.

Inmate Signature N Aponte (cont)

Supervisor/Title EDM, RN

Reviewer/Title _____

Mr. Aponte is consistently respectful, compassionate, and caring. Not just toward the inmate patients but towards medical & custody staff as well. We are all fortunate to have him as part of our team!

ATTACHMENT A

INMATE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION FORM

Facility MacDougal Date 9/21/09
 Inmate Name Nicholas Aponte Number 240834
 Assignment Title CNA
 Evaluation Period _____

Criteria	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Attendance	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>
Initiative	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>
Productivity	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>
Attitude	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>
Overall	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>

Comments and Recommendations Aponte arrives to work in a timely fashion and always goes straight to work. He shows dedication to the inpatient inmates and always goes above and beyond his job duties. He is a model CNA.

Inmate Signature Nicholas Aponte
 Supervisor/Title Dunnie Botoo, RN
 Reviewer/Title _____



Inmate Performance Evaluation Form

Connecticut Department of Correction

CN 100
REV 6/26

Inmate name Nicholas Aponte Inmate no. 240836

Facility MacDougall-Walker C.I., MacDougall Bldg. Date 8/7/07

Assignment title Library Aide Evaluation period 7/11/07 - 7/11/07

Criteria	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Attendance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Initiative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Productivity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Attitude	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Overall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Comments and Recommendations:

Mr. Aponte was a library aide until 8/1/07 when he was reclassified to work at the gym. Although Mr. Aponte did not work at the library very long, his contributions were significant. I asked Mr. Aponte to create a database that would act as a catalog of books for the library. Using MS Access, Mr. Aponte created a database that exceeded expectations in terms of professionalism, function, appearance and report-producing capabilities. He dedicated himself to assigned tasks with single-minded diligence. Mr. Aponte's work was consistently high-quality and high-quantity.

Inmate signature Nicholas Aponte

Supervisor signature J. Boss

Title Librarian

Reviewer signature K. Strawn

Title Principal II

**CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION
WORK SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

CHESHIRE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

NAME: APONTE, N. **INMATE NUMBER:** 240834 **REPORT DATE:** 6/20/05

WORK ASSIGNMENT : MARKER SHOP & PLASTIC BAG DEPT. **START DATE:** 10/4/00

REGULAR REPORT: X **POOR WORK REPORT:**

Please record your observations concerning this Inmate's general adjustment in his work assignment.
Check Excellent, Good, Fair, or Poor, and explain Excellent or Poor Attitude answers.

WORK ATTITUDE:

- 1. Attitude toward & cooperation with officers:**
- 2. Attitude toward other inmates:**
- 3. Supervision of other inmates:**
- 4. Attitude toward regulations:**
- 5. Dependability:**

<u>EXCELLENT</u>	<u>GOOD</u>	<u>FAIR</u>	<u>POOR</u>
X			
X			
N/A			
X			
X			

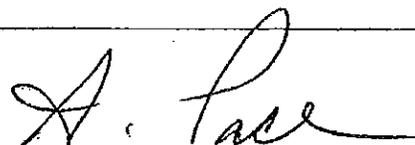
- 1. SPECIFIC WORK ASSIGNED:** Clerk for the Marker Shop and Plastic Bag Department.
- 2. INTEREST IN WORK:** Mr. Aponte goes above and beyond his normal every day duties within Industries. He continues to demonstrate professionalism and takes a great deal of pride with his job.
- 3. WORK ACCOMPLISHMENTS:** Too many to list although work accomplishments include, but not limited to: filing, record keeping, materials ordering, monthly inventories, database creations, and work order distributions.
- 4. SPECIFIC JOB SKILLS EVIDENCED:** Mr. Aponte continuously improves his knowledge base as it pertains to his daily assignments. He has become extremely adept with computer software applications such as Microsoft Excel, Access, and Word, which helps Industries with its day to day operations.
- 5. OVERALL STATEMENT OF PERFORMANCE ON THIS JOB:** Mr. Aponte's performance has been second to none. He consistently demonstrates that he is an asset to the Industries program. If I were a business owner, I would want him working for me.

