

Kiko E. Johnston-Kitazawa

Phone: 808 • 929 • 9216 PO Boz 490 Pahala, HI 96777 • kikocanoesailing@gmail.com

January 21, 2014

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi,

I am Kiko Johnston-Kitazawa, and I live in Honu`apo, Ka`u, Hawai`i. I am a boat builder, boat captain, and Hawaiian canoe cultural educator. I have also worked as a National Park Interpretation Ranger, Geology Field Guide, and Hawaiian studies teacher in the Hawai`i public schools.

I first met Tim Mann in Radio Bay, Hilo, in the winter of 1984 while sailing my newly-launched 42' sailing proa, *La Ho`iho`i Ea*. Tim was in Hilo with his 56' self-built commercial fishing sailing trimaran *Tropic Bird*. I had previously read of *Tropic Bird* when she was featured on the cover of 1980 a "Wooden Boat" magazine edition, while I was attending boatbuilding school at the L. H. Bates Vocational-Technical Institute of Tacoma. I was very impressed, of course, with Tim's knowledge and ability, but even more so with his willingness to share it. Tim's generosity in conveying knowledge and skills I have seen repeated many times over many years, in many different fields, including boatbuilding, seamanship, computer-assisted drafting, plans preparation and permit approval, moving heavy things by trailer, and most recently, taking on the responsibility of doing something about Hawai`i's tenuous food supply chain, and teaching many others worldwide how they can grow their own food. Additionally, and importantly, he puts a lot of care and effort into the fostering of his children, interns, and community initiatives including preserving agricultural farmland.

I have been aware of the charges against Tim Mann since the very beginning, and I have been impressed with his forthrightness in facing and owning up to his actions. Once I heard a mutual friend ask how the case was going, and he replied, "the bank is about to seize our farm, we're facing a long term in Federal prison, we're all going to die, and life is wonderful!" I really admire this attitude. Since then, Tim has continued his work and teaching as if he were never going to go to prison, while making careful preparations to insure the well-being of his family should he go to prison.

I have no doubt that Tim and Susanne will never be repeat offenders, and that the societal cost of imprisoning them far outweighs any possible punitive or deterrent value, in my opinion.

O wau iho no me ke aloha,



Kiko Johnston-Kitazawa

RECEIVED
4-30-14

KO

January 20, 2014
The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi
c/o Phil Lowenthal
33 Market Street, Suite 101
Wailuku, Hawaii

Your Honor,

This letter is to let you know the good that Tim Mann, my son-in-law, is adding to this world. His aquaponics work is reaching most of the planet. Sincerely, the trainings he leads with my daughter, Susanne Friend, and manuals they have written together have taught many people all over the world to grow food. In growing food with aquaponics, less than two percent of the water is used, with plants growing twice as fast. You may have received letters of respect and support for him, from many places.

He is honest, and very hardworking. He keeps striving to show how to build aquaponics systems that are economical. His former business was drawing house plans for home builders. In their manuals, there are included detailed AutoCAD plans for building systems to provided fresh food.

He is the most focused person that I have ever met. He is very intelligent and diligent. He wants many to learn how to raise their own food, practically.

I am an elementary school teacher with a Masters Degree in English from the University of California, Long Beach. I taught 27 years in the California public school system. Additionally, I taught in American Schools overseas in Pakistan, India, Indonesia, China, Cameroon (West Africa), and Japan. I have been home-schooling my grandchildren for the past seven years. I have never committed a crime, not even a traffic ticket. I know that Susanne and Tim have great worth to the world, and are not a danger to society.

They made a terrible mistake that I know they will never make again, and they have been very open and honest in sharing this mistake with their students all over the world, to make sure no one makes the same mistake. Tim and Susanne will continue to do good work, and learn new ways to help many. They will never break the law again.

Please let them continue their work, out of prison. Tim loves his children, and is happy with his wife, and children, and even me, at 88 years of age.

Sincerely,



Isabelle Friend

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4-30-14
BP

Jon Etienne Mourot, Ph.D., J.D.

2601 Kavanaugh Boulevard, Ste 5 Little Rock, AR 72205

January 12, 2014

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi
Federal Building
Honolulu, HI 96793

Re: Tim Mann

Dear Madam Judge,

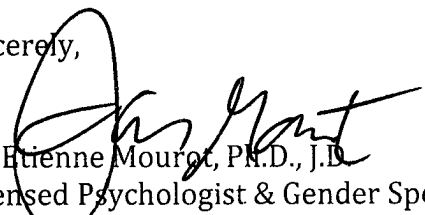
I am writing in support of Tim Mann, my friend of 16 years. We met as a result of Tim's commitment to protecting his family, friends, and community from environmental threats. I was practicing law and directing political campaigns when Tim arranged for me to help organize Friends of Hamakua'a, a Big Island-based non-profit group. I was impressed with Tim's selfless drive to unite the many groups on Hawaii into a united front to challenge foreign despoilers of the land. His tireless efforts were a testament to his passion for safeguarding Hawaii's people & future generations. Over the years Tim's integrity and compassion for people and the land remained steadfast and led to his expertise in sustainable living through aquaponics.

About me, I am a licensed attorney in Arkansas & Texas. After earning a doctorate in counseling psychology I no longer engage in active practice. I now work as a licensed psychologist and gender specialist in Little Rock, Arkansas. In addition to my private practice, I am a member of the Vulvar Disorder team in the Ob/Gyn department at our state's medical school. This month I began my second term on the board of directors of the Arkansas Psychological Association. Also, I am cofounder of Boswell Mourot Fine Art, located in Little Rock & Miami, Florida, with a third gallery opening in Berlin, Germany, later this year.

Tim has recognized and admitted his mistakes, mistakes that will not be repeated. He has much still to offer. His family, his community, & his world need his contributions to sustainable living via aquaponics. We are all better served if he remains free to continue his work.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


Jon Etienne Mourot, Ph.D., J.D.
Licensed Psychologist & Gender Specialist
501.940.5335 MourotPhD@gmail.com

RECEIVED
4-30-14
KJ

Tim

Koru Design and Consulting
628 E.14th St. #10 NYC 10009
949-375-8444

January 5, 2014
The Honorable Judge Kobayashi

Dear Judge Kobayashi,

I am Teryl James Chapel residing in New York City New York. I am writing this letter on behalf of Tim Mann whose work in education and sustainable food production I have been familiar with since 2011. I first met Tim Mann in person in February 2013 while attending a commercial Aquaponics Training in Tennessee at which Tim was the facilitator. I had another opportunity to spend time with Tim in June of this past year when He and his family came to New York to teach a commercial Aquaponics Training which I helped organize

Tim Mann and I share a common interest in sustainable food production and strong sense of urgency and passion to implement solutions that provide good clean nutritious food sustainably produced. We both agree that teaching people to grow food is one of the fastest ways of empowering more people to greater health and abundance. Prior to meeting Tim in person I had discovered and subscribed to the Friendly Aquaponics Newsletter published by Tim and Susanne. As I read the newsletters I was impressed by the high level of integrity and honesty that accompanied the knowledge and experience shared for free to anyone interested. Again I say it was the integrity behind the words and the obvious burning desire to make a positive difference in the world that struck a resonant chord with me.

While they were teaching in New York this past June, both Tim and Susanne shared with me and others in the training their story about making a mistake in their choice to attempt to grow marijuana with aquaponics in order to try and save their property and livelihood and how this mistake led to their arrest and now the possibility of going to prison. I was impressed with their open and honest sharing and in owning their mistake. They also share in their newsletters and on the internet that the systems they promote do not work for growing marijuana.

Judge Kobayashi, I strongly urge you to consider leniency on behalf of Susanne and Tim in your judgement of this case as the world is much better served by these two people being allowed to continue their very important and much needed work. They have learned from their mistake and openly repented to the world. Susanne Friend and Tim Mann are not drug dealers or bad people. They are hardworking, honest, and very courageous people.

Thank you for reading and your consideration of my thoughts. Sincerely,

Teryl James Chapel 

Founder The Koru Collaborative



Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi

It is my pleasure to share with you my experience of Tim Mann.

I am a U. S. Armed Forces Veteran and military contractor. Before returning to Kabul, Afghanistan I was in an accident. That accident saved my life. When I examined my life, I found I was under way too much pressure and had lost the skills to live in our society; I was stuck in combat mode: everyone was the enemy. After several years of medical doctors and psychiatrists I was not better. During this time I heard about aquaponics. This is how I found Tim Mann. I wanted to move my life in a different direction, and make positive contributions to my community.

When I found out Tim was going to be in Texas to do a week training in January 2014, I signed up. From the first moment of the class, I found his personal integrity to be truly genuine. As a vet I know how to read people and often what their intentions are. Often my life and others' lives depends on it. To know Tim is to know a person who is kind, generous – with his time, resources and knowledge – a person who is committed to community, who is humble, and strong in character. It is my opinion that Tim has the highest standards of personal integrity.

Here is an example of his kindness and unpretentious qualities. While at the training I was coming out of the bathroom speaking with another student just as Tim was coming in. Someone had thrown a paper towel beside the trash can. As Tim came in and saw it he stopped picked it up and smiled at both of us. This little detail touched me. Here he is the instructor for a classroom of thirty people but he had time to pick up a paper towel. I choose this example because you don't do that to impress others; a person acts that way because that is who they are. As I started watching him during the week I saw many acts of modesty and kind-heartedness from Tim.

I was so impressed I wanted to spend more time around this man. I drove to Tennessee two weeks later to spend another week with him. While learning aquaponics I was also watching Tim. There is an internal calm in Tim that I have seen in very few men. It is precisely those men I would want to be with me when the shit hits the fan; in the worst fire fights when all you have is a foxhole and prayer. That is who you want by your side. I would be proud to have Tim at my side in one of those situations anywhere in the world.

Learning aquaponics and the Tim Mann and Suzanne Friend method has helped me not see everyone as the enemy. I have made mistakes. Some could say that my mistakes could have cost some lives, the psychiatrist say I can't carry those burdens they just happened. I am learning to forgive myself and Tim Man has aided in this process with his model of living who he is. His words and actions match. He is a person I trust and respect. Finally I am grateful for his work and for his effect on my own life.

Sincerely,



Marcus Brown

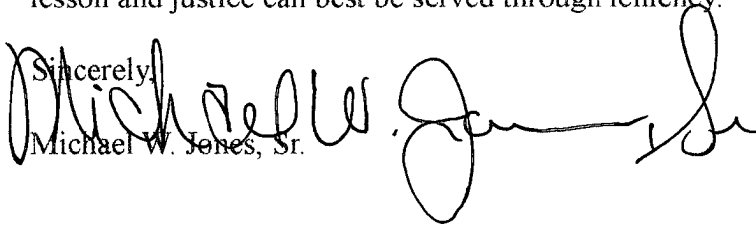
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The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi,

I recently retired from Cargill as an Information Technologies Consultant and am starting an aquaponics business. I know Tim Mann through his business, Friendly Aquaponics. I have corresponded with him and was in the class he taught the week of January 13, 2014 in Texas. When learning of his upcoming court date, I wanted to provide my thoughts.

Tim has been great to work with – his passion and dedication to the business and people he serves is inspiring. He has a genuine desire to serve others and is selfless in doing all he can to ensure the success of others and share his vision of helping others through aquaponics.

To me, Tim has exhibited genuine remorse for his crime. Rather than making excuses, he takes full responsibility. I do not condone the consumption or trafficking of marijuana. Living in Texas, a border state, it's obvious that marijuana is not a victimless crime. Many lives and families have been harmed tragically through marijuana consumption and trafficking so I can in no way agree with it. However, Tim's candid confession and exhibiting true regret for his crimes makes me believe he has learned his lesson and justice can best be served through leniency.

Sincerely,
 2/26/14
Michael W. Jones, Sr.

Cassidy Lackey



1012 Brazos Drive • Southlake, Texas 76092 • Phone: 8179-939-9472
E-Mail: Cassidy@cCsidyLackey.com Web: Cassidy@cassidylackey.com

Date: February 17, 2014

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi
United States District Court
District of Hawaii
300 Ala Moana Blvd C-338
Honolulu, HI 96850

Dear Judge Kobayashi:

I am an entrepreneur in the great state of Texas with several successful businesses. I serve on the board for two ministries, Compass Wilderness and Cross Timbers Community Church.

While I just recently became acquainted with Tim Mann through an aquaponics training in Texas, I've been following his work in the aquaponics and urban farming industries for quite some time. He has been very open about his legal issues and regret for his past actions.

Tim and his wife are industry leaders and highly respected as one of the first successful organic commercial aquaponics ventures. I am amazed by Tim's vast knowledge and willingness to share all his successes and failures. I was struck by his integrity, honesty and desire to truly help families become more sustainable by growing their own organic food. Many commercial aquaponics consultants are just interested in making a quick buck selling their equipment but Tim is teaching hundreds of people how to start inexpensively and sustainably by building their own low cost systems.

The knowledge I've gained from Tim has given me the confidence to start my own commercial aquaponics system in the next 12 to 24 months. My system will ultimately provide organic produce for thousands of people in my community. I'm so thankful there are people like Tim Mann trying to make the world a better place.

Sincerely,

Cassidy Lackey
Entrepreneur

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2-24-14
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WARREN N. ANDERSON, JR.

February 3, 2014
Tirana, Albania

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi:

My name is Warren Anderson. I am currently the Executive Director of the Albanian International School in Tirana, Albania. I am compelled to write a letter of support on behalf of Tim Mann and Susanne Friend to repay only partly all the information, support and encouragement they and their work with Aquaponics have meant to me.

I first read about Tim and Susanne after arriving in Albania six years ago. I read an article about Aquaponics and looked on the internet for more information. Their website and expertise was featured prominently in Aquaponics circles. It was obvious that they were eager to help, explain and mentor those just learning about this new way of sustainable farming. Unlike many of the others, they knew what they were doing from trial and error and were not motivated by the almighty dollar. From the beginning my goal was to attend one of their week-long training opportunities.

My first direct contact with Tim and Susanne was when I attempted to order one of their system manuals. Due to an internet glitch I was unable to complete the transaction, so I called them and left a message complaining. Susanne responded right away, returning my call within hours and the problem was solved with a free manual for my inconvenience.

I continued reading their weekly newsletters while experiencing one of the most difficult times of my life. I had gone to Dubai three years ago to teach only to find that the school really did not want teachers but rather baby-sitters that catered to every whim of spoiled brats. That is NOT how I teach. I left the school and stayed in Dubai due to a friend from college. His promises of starting a business together were just words followed by movement in that direction then nothing.

I was stuck in Dubai with little money, no life and seemingly getting nowhere with no way to leave. What sustained me – seriously – were the weekly Friendly Aquaponics newsletters and the dream of putting their system to work for the good of others but also for profit for myself. I explained the Friendly Aquaponics system to people from Pakistan, the UAE and Myanmar. All were eager to learn more. I also wrote plans for NGO's on how to use the Friendly system for benefit of destitute and starving folks in various Third World countries.

Finally, in June 2013 I was able to attend a Friendly Aquaponics training week in Tennessee. That trip and experience was one of the best I have had in over 20 years. At the training I met great folks from all over the U.S. with a similar goal, to take control of what we eat and how it

WARREN N. ANDERSON, JR.

is grown and to provide others with the quality food they need and deserve for both profit but also as a service to others. It was very inspirational!

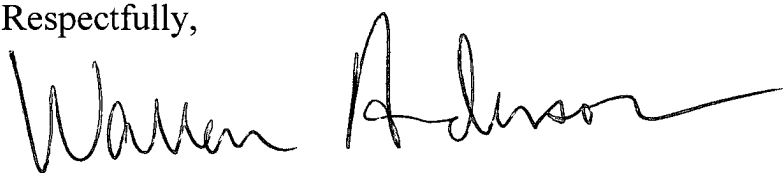
Tim was the trainer at that week-long event, with the assistance of his young son Jack. It was obvious to all that the active and supportive family portrayed and described in the newsletters was the real deal. The way the two worked together, the way Tim talked about Susanne and the rest of the family made evident that this was a family that enjoyed working together and was happy and unified in the Friendly family business. It was a natural team effort.

I am writing because I believe that in this case before you, in my humble opinion, taking either or both Tim and Susanne from their biological family as well as their world-wide Aquaponics family would be a punishment that does not fit the crime. I had read about their legal difficulties and their acceptance of responsibility from Tim and Susanne as well as denigrating remarks from competitors disparaging their work and looking for new customers. Tim and Susanne admitted their actions and clearly warned others not to make the same mistake.

If a punishment must be meted out might I suggest community service. So many more in their local community and throughout the world would benefit and justice would be served as well. It is obvious that their past mistake in judgment has taught them a lesson and that example serves as a warning to anyone else that might be headed the wrong way.

After reading nearly two hundred of their newsletters, corresponding by email and meeting one half of what is obviously a loving and committed family team I believe their commitment to helping others, their integrity in the business and in admitting mistakes – both personal and professional - as well as their love for their children and their desire to be positive examples warrants leniency. I respectfully request the Court to take all the good they have done and can do into consideration.

Respectfully,



Warren Anderson
Executive Director
Albanian International School
Address: Rruga Elbasanit #24, Tirana
Website: www.ais-tirana.org
Tel: +355 42 273 488
Mob: +355 67 416 0637

*I am sending 3 copies due to questions about
Albanian mail efficiency.
WA*

**COMPANY**

Michelle Thomas M.D.
G Food 4U LLC

611 Pennsylvania Ave. SE
Suite 254
Washington DC 20003

February 10, 2014
The Honorable
Judge Leslie E. Kobayashi
District of Hawaii C-338
300 Ala Moana Blvd.
Honolulu, HI 96850

Aloha Judge Kobayashi

I am writing to request leniency in the sentencing of both Susanne Friend and Timothy Mann who have acknowledged guilt in growing marijuana on the island of Hawaii. I have known both Susanne and Timothy since 2010. I first met Ms. Friend and Mr. Mann and their family when I came to Honokaa Hawaii to attend a "Friendly Aquaponics" Commercial Aquaponics Course offered by these two respected farmers. There were approximately 100 individuals who attended this course coming from Hawaii and the continental US to learn how Friendly Aquaponics "valued engineered" Dr. James Rakocy of the University of the Virgin Islands design of recirculating aquaponics system. During the course I remember that both Ms. Friend and Mr. Mann on more than one occasion during their instruction stated that aquaponics should be employed to grow food and discouraged any attempt to use their designs to grow marijuana. I knew nothing of the legal transgressions of Ms. Friend or Mr. Mann at the time of our first meeting and thought their anti drug advocacy sincere. I was impressed with the family farms success in lettuce and taro production. The family unit also left a favorable impression on me. I observed a farm family full of love, all the children had farm chores but also seem to have other educational and recreational vocations.

I am a physician and an entrepreneur engaged in the integration of aquaponics into urban farms, commercial real estate and urban re development. I have returned to Honokaa Hawaii with contractors employed by my company G Food 4U LLC in 2011 and 2012 for additional training with Ms. Friend and Mr. Mann at Friendly Aquaponics Farm. During these private training sessions I gained increased respect and appreciation of the intelligence, hard-work applied by Ms. Friend and Mr. Mann that has resulted in contributing fresh nutritious vegetables and fish to the local food shed.

