



July 19, 2022

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this reference letter on behalf of Tricia Courtney as she seeks employment with your organization.

I have known Tricia for nearly 40 years in a variety of roles, as a peer and later supervisor at a Southwest Missouri newspaper. I can wholeheartedly tell you she is an incredibly talented, creative artist, who has an exceptional level of humility, organizational skills and ability to doggedly pursue the end product her client desires.

For 25 years, I worked with Tricia at the Joplin Globe in Joplin, Missouri. At the beginning of that time, she and I were peers. She worked in the advertising department's graphics section, while I worked in the newsroom. Sporadically, we would be put into situations where we were working on projects together. She was always eager to help and brought a high level of creativity to the project. Within about five years of that peer-to-peer relationship, I became her supervisor when she was transferred to the newsroom as a graphic artist, and I was named design editor.

At that point, the creativity she was able to exhibit just multiplied exponentially. We were able to use her solid graphic skills to illustrate story concepts. But then we were able to use her mixed media skills as an artist to really elevate the quality and punch of the illustrations we were seeking to achieve.

Throughout it all, she stayed true to her humble and creative mindset, while delivering impeccable customer service to all of those she encountered.

While I don't know specifically the position she seeks in your organization, I can assure you she would bless it tremendously. Her talent, creativity and kindness will undoubtedly benefit the work you do.

Should you need any further information, don't hesitate to reach out to me.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gary W. Castor'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Gary Castor,  
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