DATE COMPLETED: 6/20/05

Work Report Period Covering: 12/1/04-6/1/05

A. Pace, C.I.S. 1

SUPERVISOR'S PRINTED NAME:



SUPERVISOR'S SIGNATURE:

**CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION
WORK SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

CHESHIRE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

NAME: NICHOLAS APONTE **INMATE NUMBER:** 240834 **REPORT DATE:** 8/27/04

WORK ASSIGNMENT : PLASTIC SHOP & MARKER SHOP **START DATE:** 12 / 4 / 00

REGULAR REPORT: **POOR WORK REPORT:**

Please record your observations concerning this inmate's general adjustment in his work assignment.
Check Excellent, Good, Fair, or Poor, and explain Excellent or Poor Attitude answers.

WORK ATTITUDE:

- 1. Attitude toward & cooperation with officers:
- 2. Attitude toward other inmates:
- 3. Supervision of other inmates:
- 4. Attitude toward regulations:
- 5. Dependability:

<u>EXCELLENT</u>	<u>GOOD</u>	<u>FAIR</u>	<u>POOR</u>
X			
X			
N/A			
X			
X			

ON-THE-JOB-PERFORMANCE:

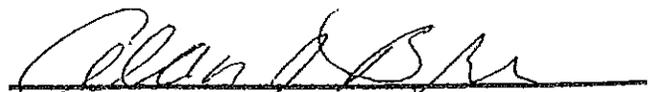
- 1. SPECIFIC WORK ASSIGNED: Clerk for the Marker Shop & Plastic Bag Shop.
 - 2. INTEREST IN WORK: Self motivated, disciplined and eager to assist at any time. Diligently works and takes pride in his work ethic and the improvement of the shops.
 - 3. WORK ACCOMPLISHMENTS: In addition to his general duties such as filing, distributing work orders for production, and records keeping, Mr. Aponte has created database programs in keeping track of work orders, sales analysis, employees, production management, and several business related functions. He has contributed immensely in inventory control, raw material ordering, & monthly inventory reports. When giving the opportunity, he has provided us with several ideas throughout the years that have been implemented and proven to be very useful.
 - 4. SPECIFIC JOB SKILLS EVIDENCED: Outstanding computer, interpersonal, & organizational skills. Great at business correspondence & reports. Understands all Microsoft Office programs with a specialized interest in Microsoft Excel, Access, & Word.
- OVERALL STATEMENT OF PERFORMANCE ON THIS JOB:** Excellent worker, dependable, thorough, & very creative. His attitude towards supervisors is excellent, very respectful and he always does what is asked of him without question. He is a pleasure to work with.

Date completed: 8/21/04

Work Report Period Covering: 1 Year 6 Months

Al Brown, Gen. Supervisor 2

SUPERVISOR'S PRINTED NAME:


SUPERVISOR'S SIGNATURE:

ATTACHMENT A
INMATE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION FORM

Facility CCC CHESHIRE Date JANUARY 9, 2002

Inmate Name APONTE Number 240834

Assignment Title OFFICE CLERK

Evaluation Period 6-MONTH

Criteria	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Excellent</u>
Attendance	___	___	___	<u>X</u>
Initiative	___	___	___	<u>X</u>
Productivity	___	___	___	<u>X</u>
Attitude	___	___	___	<u>X</u>
Overall	___	___	___	<u>X</u>

Comments and Recommendations: Mr. Aponte is a key piece of the front office. He does from fil-
ing to shop inventory. He also helps with all the plate reissue paperwork, from reports to shipping
authorizations. In the ten years that I have been here he is by far the best employee that I have ever
had in the Marker Shop.

Inmate Signature Nicholas Aponte

Supervisor / Title B. Petracca SCAH

Reviewer / Title _____



Inmate Performance Evaluation Form

Connecticut Department of Correction

CN 100101
6/28/02

Inmate name *Nicholas Aponte*
Facility *MacDougall-Walker C.I.*

Inmate no. *240834*

Date *6/3/08*

Assignment Title Student *Recreation Janitor*

Evaluation Period *1/2*

Criteria	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Attendance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Initiative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Productivity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Attitude	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Overall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Comments and Recommendations

Mr. Aponte has done an excellent job in the first year he has been here, he is always here to help keep the unit clean and has a very good attitude towards me and the other workers. He has done an excellent job in getting the gym ready for O.C.A. compliance. He has learned how to operate some of our programs but needs to be more aggressive in learning all of the programs we run here. Overall he has been a pleasure to work with.