I eventually learned from Mr. Mann and Ms. Friends, of legal challenges the couple faced as a result of their having illegally grown marijuana in Hawaii. I heard unsolicited their admission of guilt with remorse for this illegal activity and the impact that it had on their family and farm. Friendly Aquaponics Farm is currently having relative commercial success in growing food, assisting hundreds of individuals to learn aquaponics in Hawaii and around the world. I believe Ms. Friend and Mr. Mann have relayed a message against illegal growing of marijuana by their open acknowledgement of their errors.

As a physician who has treated many injured individuals due to the consequences of illegal and legal drugs use, I am not an advocate for recreational, or religious use of marijuana.

I've come to know the Friend-Mann children Victor, Jack, Lucky, Rose and I fear that there could be irreparable harm to the family, if their parents were to be sentenced to prison. I am an advocate for the Friend-Mann children and the Friendly Aquaponics Farm.

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I ask your Honor, in your evaluation of the crimes committed to sentence Ms. Susanne Friend and Mr. Timothy Mann to supervised release and community service, not to imprison either defendant. I believe that restitution to the community directly affected by their crime can be accomplished with community service that will continue the rehabilitation of Susanne Friend, Timothy Mann and retain the dignity of the Friend-Mann family.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle Thomas M.D." in a cursive script.

Michelle Thomas M.D.

Diplomat of the American College of Surgeons

CEO G Food 4U LLC

02/06/2014

Stuart Brake and Auto Repair
409 SE Monterey Road
Stuart, Florida 34994
772/283-4445
gmallen@gate.net

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi

Dear Your Honor;

I am a business owner of thirty five years and currently have in operation three business's in South Florida. I am currently working with Tim Mann and Susanne Friend in the development of my next multi business operation.

My interaction with them has been on a business level. Training, manuals, operational specifications and correspondence to create and operate an aquaponics operation. Growing leaf type greens, vegetables and fish at a profit. I am currently in the proto type phase with excellent results.

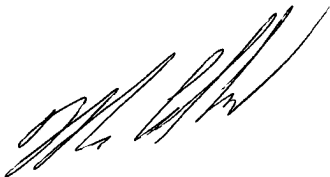
The business relationship has been open honest and as sold. This is hard to find in today's market and it has been an enjoyable process. I spent a week with Tim Mann in an exhaustive training of five plus days and received more than was expected.

Although Tim and Susanne have been candid about the legal issues it has seemed actually to be a blessing to them. When I, other's or Tim and Susanne go into hard times the blessing are hard to see, but I see the good it has worked in there lives.

If I can be of additional assistance please feel free to contact me at the above address, phone or e-mail.

Thank you,

Mark Allen



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2-11-14
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Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi:

Mahalo for taking the time to read my letter regarding the case of Tim Mann. My name is Brian Lievens and I have lived in Kona for twenty three years. My small farm raises Mangos and Avocados. In 2008 I wanted a better way to raise vegetables for our family, my terrestrial garden patch was forever demanding fertilizers and weeding. Over the years my attempts to farm more efficiently have led me to try different methods of agriculture. Permaculture, biodynamic, and orthodox chemical gardening have all had their issues and failings.

Then the technique of Aquaponics was introduced by Tim Mann to Big Island. Curious, I toured his facility and was impressed enough to enroll in his first training program. This class of close to one hundred people was very diverse, and after the presentations by Tim, very enthusiastic.

He is a great teacher, and inspired most of us to invest our time and money in building similar systems to his own across the island. Just as important were his networking skills that helped us to retain a community relationship.

We have toured each others creations, shared innovations, problems and successes. Tim has always been a phone, text, or e-mail away for us, he has put in as much volunteer time as a paid county extension agent.

As the president of the West Hawaii Fruit Growers Association I know the kind of commitment and dedication it takes to keep an organization going. Tim has helped me and others find a new, more efficient, and environmentally friendly way to raise food.

Before I met Tim raising fish was a chore, weeding, watering, and fertilizing my vegetables was drudgery. Now the two keep each other happy and my time is more productive. He not only taught me a new approach to solving practical problems, but also inspired myself and others to promote this system for the world.

The purpose of this testament is to emphasize the value myself and others place in Tim Mann, and of what he has accomplished in the community at large. I consider him an asset to the future of agriculture in Hawaii and want to see him free to continue his good works.



Sincerely/ Brian Lievens

RECEIVED
2-18-14

To: The Honorable Judge Leslie Koybayashi
From: Benjamin Duke
Re: Tim Mann

February 2, 2014

Aloha Judge Koybayashi,

I am writing to express my support for Tim Mann. I have known Tim for approximately four years. I am a teacher at West Hawaii Explorations Public Charter School in Kailua-Kona, HI. Tim taught me all about aquaponics during a two day training. He was very thorough and enthusiastic. He supported me as began to teach my students about aquaponics at WHEA PCS, a project-based school. I brought students to Tim's Friendly Aquaponics farm and this was a very inspiring experience for them. Tim has responded to questions emailed to him by both the students and I as we were learning how to start an aquaponics system at the school. I know Tim has been very supportive of schools and community members around the Big Island who have been working to make our island more sustainable. Tim has given the school books that he has written to help us with our education in aquaponics. He has always been positive and supportive of our school and our curriculum. The aquaponics project at our school has become one of our most successful and popular projects at WHEA PCS. Please feel free to contact me should have any questions about my relationship with Tim.

Mahalo,

Benjamin Duke
77-348 Nohealani St.
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740
(808) 756-0461
duke@whea.net

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2-11-14
ICP

Everest

COLLEGE

Colorado Springs

1815 Jet Wing Drive

Colorado Springs, CO 80916

tel (719) 638-6580 fax (719) 638-6818

www.everest.edu

February 6, 2014

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi,

I am writing this letter on behalf of Tim Mann, a man I have had the privilege of corresponding with over the last year and a half. With his construction design background and his ability to educate “laymen” with easy to understand directions, Tim was quickly elevated to the position of my go-to-guy for DIY project expertise.

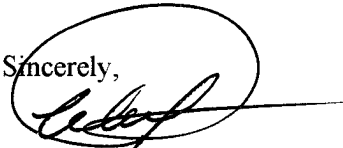
I am the Founder of Echo Lima Solutions LLC, a small Colorado business. I also teach entrepreneur and business coursework at a local Colorado Springs college. My passion is to empower innovation and engage critical thought processes with students and community leaders alike. It was during a research phase that I stumbled upon a sustainable food sourcing operation design that peaked my interest, so I corresponded via email. Amazingly, I discovered that all the design work was available “open source” with video how to instructions... free! So I contacted Tim Mann and started a relationship via correspondence.

Very quickly, it was apparent that Tim was incredibly passionate about providing his expertise to help people understand and engage in the aquaponics world of healthy organic food production. He, like most other businessmen, could have easily limited access to his proven proprietary designs, or charged exorbitant fees for usage. But Tim, during our first discussion, forwarded me design specs and video instructions. He openly discussed what worked at his family farm in Hawaii, and just as importantly, what mistakes he had made, and what he did to correct the design flaws. I believe he has processed his personal mistakes in the same way.

With so much of the business community into the “what’s in it for me” mentality, it was refreshing to find a devoted family man who dedicates so much time, energy, and personal resources to educate and empower people worldwide. Tim has repeatedly responded to late night questions and enthusiastically encouraged operational support for collective purpose; he gives freely.... and often!

Your Honor, I certainly don’t condone the missteps that Tim has taken in order to land in front of you today, but I am hopeful that you can see the impact that he is making in the lives of folks like me, and my students, worldwide. I sincerely thank you for your valuable time.

Sincerely,


Wayne Peacock, Faculty
Everest College – Colorado Springs

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February 4, 2014

To The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi:

This letter is regarding Tim Mann of Friendly Aquaponics.

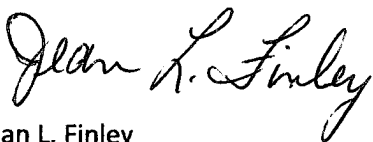
My name is Jean Finley. I am a retired Registered Nurse, currently residing in the State of Georgia. For the last forty years, I have been an avid organic gardener and in the last several years I have been very interested in aquaponics as a viable alternative to more traditional "in-ground" gardening. My son, Scott, is stationed in Alabama. Currently, Scott is working in finance, but is due to separate from the Air Force in less than a year. Scott and I are in the preliminary stages of building a sustainable business via providing fresh wholesome organic vegetables to various local restaurants and other interested members of our nearby communities. We intend to follow the successful business model of Friendly Aquaponics, which has already been duplicated successfully in several states.

Approximately a year ago, I met Tim Mann through Friendly Aquaponics. He has been extremely generous with his assistance and advice. I have been very impressed with his broad knowledge and expertise, his willingness to do hard work and perhaps most importantly, that he successfully carries out his vision of building a sustainable business while incorporating his entire family in the process. He is a family man first and foremost. He has certainly earned my trust and respect.

Before meeting Tim, I became aware of the interaction of Friendly Aquaponics with "The Hawaii Cannabis Ministry". At the time, I was rather concerned about the association between the two. However, Friendly Aquaponics has made no attempt to hide any of this information from the public. Indeed, both Tim and Susanne have readily admitted their wrongdoing and have deeply regretted the very foolish decisions they had made.

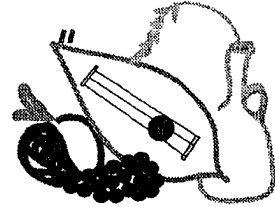
On behalf of Tim Mann, I respectfully ask for your leniency regarding his sentencing. He is actively doing incredibly good works for society and is positively touching so many lives. The world would be a much better place if there were more Tim Manns in the world! My son and I look forward to having a healthy and prosperous relationship with him for many years into the future.

Sincerely,



Jean L. Finley
2541 Nursery Rd.
Blackshear, GA 31516
(912)590-7733

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Blues Farms LLC. PO Box 1464. Iowa. 52556
1.641.919-0988
<http://www.BluezFarms.com>

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi,

My name is Carl Wagener. I am the chief-scientist for an agricultural organization, Bluez Farms LLC, located in Iowa, USA. This is a letter in support of Tim Mannheim.

I met Tim Mannheim and his wife Susanne Friend in 2012, while on a course offered by them in Tennessee about beginning and commercial aquaponic farming operations. As I attended on behalf of a non-profit, The SmarterEarth institute, where I provided consultation, they offered the course free of charge.

While I was initially more impressed by Susanne's vast breadth of knowledge of the field, I soon learned that she depended entirely on Tim's ability to not only develop ways to implement her brilliant ideas, but also to extend and adapt them to the constraints of the physical world in such a way as to perform the immensely challenging task of converting liabilities into advantages. While perhaps less communicative, Tim's was the "can do" and "go to" capacity which has made Friendly Aquaponics a formidable solver of problems that had often seemed insurmountable to a fledgling industry. Unlike the usual "self-taught" person, Tim greatly respects academic research and has the unusual ability to identify the components which can be useful, and the ability to put it into practice. An ability which he shares graciously and generously with the world.


This has lead Tim to freely share many of his designs and information about his valuable ongoing and significant research into aquaponics farming and mosquito management on the Internet allowing anybody, anywhere to benefit from his efforts.

Two years ago, Tim Mannheim acknowledged the legal problems that he and his wife had brought upon themselves, through a combination of gullibility, amiability and the alleviation of the fear of losing their farm and house to debt through the inducements offered to him by somebody he believed he could trust. He expressed his concerns for his family and the future challenges which his incredibly bad judgment might bring. As a husband and a father, while I empathize with his position, I agree that he showed poor judgment. However, from my knowledge of Tim, he has more than learned his lesson, having spent so long living under the shadow of his misguided efforts. In my opinion it is highly unlikely that Tim will be a great deal more careful in future to avoid any involvement with any crime under any circumstances.

As a human and as a scientist I have to applaud Tim's efforts. His skills are an invaluable and desperately needed asset to a world struggling with problems of finding food and water for a seemingly endlessly expanding population. The world needs more people like Tim working on our urgent problems. I do not think that any benefit will accrue to society from a custodial sentence, as the probability of his acting as either a bad example or his re-offending is so slight as to be negligible.

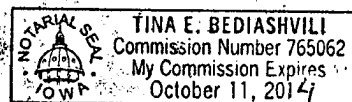
Please take this into consideration during sentencing.

Yours Sincerely


Carl Wagener
2014.02.01
meshed.gears@gmail.com

*State of Iowa, County of Jefferson
Signed or attested before me on
February 1, 2014.*

Carl Wagener



Notary Public



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Farming Innovations, LLC
226 Polk Road 69, Mena, AR 71953
479-437-3409
Adams_dh@farminginnovations.com
Farminginnovations.com



January 8, 2014

To The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi

Your Honor,

I am owner and managing member of Farming Innovations, LLC. My company is a small farm growing food using aquaponics and natural methods. I know Tim only through emails we exchanged, comments on different forums, and Friendly Aquaponics website. I did meet them informally at the first Aquaponics Association meeting. Our relationship has been over a four year period. I would describe our relationship as a business relationship. It was the online website and micro kit that started me off in my quest for starting this company. During the last four years Tim has answered many questions without charge, and has provided vital information freely in His newsletter. The information he provides on a regular basis, I believe would not be freely shared by other people, yet he consistently provides vital information about aquaponic growing and ways to cut cost as a grower. I believe this to be true because of His belief, which is one of helping his fellowman without charge. May I say, this is quite refreshing in light of the business world today.

I probably would not be doing what I do today without His and Susanne's influence. I previously worked for Hewlett Packard Computer Corporation as a system software engineer for 15 years. This was very high stress job. Although a lucrative position and good job I wanted a more relaxed life. It was the influence of Tim's methods that allowed me to consider this company. I am so happy I took this step of being an entrepreneur.

I would also say, I have read very cruel and viscous remarks about both of them online. I never saw any kind of derogatory remarks made back by him. I also know of some people that have taken advantage of their kindness without consequence from them. Tim has consistently admitted to what he did and how wrong it was. I think that he would never again attempt this kind of behavior, and it would hurt a lot of people who depend on them for ongoing discoveries, if he were to be incarcerated.

Everything I have included here is true to the best of my knowledge, I fully agree what they did was wrong albeit naive. I would ask you to be lenient to Tim based on his character and the benefit of many around the world who look to him for help.

Thank You,

DAVID H. ADAMS, OWNER FARMING INNOVATIONS, LLC

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February 6, 2014
The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi
United States District Court for the District of Hawaii

Dear Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi

I am writing to you on behalf of Tim Mann.

I have run a small family run landscape business for the past 26 years. My family and I moved to Florida in 2007 right about the time the economy went bad. We did not do well in the landscaping business and decided to get in a new line of work when we came across Tim Mann's website on Aquaponics. My son, a friend, and myself decided to take his course where we met Tim.

I do not know Tim well but what I do know of him, I would like to share with you in an effort to be of help to Tim. We could not afford for the three of us to go to his course on Aquaponics so we asked if there was anything he could do for us. He discounted the course for us by \$1500. He could have refused, but by offering the discount I believe it revealed who he is. He is unselfish and he truly wants to help people succeed. I believe what he is offering can truly benefit many, many people in not only our country, but across the world. He is offering to teach people how to grow food without the massive waste of water traditional farming has. When I look at the state of California and the terrible drought they are going through, I see a way through Tim's teaching and training that could benefit multitudes of people by not relying on traditional means of farming. Not only people benefiting from learning the process by also people benefiting by the abundance of produce that can be generated from this system. I could see this being a new way of farming.

I believe that the fact that he has come out in the open with his offense and has not tried to cover it up, shows a repentitive heart. I understand the seriousness of his offense and I don't wish to minimize it. I just ask you to consider his contributions to our society through his training of a better way of growing our food supply. The more he can help the more I believe we can be less dependant on rain, less fearful of droughts and grow the food our country needs while helping others to succeed and pass this knowledge on.

I thank you for talking the time to read my letter and honored that you would do so.

Respectfully,

Richard K. Adams

Richard K. Adams

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Dear Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi,

Aloha from Michael Kirsner in Ft. Lauderdale Florida. I am sending you this letter in reference to your hearing concerning Tim Mann. Since my girlfriend and I have attended Tim and Susanne's classes we have been using what they taught us and we aspire to save enough to start a large scale organic farm and aquaponic system.

She currently works as a restaurant server and I am working for two different companies distributing and selling smoking cessation devices and nicotine alternatives. In high school I was the captain of the varsity soccer team and head of the math team. I have a Broward College associate's degree and have done a tremendous amount of individual studies. More recently, I have found the opportunity to volunteer at Marando Farms, a community outreach farm in the heart of Ft. Lauderdale. They have since built an excellent aquaponic section partly motivated by the inspiration that was given in Tim's and Susanne's classes. Just a few miles away, "Urban Farmer" has broken ground with their new farm and they are pleased to include me in their aquaponic developments.

With Donna's expertise of foods and farming from her experience in the industry and my excitement in learning farming, partly from visiting my grandparents farm in Iowa; we found an exceptional opportunity... Tim and Susanne's aquaponic courses in Brooksville, FL. We prepared by studying up, and just as we thought we knew it all, they taught us more than we could imagine. There are quite literally books on the subject that don't have the amount of knowledge that Tim and Susanne shared with us. The well-known Australian aquaponic professional Murray Hallam flew in to participate and collaborate in the seminar. It was truly the best opportunity to learn aquaponics. It would be possible to write a whole book on the things I learned at their class that you would be hard-pressed to find elsewhere, some examples... organic calcium carbonate to regulate pH, what components are organic, flow rates, dissolved oxygen levels, fish/vegetables health and compatibility, water temperatures vs. growth rates and that doesn't even scratch the surface. Since the classes, Donna and I each have been running micro aquaponics systems; studying them, and relaying information to many interested people.

As far as the stupid mistakes Tim and Susanne made; they were upfront about their issues. They brought up exactly what they had done and with great regret and humility. Tim accepted the blame for his actions and never once did he ever hint that what he had done was acceptable or not a big deal. Neither did he play the victim; he simply admitted to what he has done and owned up to his mistakes.

For years I've spoken about Tim and Susanne's classes, and what they have learned is quite exceptional. Tim's years of studying shows when he gives a presentation. I am reminded of the quote, "only the prepared speaker deserves to be confident". He is eager to answer questions, explain and still relate that he does not know it all; in this field we are always learning more. He encourages and inspires people to do new research and keeps the lines open for collaboration. Tim is great at what he does and he is also a kind and respectable person. What I have written to you is the truth to the best of my ability and I swear by it, your Honor. Thank you.

Sincerely, Michael M Kirsner

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To: The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi

From: Michael Kirsner: mkirsner@gmail.com

Date: January 31, 2013

To: The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi

I am writing this letter on behalf of Tim Mann, whom I have known both personally and professionally in conjunction with his work in the field of aquaponics. Aquaponics involves raising vegetables and fish in a codependent ecosystem which produces "beyond organic," nutrient rich and easily sustainable food in half the time than conventional farming methods; in addition, it uses much less water and space which makes it a viable farming solution in locations where conventional farming is impossible. I believe that aquaponics may hold the key to feeding the world's population as resources diminish in many areas.

