

July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023

To whom it may concern,

My name is Kathy O'Neal and I have known Joseph Marek most of his life. He and his family are my neighbors and I have taught him horseback riding since he was a young child.

Joseph began horseback riding at age 4. He progressed over the years to compete in multiple regional, national and world championship events in English and Western riding. Joseph excelled in these events winning multiple world and national champion belt buckles including many NM state fair events.

Horseback events require a high commitment beginning with Joseph daily at the barn with feeding and watering horses, cleaning stalls, grooming, and training. Days typically begin at 5:30 am and finish late in the evening after feeding horses and cleaning stalls. The horse events themselves are performed in a large arena with up to 8 judges evaluating the multiple competitors and their horses. Joseph always showed a remarkable calm and determination during events and a great dedication to his horse "Scottie".

Joseph has been raised with Christian values and it shows in how he handles himself. He has grown into quite the gentleman and carries himself confidently and is quick to help others if needed. He is not afraid of hard work and even from afar I can tell he is dedicated to the sport of baseball.

I believe Joseph will be an asset to any program he is a part of. His willingness to learn and dedication to get the "job" done is exemplary.

Sincerely,

Kathy G. O'Neal

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathy G. O'Neal". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Owner and Horse Trainer  
Livery Training Stables  
Corrales, NM