Inmate signature *Nicholas Aponte*

Supervisor signature *Brian LaBeaume*

Reviewer signature

Title *Recreation Supervisor*

Title



Inmate Performance Evaluation Form

Connecticut Department of Correction

CN 1001
REV 6/26/

Inmate name Nicholas Aponte Inmate no. 240834

Facility MacDougall-Walker C.I., MacDougall Bldg. Date 8/7/07

Assignment title Library Aide Evaluation period 4/1/07 - 7/1/07

Criteria	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Attendance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Initiative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Productivity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Attitude	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Overall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Comments and Recommendations:

Mr. Aponte was a library aide until 8/1/07, when he was reclassified to work at the gym. Although Mr. Aponte did not work at the library very long, his contributions were significant. I asked Mr. Aponte to create a database that would act as a catalog of books for the library. Using MS Access, Mr. Aponte created a database that exceeded expectations in terms of professionalism, function, appearance, and report-producing capabilities. He dedicated himself to assigned tasks with single-minded diligence. Mr. Aponte's work was consistently high-quality and high-quantity.

Inmate signature Nicholas Aponte

Supervisor signature J. Boss Title Librarian

Reviewer signature K. Skan Title Principal II

**CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION
WORK SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

CHESHIRE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

NAME: APONTE, N. **INMATE NUMBER:** 240834 **REPORT DATE:** 6/20/05

WORK ASSIGNMENT : MARKER SHOP & PLASTIC BAG DEPT. **START DATE:** 10/4/00

REGULAR REPORT: X **POOR WORK REPORT:**

Please record your observations concerning this inmate's general adjustment in his work assignment. Check Excellent, Good, Fair, or Poor, and explain Excellent or Poor Attitude answers.

WORK ATTITUDE:

- 1. Attitude toward & cooperation with officers:**
- 2. Attitude toward other inmates:**
- 3. Supervision of other inmates:**
- 4. Attitude toward regulations:**
- 5. Dependability:**

<u>EXCELLENT</u>	<u>GOOD</u>	<u>FAIR</u>	<u>POOR</u>
X			
X			
N/A			
X			
X			

SPECIFIC WORK ASSIGNED: Clerk for the Marker Shop and Plastic Bag Department.

INTEREST IN WORK: Mr. Aponte goes above and beyond his normal every day duties within Industries. He continues to demonstrate professionalism and takes a great deal of pride with his job.

WORK ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Too many to list although work accomplishments include, but not limited to: filing, record keeping, materials ordering, monthly inventories, database creations, and work order distributions.

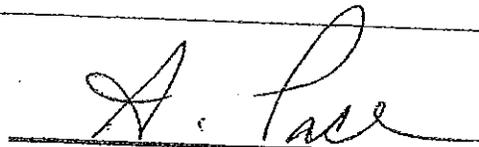
SPECIFIC JOB SKILLS EVIDENCED: Mr. Aponte continuously improves his knowledge base as it pertains to his daily assignments. He has become extremely adept with computer software applications such as Microsoft Excel, Access, and Word, which helps Industries with its day to day operations.

OVERALL STATEMENT OF PERFORMANCE ON THIS JOB: Mr. Aponte's performance has been second to none. He consistently demonstrates that he is an asset to the Industries program. If I were a business owner, I would want him working for me.

DATE COMPLETED: 6/20/05

Work Report Period Covering: 12/1/04-6/1/05

A. Pace, C.I.S. 1



**CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION
WORK SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

CHESHIRE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

NAME: NICHOLAS APONTE **INMATE NUMBER:** 240834 **REPORT DATE:** 8/27/04

WORK ASSIGNMENT : PLASTIC SHOP & MARKER SHOP **START DATE:** 12 / 4 / 00

REGULAR REPORT: X

POOR WORK REPORT:

Please record your observations concerning this inmate's general adjustment in his work assignment. Check Excellent, Good, Fair, or Poor, and explain Excellent or Poor Attitude answers.