Cutting Edge Model of Aquaponics. Tim Mann studied at the University of the Virgin Islands in 2006, which had at that time, the best model of aquaponics in the world. However, what Tim Mann has done for the field of aquaponics is to refine the entire process, making it affordable and 5 times more productive than its university counterpart. In order to become a viable commercial business, Tim has brought a practical understanding to what was previously only an academic exercise. Tim, along with his wife, Susanne Friend, started a company, *Friendly Aquaponics*, whose mission it has been to educate as many people as possible to this method of farming in order to ensure that more people become self-sufficient in obtaining quality food, provide them with a viable income and to combat hunger in the world. They disseminate aquaponics information in manuals (comprehensive, easy-to-follow, detailed descriptions of how to build systems which include CAD drawings), through weekly newsletters and live trainings at their home in Hawaii and on the mainland of the United States.

How We Found Friendly Aquaponics. I first encountered their company in 2013 as my husband and I were reviewing various applications of the science of aquaponics as practiced around the world. I am a retired teacher and my husband is a CDL truck driver. In 2011, we ran a trucking business with apportionment in 48 states; after a year of very hard work with both of us putting in combined time of over 110 hours/week, we decided that the financial payback was not worth it. My husband worked in the oil fields of North Dakota the following year and again pay was not worth the aggravation and separation. So in 2013, we began looking for a way for us to earn a living and remain on our small farm in south central Pennsylvania. Already interested in healthy living and organic foods, we decided that aquaponics would be a viable business even on the small acreage we had; we decided that *Friendly Aquaponics* would be our best bet in learning how to implement our plans in terms of financial investment, comprehensiveness of the information and accessibility to ongoing support from Tim and Susanne.

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Aquaponics in Third World Settings. My husband and I also supported two third world communities--one in Barahona, Dominican Republic and the other in Pajok, South Sudan. I was very interested in the application of aquaponics farming in such an environment. Before I met Tim personally, I emailed him asking about the viability of aquaponics in third world countries. Much to my amazement I received an immediate response with a detailed attachment describing the challenges of limited resources and how this system could be adapted to such an environment; after having personally experienced the living conditions in the Dominican Republic over the last 6 years, Tim's description demonstrated a thorough understanding of third world problems and held credibility. Later when I met Tim in person, he was able to elaborate on his ideas and expressed the desire to put his theoretical model into practice. We both agreed that aquaponics could be instrumental in solving the problem of poverty & hunger with third world populations. Tim has lived in third world countries previously and is passionate about helping people to help themselves. His technical expertise, attention to detail and innovative mindset coupled with the qualities of perseverance, determination and humanitarian concern make him invaluable as a global change maker.

Friendly Aquaponics Trainings. After a period of aquaponics study in early 2013, we decided to take advantage of a benefit training in New York City in June which Tim Mann and Susanne Friend were leading. At this point in time, we had been reading their weekly aquaponics newsletters and had read their plans for building a small system. We were very impressed with Tim's concise but casual teaching style which invited questions, fostered discussion and embraced new ideas. We came away from that 1-day introductory training wanting to learn more. The following week I signed up for the 1-week intensive commercial aquaponics training in Tennessee.

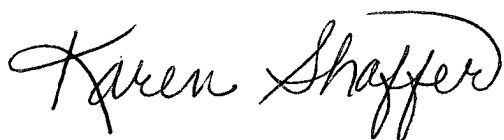
Tim's Teaching Ability. Having taught over 30 years in the elementary, middle school and college environment, in addition to supervisory positions over teachers and student teachers, I can say with authority that Tim is an exceptional teacher! His ability to communicate effectively difficult technical concepts, his patience with questions and his commitment to giving every participant much more than their highest expectations made this one of the most enlightening experiences I've had in my lifetime. My husband and I came home from this experience with renewed purpose and clarity as we began planning our own aquaponics system.

Family. Finally, I want to add that Tim, and his wife Susanne, possess rare parenting skills. Over my 30 years teaching experience, I have had the opportunity to observe many families and have been troubled by the way children are increasingly neglected especially in terms of quality time spent in instructing them in values, community service

and a sense of family. In New York, Tim and Susanne were accompanied by Victor (18) and Jack (12); Susanne, along with Victor, returned home shortly after a 5-day training in New York to be with the rest of their family (Lucky-11, Rose-8 and Susanne's 88 year old mother, Isabelle). Before meeting this family in person, one feels like one already knows them; their pictures are throughout the manuals as various plants, fish and parts of the system are explained photographically, demonstrating that this is truly a family enterprise. You realize that they are the "real deal" when you meet them in person. Mutual respect and care for one another was evident between Tim and Susanne as they team taught in New York. Tim's mentoring of his young son, Jack, in the week-long Tennessee training, giving him the responsibility of "time keeper" and encouraging him to speak to the group of over 30 people about his experiences with aquaponics was refreshing in a world where children are too often "plugged into" electronic devices and excluded from the real world.

In conclusion, Tim and Susanne have openly admitted their wrongdoing and remorse at the bad decision they made to grow marijuana. They have very deep regret for the bad example they have set for their children. Although I know their family is utmost in their concern for what may happen to them, there are so many others like myself, my husband and our friends in the Dominican Republic and South Sudan, who may be negatively impacted if their work in aquaponics is not continued.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen Shaffer". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and address.

Karen Shaffer
97 Barkmill Rd
Airville, PA 17302

717-862-3091



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P. O. Box 10, Midland, Virginia 22728-0010 ☎ Toll Free: 888-242-4638 ☎ Phone: 540-439-6650

February 3, 2014

The Honorable Judge Leslie Koybayashi
In care of Philip H. Lowenthal
33 N. Market St.
Suite 101
Wailuku, Maui, HI 96793

Re: Tim Mann

Dear Honorable Judge Leslie Koybayashi,

Being a United States citizen that has humbly served our country for 21 years as a Naval Officer's wife, small business owner and mother of nine children it is important to share with you my dealings with a very caring and knowledgeable man, Tim Mann.

In September of 2013 I attended an Aquaponics course in Tennessee taught by Tim. During this week of instruction Tim conducted himself in a professional manner while eagerly sharing his vast knowledge on setting up and operating an aquaponics system. He also addressed the fact that we needed to contact our county and state to make sure we were in compliance to all laws required to operate the system. If in doubt he always told us to check with our governmental authorities. In the evening I interacted with him while eating dinner two times. He is a very passionate man about his business and family. He was not hesitant to share with me his aquaponics background along with the love he has for his family. As a father he was very attentive to his son who was traveling with him. For him to further his business and educate his children as they work together is an asset to the local community, Hawaii and our country.

Although I have not known him for a lengthy time, I thought it was important to share with you the man I met and have come to know. I look forward to advancing the things he has taught me as he guides and helps me through the start of a new business.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Kettell", written in a cursive style.

Karen Kettell
President
ProTech Communications, Inc.

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The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi

2/04/14

Your Honor:

My name is Kerri Whiting. I live in Eureka California where I am a substitute teacher for several school districts. I am writing this letter in support of Tim Mann. I got to know Tim and his wife Susanne Friend in 2009 when my partner and I traveled to their farm for a commercial aquaponics training. We have kept in touch over the years through weekly newsletters and email. I am grateful to have chosen Tim to be my teacher. He has helped me to understand aquaponics and I believe strongly in its benefits. Tim's work is important on so many levels. Aquaponics as a method of farming is increasing. He has hundreds of students around the world who need his support and knowledge to be successful. He has the farm to run. Tim has four children at home and an elderly mother in-law who all rely on him. If he is sentenced to prison it will devastate his family both emotionally and financially.

I see Tim as a mentor and a role model for myself and others. He inspired me to start teaching aquaponics in our local community. Tim regrets the decision he made wholeheartedly and has admitted his wrong doings to his students. Tim is an honest and forthright person and for that I most admire him. He teaches people one of the most important skills they can have in life, to grow their own organic food. I ask that you consider a sentence of supervised release for Tim Mann.

Respectfully Yours,
Kerri Whiting
Kerri Whiting

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To The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi,

I am writing to you on behalf of Tim Mann. My name is John R. May; I live in Broken Arrow Oklahoma. I want to thank you in advance for your time.

I feel it is important to let you know a few things about who I am and how I came to know Tim. I am the owner of Green Country Aquaponics, LLC and I have a full time job with United Recovery Systems (URS). I have worked for URS since December of 1991. I am also the Secretary/Treasurer for Aspen Pond Homeowners Association, Inc., having been elected by the homeowners (101 members at this time) for the past 3 years.

In 2007 Tim and I began our acquaintance and developed a business relationship. Throughout the course of our relationship, he has been unfailingly honest regarding his circumstances, knowledge and beginning a couple of years ago, his status with the legal system. He has been forthright with me about his actions which led to your courtroom and his regret for them has seemed very sincere.

Tim is highly committed to Aquaponics and is a highly valuable technical resource to people in the Aquaponics and sustainable food communities. His remaining in society as a productive member, helping support his family, educating people regarding Aquaponics, sustainable food practices and providing technical and practical advice seems a better use of societal resource's than incarceration. As you consider his legal future, please strongly consider not imposing a prison sentence and allow Tim to remain with his family and continue on with his professional and personal endeavors.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards,


John R. May



To: The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi

c/o Philip H. Lowenthal
33 N. Market St.
Suite 101
Wailuku, Maui, HI 96793

Re: Letter of support for Tim Mann

My name is Clinton Kripki, I live in Anderson, Texas. Close to two years ago I made a substantial career switch from finance to become an aquaponic farmer. I searched far and wide for the information to make this possible and after much research I was confident that Tim Mann's company Friendly Aquaponics was the best model for my new venture. He offered both a wealth of experience and an ongoing commitment to make my investment in his course a success. On top of this he was constantly testing and bringing to the market via his newsletters an open source of information to the aquaponic community which continues today with these newsletters and by teaching aquaponic courses across the county.

What he has done has both shocked and disappointed me and caused him a heap load of trouble for which I hope he has learned a valuable lesson. On the flip side he has been open with the community about his actions and taken this as a lesson and opportunity to channel his energy into what he really stands for in bringing the wonders of aquaponic food production to the community and the planet. I believe he has much more to contribute even with this digression on his record. We are taught to forgive and learn from our mistakes, I have forgiven him and hope that he has learned from this criminal behavior.

I know that Tim has several children and a grandmother in his care as a father of 3 myself, the idea of these kids being put into foster care because of their parent's crime is both sad and disruptive to their family. It is my hope that you can find a consequence for his actions that will allow him to keep his family together and yet serve a sentence appropriate for the crime he has committed. Thank you for taking these extenuating circumstances into consideration and I respect your judgment and wish you all the best in your deliberation, I know this is not an easy question to face.

Sincerely,



Clinton Kripki
Emerald Aquaponic Farm

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Dear Honorable Judge Kobayashi,

My name is Sarah Glazer and I am writing in support of Tim Mann. I am an aquaponics farmer and illustrator living in Tennessee. I have know Tim for 5 1/2 months. I met him through Friendly Aqaponics when I took a week long class in Tennessee taught by him in September of 2013. He was a great teacher who lived up to his reputation of sharing his vast knowledge of all aspect of aquaponics with the whole class. Tim was very honest and candid about his current legal problems and what he has done wrong. He passionately warned the whole class not to follow in his footsteps by trying to grow marijuana.

Tim is a generous and honest man. He was always happy to spend extra time with the students and it was clear to me that he would not rest until we (the class) felt as if we understood exactly what he was teaching us. He encouraged us to email him and his wife with any amount of questions that we may have after the class was over. I honestly believe that his assertion that he wants to help people all over the world to feed themselves and do his part to combat hunger comes from his generous and loving nature. During the time I spent with him, it was also clear that Tim Mann is an exceptional father and husband. He spoke lovingly of his wife and enthusiastically of his children and their achievements. His son, Lucky, was in attendance at times during the class and Tim's attention to Lucky and behavior towards him made it clear that this is a family man who doesn't just talk the talk... he truly walks the walk.

I believe that taking Tim Mann and Susanne Friend away from their family, friends, and greater Aquaponics community would be a blow to us all. For the record, I do not approve of their actions in regards to growing marijuana. I do, however, support what they are doing in the present. I have been so inspired by Tim and Susanne that I am starting my own Aquaponics farm with my brother in Tennessee. We want to do like they have, and help people in our community eat healthy, clean foods year round.

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Thank you for reading my letter regarding Tim Mann. I would have liked to write one about Susanne as well, but I have not yet had the pleasure of meeting her.

Best Regards,

Sarah Glazer

Three Oaks Farm
845 Post Oak Bridge Rd.
Cookeville, TN 38506
931-739-1770

To: The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi

28 January 2014

From: Gary W. Young

Re: Tim Mann

I am an artist/inventor/builder with patents and many innovations in the field of Natural Fiber Composites as applied to recreational watercraft, boats, canoes, electric vehicle and alternative home building practices. Awarded a "Green Wave Award" from SURFER'S PATH magazine for my bamboo surfboards, I have presented papers and exhibits on Natural Fiber Composites at international Agro-forestry conferences around the Pacific.

I have personally known Tim Mann for nearly 40 years. I have never known him to do anything illegal.

In the mid-1970's I was impressed by his honesty and personal integrity as well as hard work, hands-on skills and common sense smarts as applied to boatbuilding and sailmaking. After moving to the Big Island in 1990, I became aware of Tim's dedication to helping third world fishermen by his years long boatbuilding efforts in the Marshall Islands. I also had several discussions about low-tech Natural Fiber Composite boatbuilding in less affluent areas.

Over the years here on the Big Island, I have seen his dedication to his family and community as well as his passion for innovative contributions to food growing solutions for humanity. I have often consulted with Tim on technical how-to ideas we each have shared with the common goal of doing things better.

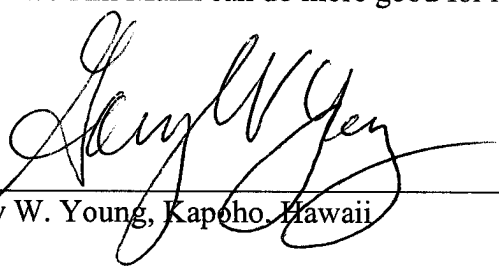
A few years ago I was shocked when Tim informed me of his arrest due to illegal marijuana growing activities, as I do not advocate breaking laws

I have stayed in touch afterwards and have been impressed with Tim's dedication to aquaponics – especially the outreach and travel which has taken him away from his home here.

Tim has expressed his regret and remorse and as a result has redoubled his efforts to do what is right for his family and humanity.

I strongly feel that Tim Mann can do more good for his family and humanity if not imprisoned.

Sincerely


Gary W. Young, Kapoho, Hawaii

29 Jan 2014

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January 20, 2014

TO: Judge Leslie Kobayashi

FROM: James T. Hiyane

Via/ Philip H. Lowenthal

33 N. Market St. Suite 101

Wailuku, Maui Hi 96793

Dear Sir:

In testament to support Susanne and Tim Mann, who are charged with growing marijuana in Honokaa, Hawaii, I strongly suggest that the court in its determination for sentence and punishment consider suspended sentences with community service for both. Their vast experience in food production can best serve the community to promote aquaponics food production geared for island conditions.

Six decades in economic development work throughout the Pacific region with the U.S. Department of Interior, various foreign governments, NGO's and religious institutes, have given me some insight to assess the aquaponics project undertaken by the Mann's, also a vehicle for their marijuana venture, is a viable and promising endeavor worthy of widespread promotion throughout Hawaii, the Continental U.S., and other developing countries in the Pacific.

So impressed was I with the results of their fish/food production farm that I enrolled in their special-tutored course using my personal funds to defray cost of air transportation, lodging, training costs, etc. to better understand this unique project. Their training course established firmly in my mind that this project is worthy of promulgation world-wide. Their comprehensive trials and experience in formulating a practical and flexible system for several levels of commercialization, back-yard subsistence farming or simple cottage-industry projects need to be promoted.

Under the charges of growing marijuana, stiff penalties may be in store for both. Perhaps, in lieu of incarceration for any prolonged period, society will be better served with their involvement in community service to promote the project in schools and farm communities throughout the State of Hawaii.

We hope your consideration in my humble suggestion for both Susanne and Tim Mann will be met favorably.

Sincerely yours,


James T. Hiyane, Pohnpei, Micronesia

Cc: Susanne and Tim Mann of Friendly Aquaponics

Philip H. Lowenthal ✓

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Alan E. Clements
2768 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC, Canada
T: 604-251-1781 E:
alan@worldddharma.com
I. www.AlanClements.com

Philip H. Lowenthal
33 N. Market St. Suite 101
Wailuku, Maui, HI 96793

January 27, 2014

Dear Honorable Judge Leslie Koybayashi,

I am writing on behalf of Tim Mann and Susanne Friend, as I am intimately involved with their lives and work, for I count them among the number of my dearest friends and colleagues, and, as teacher and mentor, I am both professionally and personally invested in their prosperity and accountability.

To briefly introduce myself, my name is Alan Clements. I am an author, international lecturer and seminar leader, and Founder-Director of The Burma Project International – a non-profit human rights and media advocacy organization founded in 1989 to support raising international awareness of Aung San Suu Kyi's message of reconciliation, restorative justice, and democratic reform through the production and publication of high-quality materials in support of her country's movement for democracy and respect for universal human rights.

My own passion for Burma's freedom is rooted in years spent as a Buddhist monk in Rangoon, a passion crystallized through years of investigative journalism and human rights work that included the publication of *Burma: The Next Killing Fields?* (with a foreword by the Dalai Lama), *Burma's Revolution of the Spirit* (that includes essays by eight Nobel Peace Laureates) and *The Voice of Hope*, comprised of six months of conversations with Aung San Suu Kyi, conducted at her Rangoon home shortly after her first release from detention in 1995. To date – this book, translated into 11 languages – is the most comprehensive account of the Noble Peace Laureate's political and spiritual philosophy, acclaimed as “a message the world should hear” by former US President Jimmy Carter and endorsed by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and numerous other Noble Peace Laureates and world leaders, while Aung San Suu Kyi herself was recently praised by President Obama, during a visit to Burma, as “an icon of democracy who has inspired people not just in this country but around the world.”

Over the course of my career my work for Aung San Suu Kyi and global human rights has been highlighted on ABC's Nightline, CBS Evening News, Talk to America, CBC, VOA, BBC, and by the New York Times, Time and Newsweek magazines, and scores of other media worldwide. In addition, I have presented to such organizations as Mikhail Gorbachev's State of The World Forum, The Soros Foundation, The United Nations Association of San Francisco, the Universities of California, Toronto, Sydney, and many others, including a keynote address at the John Ford Theater in Los Angeles for Amnesty International's 30th year anniversary.

I mention the fullness of my work and personal history to provide professional context for my relationship with Susanne and Tim, whom I have had the good fortune to know since 2007. Their regular participation in my week-long training seminar conducted on Maui, which brings people together from around the world to explore the interplay of mindfulness, conscience and global human



rights within one's community, family and culture, has afforded me an intimate knowledge of the strength of their character and conviction.

As a seminar leader for over 30 years, these extremely intimate, intensive gatherings are rooted in respect for the Preamble to the United Nation's Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states: "Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world. Whereas disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind, and the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want has been proclaimed as the highest aspiration of the common people."

Here, "conscience" is the operative word and the basis of why I teach at my seminars the fundamental importance of knowing "right" from "wrong," and when "wrong," learning the importance of accountability.

Over the years, I have come to learn a great deal about Susanne and Tim, both their life circumstances and who they are as people – their character, values and priorities. At my seminars, I have both witnessed and facilitated many hours of their communication between themselves (as a couple and a family) and with the other participants. I can say this with unequivocal confidence: rare in the world to see two individuals express such contrition for knowingly breaking the law and how blind they were to the seriousness of their mistake.

Among measures of a human's worth is their moral courage – their willingness to stand in truth and admit a fault or mistake. Susanne and Tim know what they did was wrong. They know they were ignorant. Frightened by their economic circumstances, they made a terrible decision. But they are not "narcotics traffickers." Rather, they are normal, loving, hard working parents who care deeply about their family, community and country.

I am aware that being arrested and charged with this crime has been the biggest single challenge of their lives. And because of their strength of character, they have turned this situation into one of their greatest blessings.


I have observed over the past few years how this crisis has focused their minds and hearts on their real mission in life. They have discovered how easy it is to go off one's bright shining path and get seduced into the mission of another. More importantly, they have made it clear to me, and witnessed by dozens of others, that they will NEVER allow such a circumstance as this to ever happen again. Far from the precipice of a slippery slope, their crime, and the terror they experienced upon realization of the significance of their actions, has acted as a turning point, crystallizing their genuine commitment to their community, their children, and themselves, a milestone as resplendent with integrity as their crime was with ignorance.

Their real mission in life is this: to grow organic, healthy vegetables, so that they as a family and as vital members of the Big Island Community can be vibrantly alive, independent, and free. To accomplish their true path, Tim and Susanne provide perhaps the best information available anywhere in the world that shows people how to build their own aquaponics systems and grow the healthiest organic food possible. I have personally studied their materials and in so doing, I can confidently say how it offers a comprehensive DIY manual to develop aquaponics systems of all sizes, anywhere. Even more importantly, I am confident that Tim and Susanne will never lose sight of that mission again.

In his book *No Future Without Forgiveness* Archbishop Desmond Tutu shares the lessons he learned during his four years in his role as Head of the Council of Truth and Reconciliation in his country of South Africa. He pardoned many hundreds of former members of the apartheid government who openly admitted to “rape, torture and murder,” and asked that their commitment to truth be the grounds of reconciliation. In pardoning such criminals Desmond Tutu offered the following advice: “Forgiving is not forgetting; its actually remembering – remembering and not using your right to hit back. Its a second chance for a new beginning. And the remembering part is particularly important. Especially if you don't want to repeat what happened.”

I hope you consider this information in regards to the charges Tim and Susanne are facing. Whatever the outcome of your decision, I want it to be known that Tim and Susanne are upstanding citizens of the United States of America, and sending them to prison will harm more than it will help. Thank you for taking the time to hear my thoughts on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan Clements', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Alan Clements

AdvanTek

HVAC • Energy • IAQ • Engineering

David P. Harlos, Sc.D

Building Systems Scientist

D_Harlos@bellsouth.net
(3531) 375-8797
Gainesville, FL 32601

27 January 2014

To: The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi
ICO:
Philip H. Lowenthal
33 N. Market St.
Suite 101
Wailuku, Maui, HI 96793

RE: Character Reference for Tim Mann

Dear judge Kobayashi:

This is a letter of support to the Federal judge prosecuting the case against Tim Mann

I am an environmental professional with a doctorate from the Harvard School of Public Health. I have specialized in air quality consulting for industrial, commercial and institutional clients. I have extensive international experience and I am interested in their food system work for inclusion in my foreign consulting work. As I near retirement, I have developed an interest in environmentally friendly, low-cost, family-scale food production, which is how I became acquainted with Tim. I have been reading their blog and occasionally corresponding with them for about 5 years and finally met them about 3 years ago at the first national US aquaponics conference, where they played an important leadership role. I have engaged in developing simple water and waste systems for developing nations and I have appreciated Tim's extensive work in creating simple effective systems aquaponic systems that be created by ordinary people. Their reputation among the larger aquaponics community is for technical innovation to be shared through community cooperation. The work they have done is largely "under the radar" and I have seen similar systems in the professional literature, but they stress sharing and propagating these systems for anyone's use. They seem to have a (largely successful) mission in life to freely share their simple, robust and inherently safe food production systems with others.

Tim and Susanne have been candid with me about their legal problems and have openly admitted their wrong-doing and accepted responsibility for their actions.

I have always been impressed with the Tim's ingeniously helpful technical nature and his unbelievable generosity and how he openly shares the fruits of his hard work. Tim and Susanne produce a weekly newsletter that is filled with immediately practical details (down to exact sources) for making and maintaining aquaponics systems. They constantly stressing the need to act responsibly one's work and provide the details from their own daily practice as examples. Their blog is replete with self-effacing stories of running into troubles on their farm (technical and personal) and artfully showing the reader how to avoid and manage such difficulties in their own lives. It's a pleasure to read their weekly blog because they will share the wrenching and heart-warming aspects of sharing their lives with strangers in service of their goal of teaching others to cheaply grow healthy food. It's quite inspiring (not to mention helpful in a nuts and bolts way)!

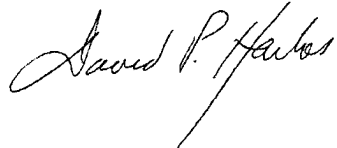
David P. Harlos, Sc.D. 1
618 Northeast Ninth Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32601 352.375.8797

Advantek Consulting, Inc.
d_harlos@bellsouth.net
27 January 2014

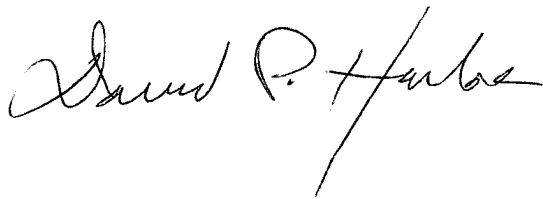
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I support of their contrite attitude, but hope that you will allow them home confinement so that they can continue what I see as important social work that deserves wider support. They have helped me to foster a spirit of open giving in my work.

Respectfully,



David P. Harlos, Sc.D.



January 26, 2014

To The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi,

I am a retired anesthesiologist and pain management physician and I continue to oppose the legalization of yet another tobacco product and mind altering substance whether legal or illegal based on the damaging effects on society. I have read the transcripts available online concerning this case and I understand the seriousness of the charges. If I were on a jury hearing this case, given my very conservative values I would find that society and members of law enforcement who put their lives on the line to enforce the rule of law must be our primary concern.

Therefore, I am writing in SUPPORT of Mr. TIM MANN. I met Tim in 2011 in an aquaponics course his family taught on their farm. I have followed the research and development in aquaponics the past five years and have found no other source to be doing the kind of practical, affordable and effective work in this very important field. Just this week scientists warned of severe and prolonged drought conditions in California and other states with water supplies down 80%, the worst in recorded history. The effects on the agricultural industry, therefore food supply and costs, will have devastating consequences both nationally and internationally. You only need look at recent events surrounding other natural disasters and access to food and water to see the future for all of us, especially law enforcement. Society needs everyone working to address this very real problem. Tim and family continue to make very significant advances in technology and education. I know Tim has been working to develop an effective and affordable biomass generator to address energy needs adaptable to any size and type of farm anywhere. I have seen this family teach aquaponic farming to even the most unlikely farmers and be able to excite and educate their students to develop and maintain a consistent food supply for personal and commercial use.

Since this event occurred Mr. Mann has proven by his continued commitment to family and a very admirable work ethic under very stressful circumstances, that he does not represent a danger to society. In fact, he has made significant contributions to farming and greenhouse technology for little to no compensation that will continue to benefit mankind for years to come.

I respectfully request the court consider the benefit to society of clemency for Mr. Tim Mann with a full and unconditional pardon.

Sincerely,

Thelma J. Mays MD

Thelma Jean Mays, MD

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The Honorable Leslie Kobayashi,

I write this letter to you for Tim Mann. I first met him through his website Friendly Aquaponics. I was looking for a new way to grow food. When I saw what he was doing I saw a business I could do with the whole family. I have worked for myself my whole life. This might fit in the next chapter of our lives.

I have been in the real estate game and flipping homes in Southern California. The economy put me on a journey to find a better way to feed my family.

Tim gave me that chance when he shared Aquaponics with me and my family. As of now my family has purchased the commercial system workbook from Tim. We have a small micro system setup in the backyard and eat off it weekly. He has been there for anything I have needed. He has made me interested in building this into a business.

He gives the real numbers and real information you need to be successful without charging you. I have recently contacted them to be an affiliate in Southern California. I am in the process now.

Tim has been up front with me from the start and shows a good character. He has been willing to share and give information for free, just to help other people. Where others would charge for this information.

I am in the process of selling an investment property to start a commercial system and bring the local grown farming to Southern California.

I am planning on taking Tim's next commercial Aquaponics class, so I can start my business.

Aquaponics seems to be new to a lot of people even though it's been around for thousands of years. Tim is on the cutting edge of this, and it would be a shame to take him away from this.

He has so much experience doing this over the years. He is the only person to get a certified organic certification on his farm. No others that I can find have done this. The great thing is Tim gives all this information away for free so you can do it also.

Please take this in to account when you sentence Tim he is a big part of my family and my success and a future mentor to me. I will need to lean on his knowledge and good will.

Thank you,



Raul Banuelos

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K

To the Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi.

My name is Matthew Murphy I live in Athlone Co Westmeath, Ireland

I am a graduate renewable energy engineer in the process of setting up my own Aquaponics business Tim Mann and Susanne Friend have been very obliging and helpful to me with any questions I had regarding Aquaponics, they have shared business plans and technical data that went way beyond the average response on a forum, their knowledge of the topic is of great value to the online Aquaponics community and will help a lot of people get nearer to achieving their goals.

They have asked for help regarding the current court case taking place. While what they did was wrong under the law .I believe that a sentence would not serve well with a family to look after, it is very important that their kids can have both parents around as often the lack of a strong family bond can result in negative social issues during their upbringing. They also have an older family member who is deserved of care and attention in return for what they have given; heading into the latter stages of their life. I hope you may see it fit to show leniency when the case is taken into court.

Kind regards Matthew Murphy

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Laboratory Data Consultants FL, Inc. 112 Kings Way, Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411

January 9, 2014

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi,

It is to my dismay to learn the circumstances and trouble in which Mr. Tom Mann and his wife Mrs. Suzanne Friend are at this time and the seriousness of the accusations against them, but at the same time I am very proud of them as they have clearly stated to their friends their acceptance of their responsibility for their actions past.

I'm a scientist specializing in environmental analysis and own a company that specializes in teaching ethics and quality assurance in the environmental industry. Outside of my business focus, I'm interested and participate in a wide palette of endeavors: I fly sailplanes and also design and fly radio control models, I'm a certified beekeeper and restaurant food safety manager. And I have a special interest in the self-sustainable growth of vegetables and fisheries systems as could be applied successfully in underdeveloped societies.

I met Tom and Suzanne through my research on the best type of hydroponics and fish farming as applied to a self-sustainable mix of both sciences. They developed and continue improving on a system that combines both, but what is more important, they teach other people on how to do it successfully in an honest, pragmatic and realistic way.

From the beginning they have been honest on communicating what to expect about costs, hardships, yields, return on investment and performance and under no circumstance have followed the path of false promoters and they have answered all my questions in a very professional way.

Their research work is the type of work that in the long run benefits society and it is important to allow them to continue their mission.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julio Paredes'. The signature is fluid and stylized, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Julio Paredes,
President

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JAN 11 2014

January 17, 2014

To The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi;

We write this in support of Tim Mann and Susanne L. Friend, not to condone the commission of their crime but to ask for the mercy from the court.

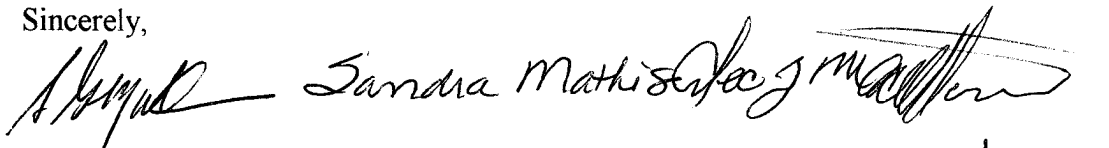
Our family comprises Four Streams Family Farms in Cleveland, TN. We have been developing a commercial aquaponics business for the last twelve months. Susanne and Tim have played a major roll in the development of our business. We have attended their trainings, purchased their manuals and committed to send our son to their farm internship program. They have conducted all of our business transactions with integrity and professionalism. Their commitment to the aquaponics industry is without question. The development of sustainable food sources is a recognized need around the world.

My wife, Sandy, is a former publisher and elementary school teacher. I am the owner of Mathis Insurance Services here in Cleveland, TN. She and I have spent much of the last 14 years in the drug and alcohol recovery ministry. We were on staff at an 85 bed recovery center in Okeechobee, FL and started and developed two half-way houses for recovering addicts and those returning to society from jail or prison. Our experience has shown us the crimes people commit under varying circumstances. We have learned that the two keys to recovery are repentance and personal responsibility. We believe Tim and Susanne have taken responsibility for their actions and are truly sorry. The promises they have made to never to do it again are sincere.

Society and certainly the aquaponics industry will not benefit from the incarceration of Tim and Susanne. The damage to their family, especially their younger children could impact generations.

They have admitted their guilt without condition to the court and to their industry. We believe the punishment they have endured thus far is enough. They are convicted felons with the damage to their reputations, let that be enough. Let them serve the rest of their sentence serving their family, humanity and their industry.

Sincerely,


Steve Mathis, Sandra Mathis, Alec Macmillan, Joseph Jones
Four Streams Family Farms

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1-24-14
K

Aqua Harvest Greens

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi

Dear Judge;

My name is Mark Kelly. I have been in the restaurant business for 23 years. I have set up 84 Food and Deli locations. I have known Tim & Susanne for over a year. I am the President of my corporation, Since meeting Tim & Susanne I have started Aqua Harvest Greens, a company that is growing Microgreens for restaurants and will soon grow organic lettuce and vegetables thru Aquaponics for stores and restaurants. Our trade name is " The Two Fish Project " because our goal is also to build sustainable food production for orphanages our Church sponsors around the world.

Along with my brother Matthew last year we installed Friendly Aquaponic Systems in Indonesia, South America, South Africa and the Philippines. All were for orphanages in these countries. I did a personal training last August at Tim & Susanne's Farm. They both welcomed me and even opened their home to me. I ate with their family and we shared stories. Tim & Susanne through their generosity and Aquaponic Trainings have greatly multiplied their efforts to have our society provide and consume sustainable, organic certified, high quality and great tasting vegetables.

They freely share their knowledge and experiences to assist future organic farmers like myself to have a successful business. Tim & Susanne have made an incredible positive impact on thousands of people through their works with Aquaponics and I look forward to a great relationship with them in the future.

Warmest Regards,



Mark Kelly
President
Aqua Harvest Green

T: 408-921-8148 • www.aquaharvestgreens.com

JAN 15 2014



405-255-1249 jason.diehl@turbowebs.com 10201 Banner Rd, Lexington, OK 73051

January 8, 2014

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi
c/o Philip H. Lowenthal
33 N. Market St., Suite 101
Wailuku, Maui, HI 96793

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi,

I write this letter to you with a heavy heart concerning the upcoming sentencing of a couple I've grown to love working with even with the great distance that separates us.

I met Tim just less than a year ago. I've actually been following everything that they do as a business online for a couple of years now. It's has always truly impressed me with how much Tim and Susanne has accomplished. When I finally put aside the money and decided to take the leap into Aquaponics I made my first order. When I communicated with them over email, my signature of course presents me as the "Internet Medicine Man", because I program websites and help people online.

A friendship was born. They needed help with their website, and I needed help with Aquaponics. I communicate with Tim regularly over email, he is an extremely hard worker. I've only really communicated once with Susanne as she wanted to personally express gratitude for the help I had been providing.

One thing that impressed me the most was that Tim wrote me a serious email one day explaining the problem they had gotten into dealing with this case. Most people try to hide that kind of thing, but they came forward to let me know in case it would change my opinion of them to the point that I wouldn't want to work with them.

Of course I already had a suspicion of these things because they outline the mistake they made even in their training materials. Tim and Susanne have a high level of integrity and a sense of obligation to ensure others don't make their mistakes.

While I do not approve of breaking the law, I hope that in all your wisdom you can be even the slightest amount lenient in their sentencing. They do know what is right and what is wrong. They do accept responsibility for what they have done. I do believe that they will not repeat any such offense.

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JAN 14 2014



405-255-1249 jason.diehl@turbowebs.com 10201 Banner Rd, Lexington, OK 73051

They are an important part of the growing Aquaponics landscape. What they are creating is a way for everyone to take more control in their lives by growing their own food. And everything I know about Tim, tells me even in the short time that I've known him that is what he is about: Taking more control and responsibility of their lives to live a fuller life with their family.

Sincerely yours,

Jason Diehl
Internet Medicine Man
TurboWebs, LLC

George Liang
718 Long Cove Court
Riverwoods IL 60015
January 8, 2014

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi

Dear Judge Kobayashi,

Please forgive me for not using my standard letterhead; I'm currently away from my office on a business trip in Nanjing, China.

My name is George Liang and I am the Director of Special Projects at Transcell Technology Inc, Buffalo Grove and my wife and I also own and operate Luxy Apparel Company, Deerfield.

I had the pleasure of spending a week with Tim Mann and his son Lucky at a Commercial Aquaponics course that he taught in Tennessee September of 2013 and as a member of the Aquaponics community online I have a good understanding of its current state. Tim is a lot like my father; a creator who has the capacity not only to succeed in a field yet is able to help it advance into its next stage. He is very unlike everyone else in the Aquaponics industry he is a man with integrity, while he promotes affordable Aquaponics that is created using local and recyclable components many of his competitors only want to ship customers premade systems, in some cases the shipping costs as much as Tim's entire system. And while Tim encourages people to share portions of his material and provides a plethora of information and solid business advice his competitors such as Nelson and Pade requires students to sign a non compete agreement before entering the classroom. He does not nickel and dime clients by trying to sell "valued added" services or charge expensive consultation fees, his pricing structure isn't to get rich rather it is to get by and to promote Aquaponics.

In a relatively new field such as Aquaponics, many people are exploiting this lack of public understanding in order to make make a quick buck and have absolutely no real experience in Aquaponics nor have they done proper experimentation/research. Tim and Susanne are an invaluable resource, the George Washing Carver of Aquaponics. It would be in the best interest of the community to allow them to continue on without interruption. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
George Liang



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JAN 13 2014

The Honorable Judge Leslie Koybayashi
United States District Court for the District of Hawai'i

December 16, 2013

Character Letter for Tim Mann

Your Honor,

My name is Dr. Wayne Calvin Byrd II and I am a resident of Los Angeles who has had the great fortune of being able to spend time with and learn from Tim Mann of Friendly Aquaponics. I understand that not long from now you will be in a position to determine the length and nature of the consequence for Tim's past mistakes. I write this letter to add a small bit of perspective for your consideration.