WORK ATTITUDE:

	<u>EXCELLENT</u>	<u>GOOD</u>	<u>FAIR</u>	<u>POOR</u>
1. <u>Attitude toward & cooperation with officers:</u>	X			
2. <u>Attitude toward other inmates:</u>	X			
3. <u>Supervision of other inmates:</u>	N/A			
4. <u>Attitude toward regulations:</u>	X			
5. <u>Dependability:</u>	X			

1. Attitude toward & cooperation with officers:

2. Attitude toward other inmates:

3. Supervision of other inmates:

4. Attitude toward regulations:

5. Dependability:

ON-THE-JOB-PERFORMANCE:

1. **SPECIFIC WORK ASSIGNED:** Clerk for the Marker Shop & Plastic Bag Shop.
 2. **INTEREST IN WORK:** Self motivated, disciplined and eager to assist at any time. Diligently works and takes pride in his work ethic and the improvement of the shops.
 3. **WORK ACCOMPLISHMENTS:** In addition to his general duties such as filing, distributing work orders for production, and records keeping, Mr. Aponte has created database programs in keeping track of work orders, sales analysis, employees, production management, and several business related functions. He has contributed immensely in inventory control, raw material ordering, & monthly inventory reports. When giving the opportunity, he has provided us with several ideas throughout the years that have been implemented and proven to be very useful.
 4. **SPECIFIC JOB SKILLS EVIDENCED:** Outstanding computer, interpersonal, & organizational skills. Great at business correspondence & reports. Understands all Microsoft Office programs with a specialized interest in Microsoft Excel, Access, & Word.
- OVERALL STATEMENT OF PERFORMANCE ON THIS JOB:** Excellent worker, dependable, thorough, & very creative. His attitude towards supervisors is excellent, very respectful and he always does what is asked of him without question. He is a pleasure to work with.

Date completed: 8/21/04

Work Report Period Covering: 1 Year 6 Months

Al Brown, Gen. Supervisor 2

SUPERVISOR'S PRINTED NAME:


SUPERVISOR'S SIGNATURE:

**CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION
WORK SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

CHESHIRE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

NAME: APONTE, N. **INMATE NUMBER:** 240834 **REPORT DATE:** 3/10/03

WORK ASSIGNMENT : PLASTIC BAG SHOP

START DATE: 12/4/00

REGULAR REPORT: X

POOR WORK REPORT:

Please record your observations concerning this inmate's general adjustment in his work assignment.
Check Excellent, Good, Fair, or Poor, and explain Excellent or Poor Attitude answers.

WORK ATTITUDE:

1. Attitude toward & cooperation with officers:

2. Attitude toward other inmates:

3. Supervision of other inmates:

4. Attitude toward regulations:

5. Dependability:

<u>EXCELLENT</u>	<u>GOOD</u>	<u>FAIR</u>	<u>POOR</u>
X			
X			
N/A			
X			
X			

ON-THE-JOB-PERFORMANCE:

1. SPECIFIC WORK ASSIGNED: PLASTIC BAG & MARKER SHOP CLERK. ASSIST IN INVENTORY, CREATES REPORTS, LOGS IN INVENTORY, FILING

2. INTEREST IN WORK: ABOVE AND BEYOND ANY CLERK THAT HAS WORKED FOR INDUSTRIES

3. WORK ACCOMPLISHMENTS: ASSIST IN THE STATE REISSUE PROGRAM & PLASTIC BAG DEPT. SETUP

4. SPECIFIC JOB SKILLS EVIDENCED: PROFICIENT IN MICROSOFT ACCESS, MS WORD, EXCEL, PUBLISHER, AND YES I CAN! INVENTORY PROGRAM

OVERALL STATEMENT OF PERFORMANCE ON THIS JOB: MR. APONTE GOES ABOVE ANY CLERK I HAVE EVER HAD WORK FOR ME. HIS SKILL LEVEL IS VERY HIGH. HE IS ALWAYS COMING UP WITH GOOD DEAS. MR. APONTE BY FAR IS A HUGE HELP TO ME AND THE MARKER SHOP.

Date Completed: 3/10/03

Work Report Period Covering: 6 Month

S.PETRACCA C.I.S. 2

SUPERVISOR'S PRINTED NAME:



 SUPERVISOR'S SIGNATURE:

ATTACHMENT A
INMATE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION FORM

Facility CCC CHESHIRE Date JANUARY 9, 2002

Inmate Name APONTE Number 240834

Assignment Title OFFICE CLERK

Evaluation Period 6-MONTH

Criteria	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Excellent</u>
Attendance	___	___	___	<u> X </u>
Initiative	___	___	___	<u> X </u>
Productivity	___	___	___	<u> X </u>
Attitude	___	___	___	<u> X </u>
Overall	___	___	___	<u> X </u>

Comments and Recommendations: Mr. Aponte is a key piece of the front office. He does from fil-
ing to shop inventory. He also helps with all the plate reissue paperwork, from reports to shipping
authorizations. In the ten years that I have been here he is by far the best employee that I have ever
had in the Marker Shop.