I first met Tim in 2012 when I traveled to the Big Island of Hawai'i to attend a week long training course in Aquaponics that he was hosting. I had previously read all about the work he was doing and was curious whether someone with such technical mastery of a subject I so desired to learn would be welcoming or slightly irritated by the technical deficiency of another brand new pupil. I soon found out that Tim was not only welcoming but is somewhat of a humble genius that enjoys enlightening his students.

In the time I have spent with Tim, I have found him to be the type of person that has a deep desire to explore, discover, and luckily for his students and his community, to share his discoveries. I mention this because in our world of perceived scarcity it is unusual to find a person who has discovered a technical advantage, but chooses to share their unique methods with others. For Tim, cooperation is a much more important operating principle than competition.

I find Tim to be a cultural anomaly in another way as well. Tim innovates with more than quality and functionality in mind as his guides; he keeps financial accessibility in mind as well. Tim's innovations could easily have been designed in a fashion that would price out all except those with the greatest financial resources. Tim chooses to design his innovations with the average person in mind to ensure that almost everyone can take advantage of his discoveries. Without this concern for the average person, I would have never been able to learn all that I have from Tim.

As a person who wants to live a more sustainable life and is constantly searching for ways to make sure that my family and I are able to take care of ourselves, people like Tim are godsend. In the past few years I have redesigned my vision for my future based on lessons learned from Tim. His innovations and the great guidance he has offered have increased my confidence exponentially.

I tell you all of this because I want you to know the way that he is impacting people all over the country that are searching for guidance and help in creating sustainable lives for themselves and their families. His work is literally helping people to feed themselves, their families and their communities.

Thank you for taking the time to read my thoughts and to consider how important he is to those of us whose lives he has touched.

Sincerely,

Dr. Wayne Calvin Byrd II
Dr. Wayne Calvin Byrd II

3636 Keystone Avenue, #1
Los Angeles, CA 90034
(310) 678-9461

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1-6-14 Kp

T. GREGORY KEMP

HAWAII
550 PAIEA STREET, SUITE 230, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96819
DIRECT 808-237-3295 FAX 808-833-3046 CELL 808-220-6763
FLORIDA
3000 IBIS WAY, SUITE 201, VENICE, FL 34292
NORTH CAROLINA
5 CHEDWORTH WAY, ASHEVILLE, NC 28701
greg.kemp@kboxusa.com

January 8, 2014

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi
United States District Court
for the District of Hawaii

Dear Judge Kobayashi,

I write this letter in support of Tim Mann.

I have been a real estate developer and investor in Hawaii for 35-years. However, my passion is to work with charities – both local and international, including Friends of Hawaii Charities in Hawaii and Mercy Ships in West Africa.

In 2011, we traveled with Mercy Ships to Sierra Leone. The poverty is indescribable. Returning to Hawaii, I began to research aquaponics training. I remember calling Tim Mann for the first time to discuss our mission, but also the publicity of his and Susanne's legal issues. Tim was very open and honest about what had occurred. Shortly thereafter we completed a 3-day private training program at Friendly Aquaponics in Honoka'a, Hawaii. I was, and still am, amazed at Tim's knowledge of aquaponics and how to make it work in poor areas of the world like West Africa.

In the past 2+ years, we have taken the knowledge gained at Friendly Aquaponics to schools and orphanages in Ghana, Togo and Benin (with a combined population of 50-million). Thousands of children are learning how to grow food for their families and villages. Much of the credit for our success goes to Susanne and Tim for their hearts to help our mission.

Respectfully,



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1-9-14

Dear Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi,

This letter is concerning Tim Mann. ... I am an organic farmer, massage therapist & business person on the west side of the island. I have known him for about 7 or 8 years & have visited their aquaponics farm a few times to learn from them and also to take other people to learn. They are really setting a great example for how we can live sustainably and organically. I would not want to see him punished for something thing that he didn't really even know he was doing wrong. Now that this has been pointed out to him he is very sorry and won't do it again.... Tim has been publically regretting his choices & apologized . He is an outstanding citizen of the Hamakua community with integrity & honor. He is a hard worker and a good father.... He will be a great asset to the community still (even more) if allowed to continue on being a teacher, father & community member.

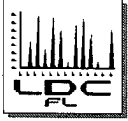
Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

Nikki Spencer

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nikki Spencer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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JAN 14 2014



Laboratory Data Consultants FL, Inc. 112 Kings Way, Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411

January 9, 2014

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi,

It is to my dismay to learn the circumstances and trouble in which Mr. Tom Mann is at this time and the seriousness of the accusations against him, but at the same time I am very proud of him as he has clearly stated to his friends his acceptance of his responsibility for his actions past.

I'm a scientist specializing in environmental analysis and own a company that specializes in teaching ethics and quality assurance in the environmental industry. Outside of my business focus, I'm interested and participate in a wide palette of endeavors: I fly sailplanes and also design and fly radio control models, I'm a certified beekeeper and restaurant food safety manager. And I have a special interest in the self-sustainable growth of vegetables and fisheries systems as could be applied successfully in underdeveloped societies.

I met Tom through my research on the best type of hydroponics and fish farming as applied to a self-sustainable mix of both sciences. His company developed and continues improving on a system that combines both, but what is more important, they teach other people on how to do it successfully in an honest, pragmatic and realistic way.

From the beginning he has been honest on communicating what to expect about costs, hardships, yields, return on investment and performance and under no circumstance has followed the path of false promoters and he has answered all my questions in a very professional way.

The type of research work in which he is involved, is the type of work that in the long run benefits society and it is important to allow him and his partner to continue their mission.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julio Paredes", written over a horizontal line.

Julio Paredes,
President

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JAN 11 2014



January 8, 2014

To: The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi

From: Janelle Engle

2800 SW 14th Street, Suites 6-8

Bentonville, AR 72712

RE: Tim Mann

Dear Judge Kobayashi,

My Name is Janelle Engle. I live in Northwest Arkansas where I own and operate a retail Yarn shop. I am a wife, mother, college graduate, Notary Public, and I sit on the Board of Directors for my church the First United Methodist Church of Bella Vista Arkansas.

I have gotten to know Tim Mann over the past 2 years through his farm business Friendly Aquaponics via emails, and by following his newsletters which I receive regularly. I have found him to be an intelligent and helpful person. He has shown me kindness and respect in answering questions about my efforts to grow plants hydroponically; specifically where to find needed supplies and tools, as well as safety tips. He has often written about his family and their efforts to create a lasting legacy of improved farming for themselves and the world, telling about current building projects on the farm as well as his personal goals to teach martial arts.

He has always been very sincere in his writings and building plans that state he intends everyone to use his information to benefit themselves and their community by growing food, and never to try and grow anything that is illegal. He states very plainly in the eBook that he does not want anyone to try and grow marijuana; saying that besides it being illegal that it will not work in hydroponics or aquaponics systems.

He has stated often in the eBook that we should be careful and respect everyone and ourselves, and to be kind to our bodies as they are "our house, and without them where will we live?"

Tim has always shown respect when talking about government FDA regulators and his competitors, backing his statements with facts about personal findings and experimentations in hydroponics while striving to meet all safe food organic growing regulations.

He has shown great integrity and generosity in sharing (free!) his new technological finds with the worldwide community, such as his fish hatching nets for tilapia, which promises greater numbers of fish produced with a simple net nursery device that is easy to make and use. I know that he hosts regular farm tours, and training seminars geared to educate and promote hydroponic growing. I personally have learned much about hydroponics from Tim through his "Tips" section of her webzine, as well as from his Aquaponics eBook. With his help I have been successful growing flowers and food items (peppers, lettuce, herbs like basil and sage).

January 7, 2014

Aloha! Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi!

I have known of and followed Tim Mann at Friendly Aquaponics for two years .

His depth of knowledge in the field of Aquaponics is nearly unheard of.

When classes he presented became available on the mainland I immediately signed up.

And in February of 2013 I attended a 7 day workshop and training session in Tennessee hosted by his friend Randy Campbell of Today's Green Acres. Tim has taken the field of Aquaponics to a new level.

His initial training at UVI had Tim tinkering with the system almost immediately, and since then has modified and enhanced that system far greater in capacity than ever known before.

Upon completion of the course in February of 2013, I immediately came home and built one for myself.

Having many questions about the build out itself, I was constantly emailing and calling Tim for needed help and advice. Tim was constantly there for me, and within one month my system was up and running

During our workshop Tim would constantly be answering questions and keeping us involved in the process

Tim has been a consistent mentor for me, his newsletters are bright , interesting and vibrant.

His materials are complete and informative, and he really wants to impart his knowledge and passion into each one of his students and friends.

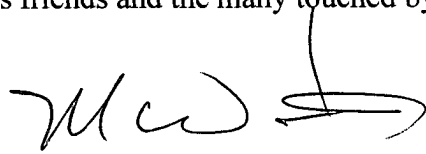
Tim is a special person. The world needs people like him.

He is constantly helping others be able to continue to expand the boundary's of their life's work.

Please Your Honor, look past Tim's current mistake, and let him be free to devote his time and passion to his family, his friends and the many touched by his kindness, wisdom and devotion to all.

Sincerely,

Max Wulff
2656 Burlingham Dr.
Ashtabula Ohio 44004
440-964-2171
www.happy-greens.com



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JAN 13 2014

January 7, 2014

To the Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi,

I am writing in support of Tim Mann who is my mentor in aquaponics. I participated as a student in the Friendly Aquaponics seven day training program held in Tennessee in 2013. Tim has made a significant difference in my life. I found Tim Mann to be an excellent teacher, an expert in aquaponics, a devoted husband and father, and someone I consider to be a good human being.

My contact with Tim has continued professionally over the year as he kindly and patiently continues to provide advice and solutions to issues that arise as my aquaponics business grows.

While I do not approve of the actions which caused Tim's legal problems, I think he has been forthright in his candid admission of wrong doing and he accepts responsibility for his actions.

I hope you can find a way to allow Tim to continue his good work producing food sustainably and sharing his expertise with thousands of people. Tim Mann is a valuable educator and serves the world best with his knowledge.

Please allow Tim Mann his freedom to continue to make a positive difference in our world.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marilyn Wulff". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marilyn Wulff
2656 Burlingham Drive
Ashtabula, Ohio 44004

DLH INVESTMENTS INC.

208-250-1400
Douglasholladay@msn.com
4904 E Greenhurst Rd.
Nampa, Idaho 83686

January 7, 2014

Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi
33 N Market Street Ste., 101
Wailuku, Maui, HI 96793

I am Douglas L. Holladay, a business man and CEO of DLH Investments Inc. I own and operate 5 successful entities relating to investment properties, property management, storage facilities, day spas and a very successful real estate firm in Idaho.

I came to know Tim Mann when I happened to come across a web site that detailed an aquaponics farm that he had created. I had been searching for years for a simple farm that I could build to become self-sufficient for myself and my neighbors. I believed that I had found one system and took the training necessary to build that system.

In the process of building that system, I continued to search the internet and gather information when I came upon the site of Friendly Aquaponics. I immediately recognized it as the most complete and comprehensive system that was on the web. I immediately contacted Tim and was astonished at the knowledge & comprehension of aquaponics that he possessed.

I was so impressed with the Friendly Aquaponics system that I have begun the process of starting a new business of training, supplying and creating a large commercial aquaponics farm for growth of food to supply to our local food bank. I could not have begun to think about this venture without the help of Tim.

I have been very impressed with their candid honesty about those items that have been going on in their lives and with their family. I realize that we all make mistakes, but how we overcome and grow from those mistakes is what separates those who have really learned and are committed to bringing about a positive change in their lives as well as others, and those that were just caught with their hand in the cookie jar and are trying to get by until their next con job.

The work that Tim is doing all over the country, within his community and the gift that he is giving the world in teaching them to become self-reliant is unmeasurable in

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JAN 13 2014

Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi

Luke Fowler
4980 Hayes Tower Rd
Gaylord, MI 49735

January 11, 2014

Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi,

My name is Luke Fowler. I currently reside in the state of Michigan with my girlfriend, 11 year old daughter, and our shih tzu dogs. I am employed through Nestle USA, and hold the position of Route Sales Representative. I have high ambitions to create my vision of growing food differently through the systems of aquaponics.

I am writing this letter in regards to a friend of mine, Tim Mann, of Friendly Aquaponics, Inc., in Hawaii. I spoke with Tim's wife, Susanne Friend in December of 2011, after discovering their family's aquaponic farm and business online. I was very interested in learning how to grow vegetable with aquaponics systems and I instantly knew Friendly Aquaponics was the right choice.

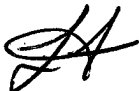
My girlfriend, daughter, and I travelled to Hawaii in February of 2012 to take several of their courses teaching about commercial aquaponics, and greenhouses that would work well with these systems. When I first met Tim and his wife, I felt very comfortable around them, with how real, honest, kind, and down to earth they both were. They had their whole family there as well, all sharing their passion and knowledge of aquaponics. I could tell that Tim was the kind of person who lives with high integrity, and respect to life. What Tim and Susanne have to openly share was and is very valuable to me, and assists me in moving forward with my vision of changing the way food is grown, starting with myself and family.

Tim has so much valuable information to share with us, through his stories of his personal journeys and experiences. They always leave me smiling and uplifted. What Tim and his wife Susanne have to offer is very much in alignment with helping this world to be a better place for all of us. He has great potential and opportunities for making this happen each and every day. This would not be so, if he were to ever have to go to jail for a poor choice made in the past that did no harm to anyone else.

I would so much like to see his potential and opportunities always be there, and for him to be able to continue to live with his wife and family; continuing to teach and share such valuable information.

Thank you so much for your time.

Sincerely,
Luke Fowler



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Douglas DeMers
57 Armitage Hill Road, Riverside, WA 98849
(509) 429-4104 (cell) Douglas@douglasdemers.com (email)
January 11, 2014

To: The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi.

RE: Tim Mann

My name is Douglas DeMers, and I am writing to you to offer my thoughts about Tim.

In 2003, I retired from management in a high-tech company, and am currently excited about being involved in the Permaculture movement since 2007. In addition, I currently hold the office of Vice President of the Okanogan (Washington) Slow Food chapter. Slow Food is an international organization which envisions a world in which all people can access and enjoy food that is good for them, good for those who grow it and good for the planet. The emphasis is on supporting sustainable, natural and local food production and consumption. In my opinion, aquaponics – as implemented and taught by Tim at friendlyaquaponics.com – is in accord with Permaculture and Slow Food principles.

I was introduced to the concept of aquaponics in January of 2012 while visiting a permaculture friend on Kaua'i. Through this connection, I met another couple on Kaua'i who were using aquaponics, and both of these contacts recommended friendlyaquaponics.com. When I returned from Kaua'i, I contacted Susanne and Tim at friendlyaquaponics.com; I signed up for their free emails, and soon purchased a set of plans for an aquaponics system. I am looking forward to building my own aquaponics system, and I feel confident in being able to follow the plans and the voluminous amount of hints, tips and procedures that I have received.

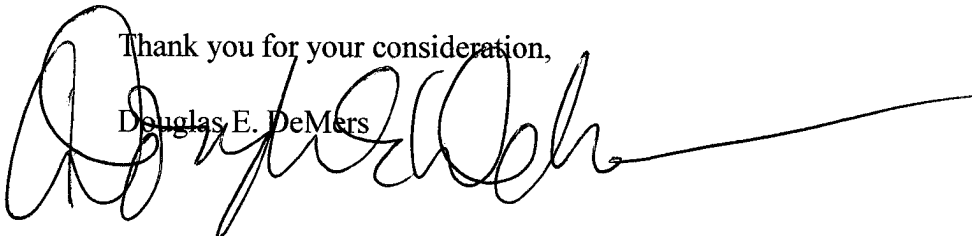
I have also had several email conversations with Tim clarifying information in the plans, and I have been pleased and gratified with the care and quality of his responses to my questions. I am inspired by his willingness to respond to my inquiries and his obvious enthusiasm and first-hand knowledge about aquaponics. Although I have not yet met Tim in person, through his newsletters and personal email conversations I have had with him, I feel very good about Tim as a person.

I am in support of the work that Tim is doing now with aquaponics. He and Susanne are doing great things together to spread their knowledge and wisdom about aquaponics and making this information freely available so that others may benefit from this knowledge and create a more sustainable life.

I believe it would be a major blow to sustainability and the aquaponics movement if Tim is locked up in prison. Tim has been candid about his legal problems, and I believe he recognizes clearly his bad judgement. I urge you to consider a lenient sentencing in deliberating this case.

Thank you for your consideration,

Douglas E. DeMers



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January 11, 2014

To Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi,

I write to you this morning in support of Tim Mann. I understand that Tim has been charged with the federal crime of growing marijuana. Though I understand that this is a serious matter in the eyes of the federal criminal justice system, I want you to know what a strong and positive influence Tim has had in the community of aquaponics and I encourage you to consider this positive impact when issuing his sentence.

I am a professional documentary filmmaker and college lecturer at the University of California, Santa Barbara. I first met Tim and his partner, Susanne Friend, in September of 2013 when I traveled to their farm outside of Hilo, Hawaii. I was pursuing a commercial knowledge of employing aquaponics to grow fruits and vegetables for a blossoming fresh juice business in Santa Barbara, CA. For four days, Tim and Susanne hosted me and provided an incredible working knowledge of aquaponics. They were extremely giving in both knowledge of the trade and hospitality. Tim is one of the most hard-working and honest men I know. He can design and build just about anything that can be imagined and willing to help new practitioners of aquaponics well beyond the call of duty.

Tim is a good man who made the wrong decision in a time of great stress and need on his family. He does not deserve to go to prison for this crime. He has learned his lesson. To take him from his family would be doubling the suffering he and his family have already endured as a result of this mistake.

Please consider a supervised release for Tim knowing that he will do much more good for the community at large than locked away.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Michael Hanrahan

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January 11, 2014

Teri Gwarek
Box 503
Naalehu, HI 96772

To: Judge Leslie Kobayashi

I'm a fellow farmer living in the same neighborhood as Tim Mann and have visited their aquaponics farm for ideas about enhancing food production for the community. Tim was extremely knowledgeable on the subject and helpful to all. Their weekly farm tours are the talk of the island and people come from long distances to obtain information and witness the bountiful food production.

I'm also part of a nonprofit called Project Indigo, that strives to teach children about sustainability and self-reliance. The Mann's have been helping so many people on the island and have donated an aquaponics instructional booklet to our organization to further this goal. Having worked closely with homeless and orphaned children, I know first-hand about the importance of children growing up with parents in their lives. I've been to the Mann's farm and have seen their young children happy and playful, daring one another to each mosquito fish, live. Their carefreeness is the result of interaction with loving parents. They are also learning the trade and will one day, become farmers themselves. The Manns are fine, respectable people in our community and they contribute greatly to the sustenance of this island. Most of all, their young children need them to be home to take care of them.

Sincerely,


Teri Gwarek

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January 11, 2014

White Violet Center for Eco-Justice
1 Sisters of Providence
Saint Mary of the Woods, IN 47876

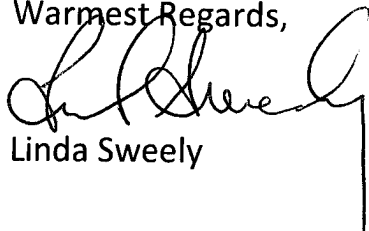
To: The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi

I write this letter in regards to Tim Mann's arrest and upcoming sentencing. I am a small business owner who has taken a six month leave of absence from my work to do an internship at an organic farm, run by the Sisters of Providence in Terra Haute, Indiana. I am working with them on a feasibility report of being able to provide produce for the sister's consumption, in their dining halls and long term care facility. Tim has been very helpful in my assessing what the sister's current greenhouse and high tunnels might be able to do for them if converted to aquaponics. Tim is a hard worker and has a passion for developing systems that can feed the world, in simple and easy to operate systems.

Tim made me aware of the crime that he committed and is very sorry for being so naïve and for his involvement.

I feel that Tim has done so much good for the world in creating aquaponic systems and teaching people around the world how to build and operate them. It would be a shame to lose him as a resource to a fledgling industry that is so crucial at this juncture in time. It is so important for there to be non-oil based systems that can feed the world and Tim is at the forefront, leading the way with new and innovative models for sustainability. I hope that the court will find it within their mercy to release Tim so that he can go back to his life of creating systems and teaching others, such as myself, how to do it in my own town. Thank You for your consideration in this matter.

Warmest Regards,



Linda Sweely

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Aquaponics No Ka 'Oi

Maui Grown Organic

198 Kono Place
Kahului, HI 96732

808-344-9756
<http://apnko.com>

Since 2010

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi
United States District Court
District of Hawaii
300 Ala Moana Blvd C-338
Honolulu, HI 96850

Dear Judge Kobayashi,

I am writing this letter in support of Tim Mann of Friendly Aquaponics, Inc. who will be up for Federal sentencing on February 13th, 2014, on marijuana charges.

Please let me introduce myself. My name is Patty Yonashiro. I graduated from the University of Hawaii Hilo College with a BA in English and a minor degree in education. I then went on for my BSN degree at the University of Hawaii Manoa Campus and became a Registered Nurse soon after. I am married to Larry Yonashiro and we have been blessed with four beautiful daughters, three of which are married and have started families of their own. The oldest majored in International business, our second daughter is a Food Scientist, our third daughter is an Architect. Our youngest daughter was sworn in to the Hawai'i Bar this past November. Although you haven't met us, my family was present when you gave your inspirational talk drawing on Tammy Duckworth's experience in Iraq. Thank you!

I worked as an RN for a short while, then raised our four girls. I started back into the Nursing field while in Dillingham, Alaska. Alaska was a wonderful place to raise our children and we lived there for ten years. We have also lived in Japan, Okinawa, Seattle, and Colorado. Three of our daughters were born overseas on Military bases. We came home when my mother suffered a stroke, became bed and wheelchair bound and we returned to Maui to care for her and also my mother in law. My Mom passed away a few years ago and my Mother in Law passed away at age 93 on September 29, 2013.

My husband was interested in Aquaponics and in October of 2010 we attended a class in Honoka'a taught by Tim Mann and his wife. The classes were four days long and during that time, we learned to get to know Tim, his talents, his passion for learning and his desire to help others learn from his mistakes and to save us from going through unnecessary trouble, frustration, cost and pain that they went through.

One of the things Tim and his wife shared was that they made a horrible mistake and they wanted everyone in the class to be aware of their mistake, the consequences of that mistake and their pleas for us not to make the same mistake. Both Tim and his wife, Susanne were very forthright and honest about how they grew marijuana, hoping that it would get them out of financial trouble. They did not blame anyone but themselves for the choices they made.

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We were blessed with having Tim stay with us for ten days as my husband assisted Tim with the installation of an aquaponics system for Maui Economic Opportunity (MEO) at Ke Kahua Hanai, a project designed to teach traditional values to native Hawaiians, including the use of new technology such as Aquaponics to grow food. During that time, Tim worked during the days and although he did not have free time, his waking moments were non stop sharing of knowledge of how we could improve our system and solutions to problems we were experiencing. The information that he shared freely with us was invaluable. He was kind, honest, hard working, generous and always willing to sharing his expertise with us. He was like family and will continue to be so.

In the three years since meeting Tim, he continues to think of us and even invited my husband to take his place as one of the keynote speakers on aquaponics in Rorotonga in the Cook Islands when Tim could not attend due to other obligations. The experience allowed my husband to share his backyard aquaponics with those wanting to grow crops in similar situations... poor soil conditions, limited resources and island conditions.

We have met Tim and Suzanne's children and they are polite, sweet and are hard working like their parents. We continue to receive Friendly Aquaponics Newsletters to help us succeed in our desire to be sustainable and to help others reach similar goals.

Please take the following into consideration before you decide on this case. Tim Mann is fully aware of wrongfully growing marijuana, has repeatedly told us that he would never do this again and has made it known that he will tell people not to do what they have done. Tim continues to be a great teacher and mentor.

Due to the fact that this is Tim's first offense, I plead with the judge for her good judgement in the sentencing. I realize that we cannot diminish the seriousness of the crime or the justice required, but please allow him to continue to serve his family and the community.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patty Yeiko Yonashiro".

Patty Yeiko Yonashiro, Vice President
Aquaponics No Ka 'Oi



Aquaponics No Ka 'Oi

Maui Grown Organic

198 Kono Place
Kahului, HI 96732

808-344-9756
<http://apnko.com>

Since 2010

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi
United States District Court
District of Hawaii
300 Ala Moana Blvd C-338
Honolulu, HI 96850

Dear Judge Kobayashi,

I am writing this letter in support of Tim Mann of Friendly Aquaponics, Inc. who will be up for Federal sentencing on February 13th, 2014, on marijuana charges.

Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Larry Yonashiro. I was born and raised in the plantation camp of Upper Paia on Maui, then moved to Kahului in 1960. I am an Honorably Discharged Air Force Veteran and served a year in Vietnam. I attended the University of Hawaii on the GI Bill, but later graduated from the University of Maryland in Business and Management. I am a lifetime member of the honor society of Phi Kappa Phi. I received a Graduate Certificate in Information Systems Management from City College in Bellevue, Washington. I also spent ten years as Chief Information Officer for the Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation, an Alaska Native Tribal Organization, in Dillingham, Alaska. I have never been in trouble with the law. My youngest of four daughters, Connie Yonashiro, was recently sworn in to the Hawai'i Bar this past November, and I really enjoyed your inspirational "standing your perimeter" talk drawing on Tammy Duckworth's experience in Iraq.

I worked for a Department of Defense Contractor, Sperry Univac, on military installations in the Pacific, Japan, and Okinawa. My highest security clearance at that time was Top Secret/SI. We returned to Hawaii in 2002 to care for my Mother-in-law, who had a stroke and was partially paralyzed. Luckily, the company that I had a contract with at that time, IBM in Boulder, Colorado, allowed me to work from home in Hawaii. We also cared for my mother, who was in her 80's. Both of our mothers were widowed. My wife is a Registered Nurse and devoted herself full time to their care. We currently volunteer weekly with the University of Hawaii's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources Master Gardener extension program.

I first met Tim Mann when I took a training class from him in October of 2010 in Honoka'a where I learned about Aquaponics as a means of sustainable food production. The timing of the class coincided with my retirement from over thirty years of work in information systems technology and management. My intent was to learn enough about Aquaponics to establish my own farm as a retirement business and contribute to the food supply of Hawaii. I had read about Friendly Aquaponics in a 2009 issue of the Honolulu Advertiser (<http://the.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/2009/Sep/27/il/hawaii909270311.html>), where they were described as the largest and oldest Aquaponics operation in Hawaii and the nation's first Aquaponics operation to be organically certified. The article also described a commercial account that they had obtained with COSTCO on the Big Island.

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KD

KEN RICHARDSON

17580 Spur Ranch Road • Peyton, CO 80831
Phone: 719-229-3220 • Fax: 719-522-0455 • E-mail: ken700@sycraft.com

January 13, 2014

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi
U.S. District Court for the District of Hawaii
300 Ala Moana Boulevard
Honolulu, HI 96850

c/o Philip H. Lowenthal
33 N. Market St. Suite 101
Wailuku, Maui, HI 96793

Dear Judge Kobayashi:

I am writing in support of Timothy Mann, with the hope that you will consider sentencing him to supervised release rather than incarceration for his marijuana trafficking crime.

Timothy Mann and Susanne Friend have been of great service to me for almost four years via their generous sharing of information about how to grow vegetables using "aquaponics". Their information is especially valuable because it greatly improves the operational efficiency over other available methods.

Their generosity is noteworthy because their methods are based on their own original research and experimentation. They have given much time to this work, and they likely could have patented the results rather than sharing it so freely.

Although I am employed as a Director of Engineering for a large technology company, my use for the aquaponics information is actually for a separate family-operated enterprise, to grow healthy organic vegetables in a climate-controlled manner in the unpredictable and often freezing Colorado growing environment. I believe this venture would not have been economically feasible without the information published openly by Timothy Mann and Susanne Friend.

Timothy Mann's crime is serious. However, he has been very open about his crime and his regret for having done it, so I believe he has fully owned his mistake and will not repeat it. Consequently, I believe both his family and the global aquaponics community would be better served if he could serve his sentence under terms of supervised release, to allow him to continue in his very valuable service to others.

Regards,



Ken Richardson

JAN 15 2014

John Bergstrand

5459 N Bach Avenue
Meridian, ID 83646
Phone: 208-963-0115
E-Mail: j_johnberg@hotmail.com

Thursday, January 9, 2014

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi:

My name is John Bergstrand , a retired citizen from Meridian, Idaho who this past year was introduced to Tim Mann primarily due to my interest in aquaponics. I spent several hours studying about aquaponics from the Friendly Aquaponics web site and along with that, learned a lot about Tim Mann and Susanne Friend, as they shared many of their private family stories in their newsletters. I soon found out that they were willing to share their successes as well as their failures through these newsletters. Their vision of helping others be successful and their willingness to offer valuable information to beginners, is what led me to travel three quarters across the United States to attend a week long seminar led by Tim Mann in Elora, Tennessee in October of 2013.

Tim Mann brought Lucky, one of their very young sons with him. During this one week stay together, I witnessed the Love for a son and the devotion to a father that touched my life. Tim gave Lucky adult responsibilities which Lucky was proud to do, but on occasion slipped up because he was a child and those things just happen. Tim lovingly brought this to Lucky's attention and got him back on track. The way Tim was able to do this was touching and I could since the love between them. I also noticed something else about Tim that I thought was very honorable and that was he wanted everyone who had taken the time and effort, along with the expense to be there to go home with the information and training they came for. Many times, I heard him say to us they he would be willing to stay as long as it took to answer all of our questions. In my short time with him, I found him worthy of the money spent to attend his seminar and would highly recommend his training to others if asked to do so. I have thought about him and his family many times since the seminar.

Tim Mann has been up front with me about his and Susanne's legal problems and even though I do not approve of what they did, I know what it is like to make mistakes. I am glad they were up front with me and because of that, I know they are taking responsibility for what they did. I truly hope that they can continue to make a difference in other lives as they teach what they have learned both about aquaponics and the events the led them to this experience.

Sincerely,



John Bergstrand
Student of Tim Mann

JAN 15 2014

David Chen
245 W Las Flores Ave,
Arcadia, CA 91007

January 8, 2014

To The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi,

I am one of Tim Mann's students in his aquaponic's courses. And I want to provide background perspective on him and his wife Susanne. In my dealings with them, I have always found them honorable and willing to quickly respond to help others.

Through his course, it was exceedingly obvious that Tim and Susanne love their family, children, animals, spirituality, and mother earth. I read that in his teens, Tim built his own 56 foot sailing vessel and sailed across the Pacific Ocean! And I believe he was one of the first pioneers to cost effectively create organic aquaponic systems for the average American family. Only someone with extreme determination could accomplish those things. Tim is clearly the type of person who does what he says he's going to do. And in this case, when he promises never to make this mistake again, I would bet my life that he has learned from this soul-shaking lesson.

They have expressed to me that they acted out of desperation, not greed. As a fellow social entrepreneur and caretaker of cancer patients, I know what it is like to feel extraordinarily desperate when the world doesn't support your sacrifice, visions, and good deeds. It is almost as if God himself has rejected you. I lived near poverty during such dark times myself and can only imagine the pressure if I also had support a family.

I wish I had been there to talk to him first during those moments for even extreme fear is no excuse for reckless behavior. In a few years time, maybe the courts will rule differently on cannabis, but it does not matter. We as citizens have a duty to uphold the law to maintain order in our society, to be role models to our children and peers, and to be respectful to the peace of our communities.

At the same time, nobody wants to see Tim and Susanne taken from their children. Instead of time in prison, I feel that they would be much off being of service to their community that they have so disrupted and inspire others around them - show what good deeds can come out of people truly grateful for a second chance even in the face of poverty! Tim's aquaponics could revolutionize the food industry of America while simultaneously save energy, reduce pollution, and increase public health by several folds. And I hope he continues his mission to whatever capacity in the future.

I know they still have tremendous good they can offer the world and the people around them. They have expressed to me their impulsive naiveté in the matter, that they are deeply apologetic, and that they now have greater resolve than they've ever had in their lives. I know they are going through a true transformation and reform.

In my humble opinion, I feel that this very public and humiliating experience seen by his family, children, friends, and local people is more than enough to deter others from doing the same. Whatever your decision, I know they will grow and be stronger for it. Thank you for your service to our nation.

Warm Regards,
David Chen



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YWAM Amarillo

Jimmy Heisler: Director

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18

Jimmy Heisler
P.O. Box 630
Canyon, TX 79015

January 13, 2014

Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi

Dear Judge Kobayashi,

My name is Jimmy Heisler and I am the director of Youth With a Mission (YWAM) - Amarillo, located near Amarillo, Texas. Our non-profit organization is an operating location of Youth With a Mission, International, which is a Christian missions organization that is involved in various charitable outreaches around the world. The primary focus of our location at this time is the development of low-water-usage, sustainable food-production models to be implemented, both domestically and internationally, in areas that are adversely affected by famine, drought and poverty. We are currently involved in developing a model system for food-production through aquaponics. I am writing this letter on behalf of Tim Mann, who has been instrumental in teaching this system to me so that I can, in turn, teach it to others, leading to greater food-security and better nutrition in locations throughout the world.

I met Tim through a commercial aquaponics course that his company, Friendly Aquaponics, offered in January, 2013 in Elora, Tennessee. Tim is a thorough and knowledgeable teacher in the field of aquaponics and I personally gained a tremendous amount of knowledge in the subject matter as a result of taking his course. Throughout the course Tim stressed that his goal was to share the subject matter on aquaponics in such a way that would enable the students to become effective teachers of aquaponics as well, so that the maximum number of people could learn and implement aquaponic food-production. Tim also stated several times throughout the course that Friendly Aquaponics was an open-source operation in that students taking the course would not only have access to the company's current subject knowledge, but would also be privy to future knowledge without having to pay for taking another course. It was obvious to me in the course that while sharing his hard-earned knowledge for a reasonable fee, Tim saw sharing this knowledge of aquaponics as more of a personal mission than a "get rich" scheme. Throughout the course Tim went to great lengths to ensure that each student had full understanding of the concepts shared. At the end of the course, Tim very candidly shared with the entire class concerning the federal charges that he and his wife are facing in regard to having illegally grown marijuana at their farm in Hawaii. He admitted his guilt openly to the class. I believe that Tim clearly has seen the error of his ways, and would never again participate in an illegal enterprise.

In writing this letter, I wish to make the humble request that Tim Mann be shown leniency in the eyes of the Court in regard to this matter. Since the time that I took Tim's aquaponics course, I have been in the process of implementing my own model system at our location in Texas. This model system will serve as the basis for our international outreach, which in time will benefit countless people who now struggle to provide healthy food for themselves and their families. Since the time that I took the Friendly Aquaponics course, I have had several follow-up questions as I began the process of setting up my own aquaponics system. Every time that I have had a question, I have been able to e-mail Tim and I have always received a prompt and detailed response from Tim. The ongoing availability of this valuable consultation has been,

Eric Fedus
12 Central Avenue
South Hadley, MA 01075
January 15, 2014

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi
United States District Court
District of Hawaii
300 Ala Moana Blvd C-338
Honolulu, HI 96850

Dear Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi:

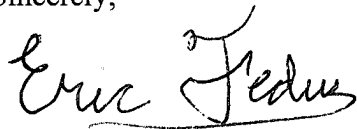
I am a business research consultant who has also worked with a couple organizations internationally with sustainable development. About 6 months ago I took a course from Tim Mann on "aquaponics" and have since then devoted my efforts to opening an aquaponics business. Tim has been very supportive in providing me with the information and contacts I have needed to move ahead.

I understand that Tim faces a current legal dilemma as a result of having worked with a Roger Christie and his Cannabis Ministry. I know Tim has confessed sincere regret for even attempting to grow the plant, which I understand did not even properly grow in his aquaponics system.

I have been in contact with a number of his former students and even visited an aquaponics project at a non-profit in Leon, Nicaragua this past August. The initiator of the project learned from Tim how to build the system and is growing greens for students that lack proper nutrition in their diets. I have been impressed in seeing Tim's devotion and persistence to helping non-profit organizations both here and abroad master aquaponics technology in order to feed people in their communities.

I hope that as you evaluate this case, you will find Tim sincerely feels that he made a mistake. I feel that what he has to offer to all of us in terms of his knowledge and commitment is priceless and I hope that you find a way to allow him to consider sharing his expertise and inspiration.

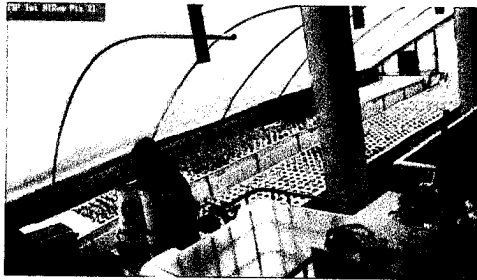
Sincerely,



Eric Fedus

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1-21-14
K10

Oregon Truffle



Tryst Farm

12 January 2014

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi:

I have recently become aware of the pending court date for Tim Mann. Although our relationship is strictly professional I would like to express my appreciation for the work he has done.

I was employed for twenty-nine years by the Hewlett-Packard Corporation, mostly as a Factory Automation Technician, and was summarily dismissed in May of 2009 when the corporation downsized and sent many jobs overseas. I went back to school for two years and earned a degree in Horticulture since I own about thirty-six acres. Even after the two years of schooling the economy did not improve and, nearing sixty years old, I was unable to secure employment after trying for more than a year following my graduation. Seeking a new career, or indeed any viable source of regular income I came across Tim's website describing Aquaponics. And not just Aquaponics, but organically certified Aquaponics! It was exactly what I was looking for and I began my own system.