Inmate Signature Nicholas Aponte

Supervisor / Title B. Petraceo SCPT

Reviewer / Title _____

LETTERS OF SUPPORT / FAMILY & FRIENDS

Leslie Aponte
63 Oak Hill Ave
Waterbury, CT 06708

September 23, 2012

To whom it may concern,

My name is Leslie Aponte and I am proud to say that I am Nicholas Aponte's mother. I don't mean any disrespect by using the word "Proud" simply because I very well know the Pain that was caused by the crime that was committed almost 17 years ago. To the family of the victim David Horan, I just want to let you know that the man that I visit twice a week for the past 17 years, is someone that any mother would be proud of today.

Somewhere along the way throughout the past years, I have become the student in our relationship and Nicholas has become the teacher. Nicholas is one of the smartest and most caring individual that I know. I go to him for several things such as advice, knowledge, and understanding. I go to him because of all of these qualities that he possesses. All of these qualities he has taught himself, within the compounds of those prison walls. He has never let those prison walls consume him.

He has stayed positive and has educated himself in all aspects of life, from humanity to his academic skills. Nicholas has not spent his life sentence trying to get out. On the contrary he has continued to educate himself and has accepted his punishment to the best of his abilities. I've paid for his education for in which he is currently going for his bachelor's degree. Which is by far more then I was able to accomplish, for this I am also very proud of him. He has achieved what I couldn't do; I have no High School diploma because I had him at the age of 16.

Nicholas currently works in the infirmary of the facility and also with hospice. He said to me one day how he was so proud to be in the same room with people whom were taking their last breath here on earth. That he was proud to be there with them and let them know that they were with someone that truly cared. This is the person that makes me so proud.

He has also said to me that with all of the experience that he has taking care of others, he would make sure that no one else would ever need to take care of me when I get older. While no one truly wants to get old, I look forward to that time in my life in which I can spend my last days on this earth with my son by my side.

Nicholas wants to become a nurse when he comes home. As well as volunteer a lot of his time with those in need. I will try to do all that I can in order to help him accomplish this dream. I have watched Nicholas grow up in prison. Seventeen years of his life out in the world and the other seventeen years locked behind bars. I believe that the prison system should be proud of the person that he is today.

Nicholas has raised my grandson from within prison (his son Devin Aponte). Sending his sons mother Carey Capola whatever money he makes within prison. It's a shame to say that there are men out there that aren't fathers, those that don't pay child support or even there for their children, including his father. On the contrary he has been there for Devin since he went in, when Devin was a baby.

My grandson has always known who his father ~~is~~ from infancy. Its bitter sweet to think that his son is 18 years old since august of this year. He is now older than his father was when he went into prison. Devin loves his father to death and would do anything to make his father proud of him. He has always looked up to Nicholas, never looking down at his father at any point of his

life.

Devin is so happy to be 18 years old now because he can go see his father whenever he wants to, without having to be limited with only going with me. I have met many people in all of the time that Nicholas has been in prison. Both employees of corrections and inmates that let me know that I should be proud of my son. There is so much more that I would want you to know about Nicholas. However it would take so many more words. If Nicholas came home today he would have the love and support of so many, many people. That love him, but no one could love him as much as I.

Thank You. Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leslie Aponte". The signature is fluid and somewhat stylized, with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Leslie Aponte

Jodee Viera
63 Oak Hill Ave
Waterbury, CT 06708

September 23, 2012

To whom it may concern,

My Name is Jodee Viera. I'm seventeen years old and Nicholas is my brother. When my brother went into prison I was a baby, only 3 months old. However my mother made sure that I grew up knowing my brother. So I've been visiting my brother since I was about six months old.

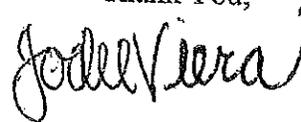
My mother always brought me to visit with her and I grew up only knowing him from prison. I know that he held me when I was a baby and knowing that always made me feel close to him. I love my brother very much and I also respect him. He has always taught me right from wrong and is always on my back about my education.

I remember when I was little; I couldn't wait to go visit him with my mom and nephew, His son Devin Aponte (whom by the way is older than I am). I was anxious to go visit him because Nick would play games with us about Math and spelling. I always wanted to beat my nephew Devin.

I now have a younger sister whom, just like me has only known my brother this way. She also loves him just as much as I do and did at that age. I was born with a disability because of a doctor's mistake. Due to this I have won a lawsuit at the age of 10 years old from it. I have 1.6 million dollars in the bank that I will receive when I turn 25 years old. However I wish every day that I could give it all to someone in order to bring my brother home,

I love my brother and am so sad to see my mother still cry whenever we talk about him. I told my brother that when he comes home I will give him all of my money, but he always says no that's yours. All I am asking is that someone would give my brother the chance to come home.

Thank You,



Jodee Viera

Elizabeth Coppola
33 Forest st.
Naugatuck, CT 06770
August 17, 2012

CT Supreme Court
231 Capitol Ave.
Hartford, CT 06106

To whom it may concern,

My name is Elizabeth Coppola. I am 63 years old and have been employed as a Cottage Nurse at Southbury Training School for twenty two years. ~~Before that i worked at Waterbury Hospital for eighteen years.~~

I have been acquainted with Nicholas Aponte for about nineteen years. He has been incarcerated for about seventeen of those years. When he was about seventeen he was a reckless young man. He was involved in a crime which was a senseless robbery in which a member of his group shot and killed a man. Nicholas is well aware how this has devastated many people, most of all the victims family. He has expressed remorse and regret countless times. Although he was reckless i sincerely do not believe his intentions were to hurt anyone.

About one year before this tragic event my fifteen year old daughter became pregnant with Nicholas' son and my grandson Devin. I was angry at him for getting my daughter pregnant at such a young age and now i am angry at him for being involved in such a devastating crime. In the meantime, my daughter and Nicholas' mother were bringing my grandson Devin to the prison to visit Nicholas. I thought that this couldn't be good for Devin, but i also knew that Nicholas was his father and there was nothing i could do about it.

Over the years i've come to see how very wrong i was. Although i always knew that Nick was not a bad person, i wasn't prepared to find out what a fine young man he turned out to be. I know now that my grandson couldn't have gotten ^{better} ~~been~~ guidance, advice or love from a father.

Nicholas has always been there for him, interested in his life and making sure he was making good choices. Devin is now eighteen years old and is a great kid. He does well in school and is very respected by his peers and well as adults. Nicholas has had no small hand in that. Devin has been living in my home for the past six years and hasn't given his grandfather or I anything but great joy.

Since Nicholas has been incarcerated he received his CNA, associates degree and is working on his bachelor's degree. He is proud of his achievement and truly wants to help other people. It has come to my attention that Nicholas will be requesting a sentence reduction. I sincerely hope that you will seriously consider this request. Please note that Nicholas is not the same immature teenager he once was and that his incarceration and his love for his family has enlightened him and made him the fine young man he is today. I feel he is truly sorry for the heartache he has caused and if given the chance he will persure his desire to help other people.

Respectfully,
Elizabeth Coppola

Elizabeth Coppola

Devin Aponte
33 Forest St.
Naugatuck, CT 06770
September 20, 2012

To whom it may concern:

My name is Devin Aponte, I am 18 years old and Nicholas Aponte is my father.

Although I have only known my father while he's been incarcerated, he is the closest person to me. My father is the one person in my life who taught me right from wrong. He has always made me see the importance of an education, which in turn has kept me out of trouble. As long as I could remember my dad has repeated the words "Be a leader, not a follower". These words alone have kept me from following the wrong crowds.

I love my dad very much and always appreciate all that he has done to set the best example as a father. I can proudly say that my dad has tried to push and help me more than anyone in my life. Once I was old enough he has made sure that I understood why he was in prison and that I was told the truth. He never used prison as an excuse to not help me with anything. He has always been here for me.

If my father Nicholas Aponte was able to come home sooner than his sentence time, I know he would be a great role model. I believe it would not only benefit myself but also many others.

Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,



Devin N. Aponte

Miguel Rodriguez
195 Lincoln Street
Stratford, CT 06614
(203) 687-0138

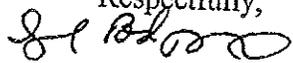
November 4, 2012

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter in support and consideration for a sentence modification for Nicholas Aponte. Nicolas is my brother and codefendant in this case. I was release over twelve years ago and have become a productive member of our society. In those twelve years I have graduated college with an Associate's Degree in Business management, have volunteered time at the soup kitchen, worked with a local pastor and my current employer on collecting toys for children in New Haven lower income neighborhood, and finally I have worked for the same company for eleven years and worked my way from an Assistant Manager to my current title District Manager.