During my initial research and startup I have relied heavily upon the expertise provided by Tim. I have corresponded with him many times requesting clarification, help or suggestions. He has been friendly, courteous, punctual and professional in all of our interactions. I am still developing my farm and Aquaponics operation and it will likely take a few years more before it is a consistently profitable business. I would be dismayed to find that I have lost the resources provided by Tim.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert Frenock

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1-21-14

Kj

P.O. Box 727, Toledo, OR 97391

541-270-6556

<http://oregonTruffleTryst.com>


Michael A. Brown
P.O. Box 1217
Kennett Square, PA 19348

January 16, 2014

To The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi,

My name is Michael Brown. I have been involved in IT for over 20 years. I'm writing this letter in support of Tim Mann. I first heard of Tim as I started looking at modern ways to farm small tracts of land, as I wish to start winding down my current career. This investigation lead me to hobby farming and self sufficiency farming. Tim Mann has taken an academic farming model and made a viable working financially feasible modern farming template. Tim in bringing this to fruition actually revealed his background and things in his past that weren't quite right with the law. People who are imaginative and think outside the box tend to run up against the boundaries of society at times. "The world is flat", "Earth is the center of the universe" are just a couple of societal reversals in thinking, that people actually had to die for. Tim isn't facing that type of punishment, but for Tim Mann to face any type of punishment for this type of infraction against the law, which is starting to be changed across the country, would be harsh. It would serve no purpose and would only hinder one of the innovators and useful members of our society. I ask you Judge Kobayashi for leniency for Tim Mann. Actually, we need to elevate Tim and give him and his family a platform to help others accomplish their goal of food security for all.

Sincerely,



Michael A. Brown

RECEIVED
1-21-14

AMNI AMRY
D-2-3 Sri TTDI Condominiums
Lorong Rahim Kajai 14
Taman Tun Dr Ismail
60000 Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia

January 10, 2014

Attention: The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi

Re: Tim Mann

I have never met Tim and I have never had any kind of email correspondence with him or his wife Susanne Friend personally. However, I have been following their business and experimentation with aquaponics through the newsletters that they supply to my wife and me, as we had also wanted to start a similar project in Malaysia. Despite not having had any sort of direct contact with Susanne or Tim over the last four years (since we purchased one of their setup manuals in 2010), I have a good sense of what they have been through and the challenges they have faced these last few years.

I was a corporate man who was the Chief Executive Officer for two companies in a publicly-listed conglomerate here in Malaysia. I left seven years ago at the age of 36, disillusioned about what it took to climb the corporate ladder, to get noticed for promotions, bonuses, and everything else that does a good job of compromising one's values and principles as a decent human being. From disillusionment, next was fear, because leaving at the top of my career was just not the done thing. What do you do next? You can't do anything, really, other than growing a pair and using the fear of the unknown to pace yourself, before you dive headfirst into your fresh start.

When I was in my corporate life, the friends I had at work were rarely ever going to be good friends. Corporate culture is just that way. I consider myself lucky to have found one best friend before he died of cancer. Even so, I felt that I was prepared going into post-corporate life about what to expect from people when doing business. Still, I got cheated but it didn't wipe us out, even though it hurt just the same. I like to believe that deep in all of us, we hope to meet decent people, and I am no different despite my life experience so far.

But the most obvious people who could have cheated us were Susanne and Tim. They could have NOT sent me the manuals after I paid \$1000 online. \$1000 is the average monthly salary for a family in Malaysia, so it's a lot of money. Susanne and Tim did not have to send me softcopy files with free updates two years later – updates that they had put A LOT of work into. They could have not bothered to send us monthly newsletters because after all, we are on the other side of the world. What can we really do to take action to get what we signed up for? Nothing. And yet, they are nice, kind, honest people with a huge passion for what they do.

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1-23-14
KJ

CHRISTINE LIM
81, Lorong 17/33A
46400 Petaling Jaya
Selangor
Malaysia

January 10, 2014

Attention: The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi

Re: Tim Mann

I recently received an update by email from Tim Mann and his wife Susanne Friend of Friendly Aquaponics Inc informing me that they are awaiting sentencing for a crime related to growing marijuana on their farm. I am writing to provide a character reference in the hopes that it will mitigate their sentence. They have been open and transparent about their mistake and admitted their culpability. I also believe that they are sincerely repentant and are better parents and business people because of it.

I am a business owner in Malaysia, in education and seafood. I hold two degrees from the University of Pennsylvania and co-chaired the alumni interview committee in Malaysia, interviewing applicants to Penn for 15 years. I have been a business owner since 1999, and became interested in aquaculture in 2006, when my husband retired from corporate life to start an aquaculture facility.

I first heard of Friendly Aquaponics in 2010, when I was doing research into starting an aquaponics farm. In June 2010, our company bought the Commercial System manual from Friendly Aquaponics. Because of land-related issues, we did not build this system. In 2012, I contacted Tim to request an update and soft copies of some of the files they provide to customers and this was provided expeditiously by both of them. I was pleased by their continuous support to customers like me, which is a promise they made from the start.

Though I have not met Tim, I have gotten a sense of his personality through his personal stories in their regular newsletter over the last 4 years, and it is clear how much he cares for his family and everything under his care, including interns, extended family, and even the animals on his farm. It sounds like life has not been easy or kind to him, yet he has succeeded despite the odds and been generous in sharing what he has learned. It has been a delight and inspiration to see how they have progressed through the years and it would be a shame if all the good they have done is undone by their incarceration.

I wish Tim all the best and I hope you will consider this letter in support of a lenient sentence to allow Tim to continue his good work.

Yours sincerely,



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7-23-14

January 17,2014

To: **The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi**

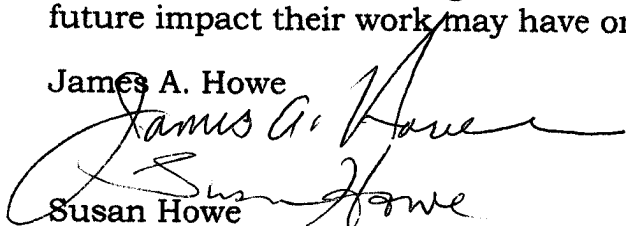
I was a general contractor In Florida for over 35 years. In 2010 my wife and I moved to Asheville, NC . This is, of course, the mountainous Western part of the state and also where there is a lot of interest in alternate ways of creating energy, food etc. It was here that we learned of aquaponics as an alternate way of growing vegetables as well as fish in the same closed system with the ability of getting organic certification.

We also learned of Tim Mann's aquaponics and greenhouse classes given in Tennessee which was within comfortable driving range for us. Tim and Susan modified and greatly improved an existing system to the point that if one follows their system closely it can become commercially viable. They were the first to do this. Their system can be small to any size you want to make it and set up on your balcony, garage, basement, greenhouse, unused parking lot, unused warehouse, to totally outside gently covered to protect from too much rain. More to the point, it is a system anyone can set up cheaply and grow nutritious vegetables and fish. In poverty stricken areas this is a boon. And Tim and Susan want us attendees to give this information away freely to those who especially need it and to help build their systems. They hold no information back but rather give us all the knowledge they have amassed to the present and through their weekly newsletters keep us up to date on new information. I hold Tim and Susan in high esteem for this wonderful contribution to the world and it gives me a channel to give back to society by propagating their system in my local area (there is a lot of impoverished families here in the mountains). I am building an aquaponics system now and plan to open my "farm" to all who are interested and to teach the system by reaching out to my community.

My wife and I have recently learned of Tim's and Susan's legal problems because as with all else they have been candid with us attendees. We met Tim and his young daughter in Tennessee almost two years ago and since have received Friendly Aquaponics emails, as I mentioned. These emails are not only filled with Aquaponics information but also filled with their family information and stories with lots of family pictures. Positive aspects such as integrity, honesty and great parenting really come through.

Judge, while we all recognize that Tim and Susan made a mistake, please consider the tremendous good that Tim and Julie have done since and the future impact their work may have on society.

James A. Howe



Susan Howe

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The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi

I am writing to you on behalf of Tim Mann, who will stand before you in judgment very soon.

My name is Kent Duncan. My wife and I are the owners of Magnolia Farms Aquaponics in Magnolia Texas.

We are over a year into the process of building an aquaponic food production facility under the mentorship of Mr. Mann. I have studied the Friendly operation which has included reading everything that I could find about the Friendly System, and in addition, Tim Mann and his wife Susanne.

They are quite an interesting and incredibly hard working couple who continue to show a dedication to teaching people how to grow healthy food that is hard to comprehend.

I have had the time to spend time with Tim personally, and have also gotten to know him through e-mail visits and followed the growth of Friendly Aquaponics through weekly newsletters.

Tim showed me in a very powerful unassuming way at training in Tennessee that I attended, what a loving father and husband that he is.

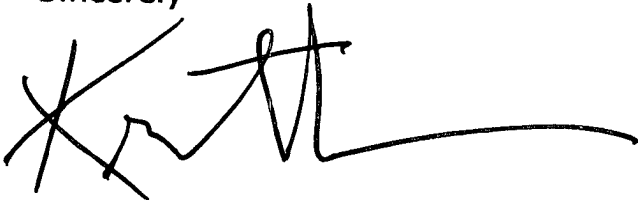
He has been candid and upfront about the error in judgment that he made which has caused the legal trouble that he is now facing.

The purpose of my writing is to ask you to please show leniency in his sentencing so that he may somehow continue mentoring his students who are learning to grow food all over the world. I rely on him weekly.

Tim's absence would affect many people. While I would not pretend to know the laws of Hawaii, I would have the hope that some kind of house arrest and probation could be an option. Tim openly expresses that he made a mistake and must pay the consequence of his actions.

Thank You for taking the time to read my letter

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kent Duncan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kent Duncan

RECEIVED
7-24-14
ES

Dean C. Richardson
President

Tropical Treescapes, Inc.
13290 S.W. 192nd Street
The Palm Factory
13250 S.W. 192nd Street
(305)251-6966

1/18/14

To: The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi
Fm: Dean Richardson, President/Owner
Tropical Treescapes, Miami, Florida

I am writing in support of Tim Mann who has helped me immensely in my business. He recently confided in me concerning the error in judgment that he made concerning his involvement in a marijuana production project. While considering what sentence to impose upon him, I urge you to take into consideration the hundreds if not thousands of people that he has helped and encouraged to start their own business' growing healthy food.

I had a successful nursery operation for over 25 years until "the great recession" of the last seven years put it near bankruptcy. I diversified into growing vegetables to help supplement my income, and with considerable help from Tim and his wife Suzanne, I am refining that part of my business by expanding into aquaponics, a system that was out of reach economically until I stumbled onto Friendly Aquaponics. Their very simple and very complete DIY (do it yourself) scalable systems made it doable and a reality for me. They have been extremely generous and unselfish with their time and help whenever I have e-mailed them a question. Their instruction manuals are extremely complete, easy to understand, and answer nearly all of the questions that arise while building the system. I am currently in my third month of my small system startup, and am confident that I will be ramping up to a much larger operation in the spring, which I fully expect to bring me back into profitability by the end of the year. None of that would have been possible without the help and guidance from Tim and Friendly Aquaponics.

I understand, as they have described it, that they definitely committed a crime and tremendous error in judgment, and should incur some form of punishment. They are both very contrite. Taking into account all of the positive works that they do helping people like myself, I would hope that you can envision a community service type of project that would benefit the local communities, but allow Friendly Aquaponics to continue operations as both a profit making as well as an educational learning place. Yes, they do charge for their manuals and classes, but not nearly the kinds of fees that are charged elsewhere. Taking them out of the public domain by incarceration would be harmful to the growing number of aquaponics enthusiasts like myself that depend on them for their expertise. They are good people that did a dumb thing

Thank you for your kind consideration.

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1-24-14
RS

Mailing Address: 13141 S.W. 96th Avenue • Miami, Florida 33176 • (After Hours Telephone 305 233-3996)

5521 Eagle River Dr
The Colony, TX 75056

January 21, 2014

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi
United States District Court
District of Hawaii
300 Ala Moana Blvd C-338
Honolulu, HI 96850

Dear Judge Kobayashi,

I am contacting you in regards to Tim Mann, a defendant in one of your upcoming court cases. I am reaching out because of Mr. Mann's significant impact on many different communities throughout the world and know that these proceedings affect the lives of many.

I met Tim in January of 2013 by participating in an education event that Tim was the primary knowledge expert. Those seven days with Tim not only provided invaluable mentoring time but had a significant personal impact on me and my life. I remember returning home and writing in my journal how I wished to change my life to be "good people" like Tim.

At the end of the event, Tim publicly admitted his recent human error in trying to grow federally banned substances. You could feel the sadness and weariness that this weak decision has caused his life, his family's life, and the many people around him.

I have since met Tim in Texas and spent time with him. His nature continues to be sincere and good. He physically and emotionally works hard to give of his knowledge, skill and labor to improve those in his company and influential reach.

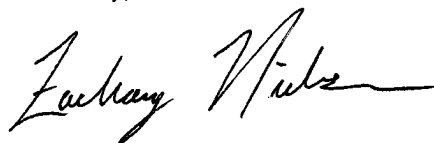
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Crimes are acts against the people of the community. While this crime did not significantly injure human life, restitution is still required to the community. On occasion, individuals need to be isolated away to protect the community. On other occasions, removing the individual from the community prevents restitution and does greater harm to the individuals and community that are due the restitution.

I believe that the restitution for Tim Mann and his companion Suzanne Friend needs to happen in and with the community and not in isolation. Hours upon hours of non-paid time is spent answering and helping many communities with wisdom and experiences that very few possess in the knowledge domain they operate in. Many people, both rich and destitute, are fed all over this great Earth because of the efforts of Tim and Suzanne. Please consider the harm that will be done to us, the community, by taking their service and labor away from us.

I thank you for taking the time to read and understand my thoughts on this matter and I am grateful for your continued service to provide justice and healing to our communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Zachary Nielsen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Zachary Nielsen

972.351.1699

zachary@sustainabilityforus.com

Linda M Stone, PsyD, LP
Clinical Psychologist
123 Commerce Street, Suite C
Kerrville, TX 78028
210-371-9193

21 January 2014

To the Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi:

I am writing to you on behalf of Tim Mann who will stand before you next month for sentencing on federal charges associated with growing cannabis on his farm. I want to express my deepest hope and prayers that you will not sentence Tim to prison. I do not believe that society would be served in any useful manner by incarcerating this very peaceful and well-intended man who made such an incredibly stupid mistake. I hope that I can adequately convey to you my sense of Tim—the kind of person he has always been and his continued potential for social contribution and betterment.

Tim and I first met in nursery school. I was two and a half; Tim was a year older. Tim is the oldest of three children. His younger sister contracted polio during the last US epidemic, six months before the vaccine became available. She grew up with heavy metal leg braces and crutches. Tim's younger brother was born profoundly disabled with Down's syndrome. It has always been my impression that Tim grew up under a crushing pressure to be the "perfect child" for his parents who bore the burden of raising two children with significant disabilities; and also the desire to somehow repay the universe for his gifts of healthy body and mind. Tim and I grew up together. He was always an honor student and finished high school a full year early. He was a good kid and a kind friend to everyone he met along the way. Tim and I participated in many shared activities. Among these activities was volunteering at Sonoma State Hospital in Northern California. At sixteen years old, Tim was instrumental in founding a project consisting of over 200 high school and college age volunteers for overnight trips to the state hospital every weekend of the year and all throughout the summers. Volunteers did anything and everything asked of them by the overburdened hospital staff.

Back in the late 1960s and early 1970's, Sonoma State Hospital was an almost indescribable depository for California's most unwanted ones—nearly 4,000 mentally retarded residents, 90 percent non-ambulatory, abandoned by families whose physicians instructed them to leave off their children and not look back. These permanent wards of the state lived at the hospital until they died and were buried on the hospital grounds in unmarked graves. The stench of urine even outside the buildings triggered an involuntary vomit reflex. Inside were people herded into wards based on age, gender, and disability. Most were naked because there were not clothes for them. A lucky few had hospital gowns to wear. Most eliminated on the floors; many played with their feces. Most could not speak and their screams echoed off the plaster walls and cement floors of the wards. Some had bleach bottles taped around their hands so they could not claw their faces or eyes. Dozens of wards were filled with infants and toddlers who lay in cribs with bars over the top so they could not climb out. Some did not even look like people—tiny heads, hair-covered bodies, unable to move. One time my mother drove a carload of volunteers to the hospital. She was so sickened by what she saw through the iron gates, she was unable to go inside.

Along with all the other volunteers, Tim fed and played with patients, found clothes and dressed patients and took them outdoors (sometimes for the first time in their lives), and rounded up donations for patients—toys, clothes, shoes—anything that could improve the lives of such forgotten souls. Tim also provided emotional support to new volunteers who were as young as fifteen and did anything else he could think of to sustain the volunteer project. Tim was always positive, upbeat, and enthusiastic. Tim was especially beloved by hospital staff who deeply appreciated all that he did for their patients and his seemingly boundless energy and good will.

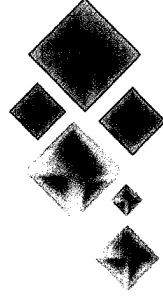
As adults, Tim and I have lived geographically very far from each other. However, this past Saturday I had the great pleasure of spending most of the day with Tim because he was visiting a rural town in Texas teaching farmers how to build and maintain the type of aquaponic gardening system that he and his wife developed. I arrived in time to see the unabashed admiration that the farmers felt for Tim—for the actual gardening system, for his ability to teach the method to others, and for the genuine caring support that he offered. Small town Texas farmers are not push-overs. They are astute judges of outsiders. They saw in Tim a man of good will and generosity and having something of great value to offer to those who grow our food. During our visit, I saw in Tim the same gentle, idealistic and loving soul I have always known. I also saw a man deeply sobered by the seriousness of his life's largest error. I believe that Tim is genuinely remorseful for what he did and horrified by his own serious lapse in judgment. I believe that Tim has conducted enough honest introspection and soul-searching to prevent such a lapse from ever occurring again; and I believe that justice would be best served by sentencing Tim in a manner that will permit him to continue his good work and caring for his family.

Very respectfully,



Linda M Stone, PsyD

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7-24-14
Kob



15/01/2014

The Honourable Judge Leslie Kobayashi

My lord,

My name is Khalid Omar AlGhalayini. I am residing in the country of United Arab Emirates. I am an owner of a building material company. We are a multinational company and we do have branches in U.A.E, Qatar and Jordan. Do to our expansion plans, we are exploring opportunities in related or unrelated operations. On October, 2013 My partner and I have decided to attended an Aquaponic training course in Elora, TN. This intensive course was conducted by M/S Friendly aquaponics U.S.A and lectured by Mr. Tim Man for the duration of one week. It has been offered on a farm that is completely ready for the best course presentation. This Farm was a property of Mr. Man's partner and we had a very fruitful most comprehensive a to z training sessions.

In U.A.E, we are in a desert climate. We are importing 90% of our vegetables. Our water supplies are limited and soil nutrients to grow vegetables are not available. We found aquaponic growing could solve part of our problems and this was the start of our search for information and training.

We have searched several sites for answers. Many of these sits had a combination of services offered. Non explain their mission the way M/S friendly aquaponics did. Most of them based their training classes on products they are selling. The training course did not address the science of aquaponics the way it should! definitely, it was commercially based and not many average society growers can afford their growing techniques. On the other hand, the mission of friendly aquaponics is to start small, using the most cost effective ways to grow ! it was very well researched ,tested and presented methods.We are currently enjoying the benefits at the most cost effective way.