I am a focused person who knows what he wants and I knew I would not return to prison. The day I was released I had a job interview setup for two hours later, hired on the spot, and started work the very next day. I took my time in incarceration to reflect back on my crime and made a commitment to live as an honest and productive member of society. I also took every opportunity the correctional facility had to offer as well as being a part of a tutoring and reading program. I am explaining all of my accomplishments to show the similarities between my brother and myself. Just like me Nicholas has taken every opportunity that corrections offered such as: becoming an Optical Lab Technician (1998-2000), Industry Shop Clerk (2000-2006), Librarian's Aide (2006-2007), Recreational Aide (2007-2008), and a Certified Nursing Assistant (2008-present). Nicholas never turned down any program or job that was offered, because he wanted to acquire new skill sets and working experience. Also our mother and I have support Nicholas in paying for him to further his education; Nicholas has a obtained an Associate's Degree majoring in Psychology and is currently working towards his Bachelor's Degree.

So in conclusion I would like to say thank you for taking the request for a sentence modification for Nicholas Aponte. Nicholas is loved and supported by his family and will continue to be so upon him being released. He will have a place to stay in my house and also giving a job in my company which I own Time2Jump, LLC until he is able to complete his education or get into the career of his choice.

Respectfully,

Miguel Rodriguez

Tuesday April 5, 2011

To whom it may concern,

My name is Malcolm Mattice, I live at 58 pachaug trail Monroe Ct. 06468. I am writing this letter in behalf of my friend, Nicholas Aponte, #240834. The purpose of this letter is to support Mr. Aponte in any way as an effort to establish what a fine family friend he is and that I believe he is an upright and honest person, someone with integrity and character, even though I find it hard to put into words, I will try to capture the image of the man I have come to know respect and love as if he was a member of my own family. When we first met it was about a year ago, I was impressed by his direct honesty, his compassion and sensitivity. You see, he was the man that I came to trust as a primary caregiver to my disabled son, Franklin Mattice. Frank was nearly killed in an automobile accident in 2007. And still suffers as a result of his severe injuries. Both my son and I hold Mr. Aponte in the highest regard, for reasons of my sons health he has been a permanent resident of the infirmary at Macdougall-Walker C. I. Nicholas Aponte cares for my son much of that time, he treats my son with extreme kindness and compassion, revealing the true nature of the gentle loving person he is. He treats me with tremendous respect whenever we meet and whenever we talk. He writes letters for my son as dictated, you see my son has great difficulty using his hands as he suffers contracture. He helps to bath him, and with deep respect helps with areas of personal hygiene others would complain about. I also am convinced that Mr. Nicholas Aponte is responsible for saving my sons life. My sons gall bladder was failing and he was in and out of consciousness for 3 days, the medical staff present seemed more concerned as to whether my son was faking, he was not, and it was Mr. Aponte that alerted the proper staff demanding that notice was taken, and subsequent life saving measures were taken, including a trip to the hospital where Franklins now septic gall bladder was removed. If not for Nicholas, I am convinced my son would not have survived. In conclusion I want to say that Nicholas Aponte is a person, a man that I would recommend for any early release, parole, pardon, special program, or clemency. I have had to trust him with one of my most valuable and precious possession, my son, and he has never let me down or disappointed me or my son in any way. He deserves your respect and admiration as he has without question earned those things from not only myself but every person in my family and every friend I have had the opportunity tell about, I would invite Mr. Aponte to live with me if that was ever a consideration. Please accept this letter feel free to contact me personally to talk or answer any questions.

Sincerely, Malcolm Mattice

58 pachaug trail
Monroe, Ct. 06468
203-819-0656



COLLEGE DEGREE & PROGRAM CERTIFICATES

Ashworth College

In recognition of the completion of the prescribed program of study

Associate of Applied Science in
Psychology
With Honors

this degree is hereby awarded to

Nicholas Apronte

*In testimony whereof, this degree has been conferred in Atlanta, Georgia,
whereupon the undersigned have affixed their names on this
Thirtieth day of November, Two Thousand Eleven*

Rob Klapper
Rob Klapper, President, CEO



Dr. Leslie Gargiulo
Dr. Leslie Gargiulo, Ph.D., Vice President, Education



430 Technology Parkway, Norcross, Georgia 30092
1-800-224-7234 • registrar@AshworthUniversity.edu

Nicholas Aponte 240834
MAC DOUGALL-WALKER C.I.
1153 EAST STREET SOUTH
SUFFIELD, CT 06080

STUDENT'S NAME & ADDRESS:
Nicholas Aponte
MAC DOUGALL-WALKER C.I.
1153 EAST STREET SOUTH
SUFFIELD, CT 06080

PROGRAM OF STUDY:

Psychology

ISSUE DATE:

12/06/07 Unofficial Transcript

STUDENT SSN:

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

STUDENT NUMBER:

AC0110554

COURSE	DATE ENROLLED	DATE COMPLETED	GRADE	CREDITS
First Semester GPA: 3.8				
C01-Introduction to Business	5/22/01	8/06/01	A	3
C02-Business Communications I	8/01/01	10/17/01	A	3
C12-Business Law	10/10/01	12/14/01	B	3
P01-Introduction to Paralegalism I	12/10/01	2/21/02	A	3
P02-Introduction to Paralegalism II	2/15/02	5/03/02	A	3
Second Semester GPA: 3.6				
C07-Personal Finance	4/24/02	7/05/02	A	3
C05-Business Communications II	1/23/03	3/05/03	A	3
C08-American Government	3/05/03	4/25/03	A	3
P03-Torts	4/25/03	7/19/03	B	3
P04-Civil Litigation	7/19/03	8/22/03	B	3
Third Semester GPA: 4.0				
R04-Human Relations	10/20/03	11/20/03	A	3
S01-Introduction to Psychology I	11/20/03	1/07/04	A	3
S02-Introduction to Psychology II	1/07/04	2/25/04	A	3
S03-Human Growth and Development I	2/18/04	5/04/04	A	3
S04-Human Growth and Development II	5/04/04	6/17/04	A	3
Fourth Semester GPA: 3.8				
C03-Business Math	6/21/04	7/27/04	A	3
S05-Social Problems	10/29/04	2/02/05	A	3
S06-Social Psychology	1/31/05	4/15/05	A	3
S07-Abnormal Psychology	4/12/05	6/21/05	B	3
M03-Organizational Behavior	6/21/05	8/31/05	A	3
Fifth Semester GPA: 3.8				
C10-Introduction to Computers	12/30/05	3/21/06	A	3
S08-Psychology of Personality	3/21/06	5/16/06	B	3
C06-Business Ethics	5/16/06	8/01/06	A	3

REGISTRAR

Renee Mason



430 Technology Parkway, Norcross, Georgia 30092
1-800-224-7234 • registrar@AshworthUniversity.edu

Nicholas Aponte 240834
MAC DOUGALL-WALKER C.I.
1153 EAST STREET SOUTH
SUFFIELD, CT 06080

STUDENT'S NAME & ADDRESS:

Nicholas Aponte
MAC DOUGALL-WALKER C.I.
1153 EAST STREET SOUTH
SUFFIELD, CT 06080

PROGRAM OF STUDY:

Psychology

ISSUE DATE:

12/06/07 Unofficial Transcript

STUDENT SSN:

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

STUDENT NUMBER:

AC0110554

COURSE	DATE ENROLLED	DATE COMPLETED	GRADE	CREDITS
C16-Principles of Marketing	8/01/06	11/03/06	A	3
M01-Human Resource Management	11/03/06	2/02/07	A	3
			GPA: 3.8	75

NOT-GRADUATED

REGISTRAR

Renee Mason



Certificate of Completion

Meditation Program

For Nicholas Aponte

MacDougall-Walker Correctional Institution

Suffield, Connecticut

March 9, 2012

Tollie Miller

Tollie Miller, Co-facilitator

Larry Malick

Larry Malick, Co-facilitator

Nicholas Aponte

240834

has successfully completed the

Addiction Services

AFTERCARE PROGRAM SESSIONS 1 thru 36

at the MacDougall-Walker Correctional Institution

this 20th Day of April 2009

B. Segusa
B. Segusa, CCS, LADC

J. Giffin
J. Giffin, CSAC, CDAC

The Connecticut Department of Correction
and
MacDougall/Walker Correctional Institution

presents to

Nicholas Aponte

this

Certificate of Completion

of the

Nursing Assistant Program

Awarded this day

March 4, 2009

Wanda White-Lewis RN MS
Wanda White-Lewis RN MS
Instructor