During the course, we had met several students from all over United states and Australia. We had a great experience meeting people from different places and share thoughts and ideas evolving Aquaponics technology and the benefits of being organic growers for communities. Moreover, I believe , these kind of

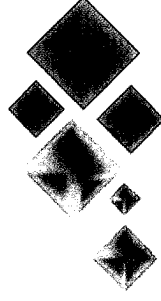
ص.ب. ٣٢٣٩٨ دبي، الإمارات العربية المتحدة تليفون: ٢٩٢٩ ٣٢١ ٤ ٩٧١ + فاكس: ٤٣١٨ ٣٤٣ ٤ ٩٧١ +

P.O.Box: 32398 Dubai, U.A.E. Tel : +971 4 321 2929 Fax: +971 4 343 4318

E- mail: aladham2@eim.ae, info@aladham1.ae

Website: www.aladham.ae

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meetings is an effective way to allow people from different cultures and raises to know each other and bypass all media propaganda's and false information. It's really informative.

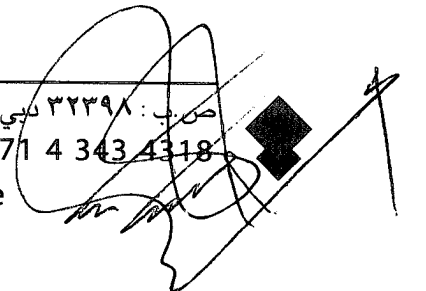
On my first day, there is a moment I will always remember. All trainee had a word to say about themselves. The moment, Mr Man's son stood up and explained his duties and how can he assist during the course. His main duty is to make sure all hospitality items are in place, coffee is hot water supplies are sufficient and timing of class in breaks is kept. His name is Lucky and he 11 years old boy. Also, He made sure to tell us he was getting paid for his work!

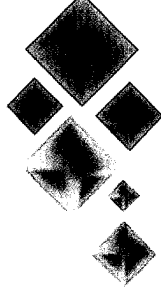
One other coincident and this time, over dinner table at one of the restaurants in town! My partner and I invited a group from our class mates, including Mr. Man and his son. Lucky decided not to order dinner!!! we questioned his decision and we though food choice's does not suit him !!! His reply, "no thanks, I don't think I am hungry at the moment! " , I did not use enough calories today ! I did not move a lot!!!!

When I arrived back to U.A.E., I always talked about Lucky! Specially to my children. He really impressed me in many ways. His mind is so balanced and I am so sure he will be an asset for his community and his country one day.

At the present moment, we are experimenting all issues related to aquaponics. We have two different Labs " greenhouses " running. One is being operated by a Partner in the state of Qatar and the 2nd is operated by me in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Our next project is a Training farm " copy of the Tennessee one " and should conduct courses for new Aquaponic growers three to four times a year. This will be servicing the Middle east and North African countries. We do know, this operation must have full support of M/S Friendly aquaponics and does require presence online and on site course lectures. We do feel this operation will assist many classical farmers around the Area and will manage a locally grown organic vegetables for our community.

My Lord. I have not listed many of the aquaponic growing benefits. I have not illustrated the health sector of growing organic food! Water savings! Fish protean! The utilization and reservation of energy! Elimination of fertilizers and chemicals! Small families Growing food at their own backyard and most





important , helping third world countries such as African nations to become self sufficient growers. All these benefits can make a difference if we look at promoters of this industry in serious matter and understand the hurdles and the difficulties they are going through and provide them with full support and assistance to continue.

I swear to all mighty God that I " Khalid Al Ghalalayini" have written these word out of my full honest conscious, Not intending to bypass the seriousness of law and legality of its contents.

Khalid AlGhalayini - Managing director ,
Aladham Building Material Trading Group
Dubai, United Arab emirates
P.O.Box . 32398
Tel : 0097143212929
Fax: 0097143434318
Mobile: 00971506469135
Email: aqladham2@emirates.net.ae
Web: www.aladham.ae



HAWAII CATCHMENT COMPANY

16-643 KIPIMANA ST., BAY #19
KEAAU . HAWAII . 96749
PH. (808) 982-8888 . FAX.: (808) 966-8889

January 23, 2014

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi
c/o Mr. Philip H. Lowenthal
33 N. Market St., Suite 101
Wailuku, HI 96793

RE: Tim Mann

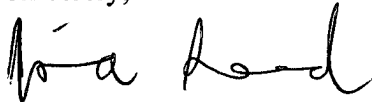
Dear Honorable Judge Kobayashi,

Tim Mann has been our customer at Hawaii Catchment Company, LLC since 2006. Our company sells water catchment products such as water tanks, UV filters, pressure tanks and pumps. We also provide catchment cleaning services. We have been in business for over 20 years. We have started our business from our garage and with hard work, dedication and perseverance, we now have our own shop at a business center.

Tim Mann, with Friendly Aquaponics, Inc., has purchased water tanks from our company during the past few years. During those times, he has conducted himself with integrity and honesty by always paying for the items purchased on time. He was a courteous and hardworking man who had great plans of educating the community about his aquaponics system. He wanted the community to learn how to grow healthy and organic food.

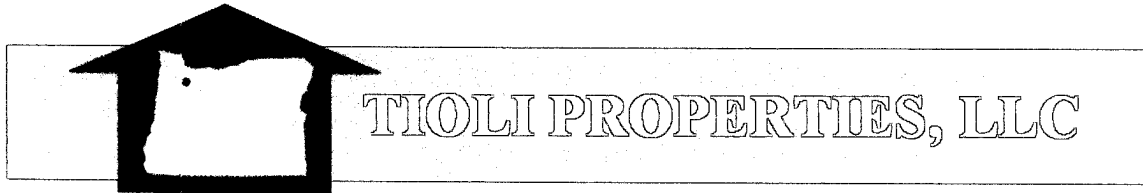
Although, we do not condone what he has done, which led to the situation he is in now, we ask for your leniency in handing out his sentence in this case. We believe that he has learned the biggest lesson in his life. Please give him a chance to turn his life around and let him continue on his mission to help people become self-sufficient and grow their own organic food.

Sincerely,



Rex & Lina Reed, Owners
Hawaii Catchment Company, LLC

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January 21, 2014

In regards to: Tim Mann
Co-Owner of Friendly Aquaponics

Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi

Dear Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi:

My name is Richard Proebstel. I am 50 years old and currently the President of TIOLI Properties located in Salem, Oregon.

I found out about Tim Mann and Friendly Aquaponics because I was interested in the technology involved with aquaponic, sustainable farming. Since their business was the best available during my research, I decided to enroll in a training course with both Tim and his partner Suzanne Friend. The training was located at their farm in Hawaii over the course of one week in April 2013.

My wife Amy and I grew very fond of Tim and Suzanne during our weeklong training class. Tim was very candid of their mistakes made in the past, including their situation involving the minister and marijuana. Believe me, he was very embarrassed to bring this up to us, but was very candid with his explanation of their predicament. I was surprised and pleased that he would take the time to "tell the TRUTH" about this situation to further our trust in him and family.

I find that everybody has made mistakes in their past, but it is how people learn and move forward from their mistakes is what makes a true asset to society as a whole. Tim has exemplified true integrity and honesty in not only showing his dark side with us, but how that has made him much more humble and supportive of others. Please have mercy on Tim during this phase in his life. He is currently a very productive, active member of society whom I'm very pleased to know and associate with now and in the future.

Sincerely,

Richard Proebstel

President, TIOLI Properties

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January 19, 2014

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi

Your Honor,

I am writing you on behalf of Timothy Mann, who is a defendant in a case pending in your court.

My name is Terry Justice. I am a 59 year old industrial and hazardous waste management safety professional and have held several national safety certifications. My father became interested in aquaponics in May of 2013. He asked me to look at several different websites and give him my recommendations. After reviewing several sites, I told him that I believed he should work with Friendly Aquaponics. I decided to partner with my father and build an aquaponics business, starting with a small greenhouse on his property here in California.

I recommended Tim and Friendly Aquaponics because it was clear that they were interested in sharing their knowledge first and weren't emphasizing their own personal gain. They talked about helping people help themselves, their families and their communities by making them self reliant for the production of a large portion of their food requirements.

In the very first part of the information they provided, Friendly Aquaponics emphasized, in red, bold type, that their system would not work for marijuana production. They also asked that anyone who came to their farm for visits or training not bring any illegal drugs onto their property.

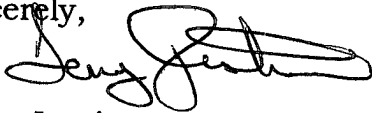
Tim has stated several times how remorseful he is about the mistake he made that brings him into your courtroom. I do not condone or approve of his decision. I do understand the circumstances that resulted in a desperate, albeit wrong, action.

I do approve of his conduct since we began working with him last year. He has acknowledged his mistake and counseled others on ways to avoid making the same mistake.

I strongly support Tim and Friendly Aquaponics and firmly believe that he should continue to benefit his family, community and hundreds of aquaponics enthusiasts. He does not belong in prison.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Terry Justice
5435 Heavenly Ridge Lane
El Sobrante, CA 94803

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1-27-14

Kp
155



Sahib Aquaponics

3586 Aloma Ave # 3

Winter Park, FL 32792

Phone: 407-415-8502

E-Mail: sahib@sahibaquaponics.com

Web: sahibaquaponics.com

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi
c/o Philip H. Lowenthal
33 N Market St.
Suite 101
Wailuku, Maui, HI 96793

Re: Reference and Support Letter for Tim Mann

Dear Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi,

My name is Pardeep K. Vedi and I am a licensed FL Insurance Agent who owns and runs his own Independent Insurance Agency. In the world of Aquaponics I am known as Sahib Punjabi and I am the owner and Aquaponics Farmer at Sahib Aquaponics, an urban wasteland research farm that is located in Winter Park, FL. I am also the founder of Feed Hunger Now, Inc. a 501(c)(3) non-Profit Organization. Our small urban hybrid Aquaponics research farm has been written about by numerous organizations and has been included in the Cornell University Small Farmers urban newsletter as well as recommended by the Recirculating Farm Coalition, a national non-profit, headquartered in New Orleans, Louisiana whose goal is to work with communities to support creating innovative, sustainable ways of having better access to healthy fresh food.

I write this letter in strong support of Tim Mann and humbly request that you do all in your power to not sentence them to jail time. Tim Mann and his partner Susanne Friend have been instrumental in helping so many people around the world by empowering them to grow their and community food without having to resort to harmful pesticides or chemical fertilizers. They have done all that is possible to make such growing systems affordable and share their knowledge with as many people as possible. I learned and relied considerably in my initial research in Aquaponics on the Friendly Aquaponics training manuals written by Tim Mann and Susanne Friend. Following their visit to my facility in Winter Park, FL in September 2011 and their appreciation of the Hybrid Aquaponics systems that I was developing, Tim Mann & Susanne Friend's began encouraging that I teach my Aquaponics knowledge and provide such training. Initially I used the Friendly Aquaponics training manuals as part of my workshops. Due to Tim Mann and Susanne Friend's encouragement, I have had well over one thousand visitors and numerous people who now grow their own food using Aquaponics methods.

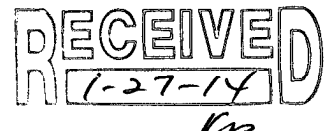
Upon receiving IRS Tax Exemption for Feed Hunger Now, Inc. I requested their assistance to help raise funds for those with limited means to learn such knowledge and help build such food growing systems. Tim Mann and Susanne Friend agreed to provide whatever help I needed. They flew at their own expense to Florida and participated in a One Day Feed Hunger Training event on June 1st 2013 where we had numerous participants. They charged no fees and donated their training manuals to the value of \$200 for each participant who donated \$100 to Feed Hunger Now. They repeated such charitable events in California and New York.

I value Tim Mann's friendship, his knowledge in the field of Aquaponics, his willingness and commitment to help whenever possible and I look forward to a continue working with him to help our society and to empower people to grow their own food, thus doing our part to reduce the world hunger epidemic. Therefore, I humbly request for your lenience in sentencing him and avoiding any jail sentence.

Sincerely,

Pardeep K. Vedi, CIC
aka Sahib

Sahib Aquaponics Jan18th 2014



January 24, 2014

To The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi:

I am writing to you in regards about Friendly Aquaponics, Inc. and the owners Susanne Friend and Tim Mann. My husband, self, and, then, 15 year old son visited Friendly Aquaponics for an open-house tour on a Saturday in August of 2012.

I have known about Tim Mann since the early 1990's from working with his sister Sue Mann. Sue, knowing my love of the Hawaiian Islands, kept me updated on her brother's adventures and encouraged me to visit him on a future Big Island visit. Consequently, it was with great elation, that I found I would at long last be able to meet the brilliant Tim Mann; and how lucky for me and my family to take a tour of his and his wife's Aquaponics farm.

I am a strong proponent of educational fun vacations and during our week stay on the Big Island we certainly experienced a wonderful balance of local educational events, along with the usual R&R activities. We visited the Sea Horse Sanctuary, went hiking on a tour of the Rain Forrest , and again, visited Friendly Aquaponics (a marvelous time!).

I was and am still employed as a Registered Dietitian, Certified Diabetes Educator, in California, and practice at Kaiser Permanente in Santa Clara, Ca, in Peritoneal Dialysis and also work at Palo Alto Medical Foundation, where I teach classes in Diabetes, Heart Health and Pre-diabetes and also see patients of all ages, for all disease states.

A major part of my job is to teach and encourage healthy eating – and as my patients are educated, I find that most are very interested to learn about ways to become healthier from lifestyle changes versus taking medication. Hence, I strongly believe and am passionate about our food system – and strive to continually learn about it in order to better educate those I serve.

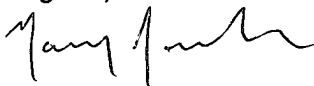
I truly believe, we are what we eat; and we appear to be in a food renaissance now as we continue to find out about the relationship of where/how our food is grown and its effects on humans and the environment. Thus, for me, a visit to Friendly Aquaponics additionally offered a wonderful venue to learn about another modality of how healthy produce is grown with sustainability in mind.

The following are my impressions of the several hour tour of Friendly Aquaponics. I was so very impressed that Susanne and Tim were providing this in-depth and educational tour of growing organic produce via hydroponics for free. Their passion for hydroponics and encouragement of using this technology is phenomenal! They provided an outstanding tour – Susanne is an excellent educator and Tim is a wizard of technology.

We learned so much from them sharing their experiences – from *their* educational journey to becoming successful business owners of a much needed sustainable source of growing healthy food (and why it is even more important with the high costs of food and transportation from living on an island).

Thus, we were very saddened to hear of their legal concerns with their business and the unfortunate circumstances of how it all came to be. They are such amazing and wonderful people; so, giving of their time and expertise in trying to make a better Hawaii and a better world. While what occurred was illegal and in error with the law; perhaps justice has already been served, for them and their children, from having to live the hard lesson learned since the events transpired. Hopefully, Hawaii will be proud of this family owned business for what they are doing now by providing a valuable education to any interested party about organic hydroponics, sustainability, and for trying to make Hawaii more self-reliant. Thank you very much for your time and consideration in this matter.

Regards,



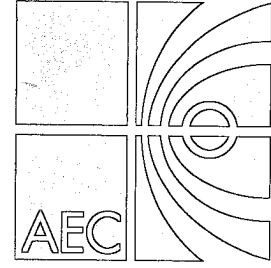
Nancy Jacobson MSRD, CDE and family

4778 Raspberry Place, San Jose, CA 95129

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1-27-14

Allied Environmental Consultants Limited
Acousticians & Environmental Engineers

19/F., Kwan Chart Tower, 6 Tonnochy Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong
Tel.: (852) 2815 7028 Fax: (852) 2815 5399 Email: info@aechk.com



沛然環境評估
工程顧問有限公司

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi
c/o Philip H. Lowenthal
33 N. Market St.
Suite 101
Wailuku, Maui, HI 96793

17th January, 2014

Dear Judge Kobayashi,

Letter of Appreciation and Support for Tim Mann - Please don't put Tim in prison.

My name is Prof. Ir. Dr. James Wing Ho Wong. I am a Chartered Engineer from United Kingdom and a Registered Professional Engineer in Hong Kong. I am the Founder and President of Allied Environmental Consultants Ltd. Founder Member of the Hong Kong Institute of Acoustics; the Hong Kong Institute of Environmental Impacts Assessment and the Founder President of the Institute of Energy. My Allied (Environmental) Group has been in the areas of design and construction of sustainable buildings, roads, railway stations and airports for governments, private and international corporate clients. I have extensive hands-on experience in green building systems, establishing design criteria in planning of new towns, hotels, commercial, institutional and residential property developments as well as transportation networks. I was responsible for many recording and TV studios, performing arts venues as well as many of the awards winning Hong Kong iconic green buildings like The International Commerce Centre (abbr. ICC Tower) is a 108 floor, 484 m (1,588 ft), the tallest building in Hong Kong, the JP Morgan's Asia Pacific Headquarter Charter House, ICAC Building, Customs Building and many District Governmental Offices.

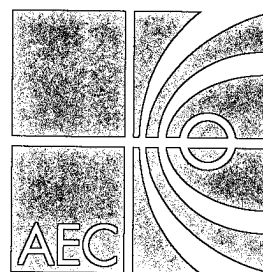
My established Allied Environmental Consultants Limited has been working on advanced sustainable building and town planning concepts for the housing sectors as well as research in sustainable products and their applications. My company has involved over 100,000 private and public high rise residential flats in Hong Kong. I have conducted research in the areas of architectural acoustic, especially acoustics in theatres and concert halls, as well as acoustics applications in healthcares. I held seminars in the Hong Kong University's and the Chinese University of Hong Kong's Architectural Departments as well as the HKUSPACE in Sustainable Design and a School Ambassador of the Hong Kong Institute of Engineers. I have been a pioneer in applying stealth technology, nano-technology and effective mircoorganisms in my projects. I also have a number of invention patents, ranging from heat transfer matrix to environmental building components. I managed construction projects from car plants, power stations, hospitals as well as stage engineering, lighting, I.T., architectural design, environmental impact assessments, LEED and BEAM studies.

I have known Mr. Tim Mann since October, 2010 when I attended the Aquaponic Training Course in his farm on the Big Island. After the training course, I have shown my clients and friends how this very practical and sustainable farming technique introduced to me by Tim may be applied in

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Tim



Recycled Paper



Hong Kong and nearby regions. Within a very short time, a group of interested people got together and formed the Aquaponics Association of Asia-Pacific (AAAP) group, within the Institute of Energy in Hong Kong. Our members has been very active and you can see some of the work they have accomplished in YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=39YvtmnNLDQ>. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=But_uh5s9kE. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GtVj4kwAHH4>. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K0aLO-KD5A8>. Without Tim, this will not be achieved.

I was informed by Tim about the legal case against him during the training course back in 2010. He has admitted his foolishness in testing the law. Mr. Tim Mann has integrity and honesty, he is a family people, he has been a good parent, and a hard worker too.

I do not put my appreciation and support lightly. I want to point out that when my Taiwanese friend Ms Steffi Li, a single parent with two young daughters, who suffered brain cancer and had an open skull operation in 2011 ask for Tim's help, Tim offered her a training place and free accommodation on his farm immediately. According to Steffi, they treated her like a daughter in their family, and their love has helped my friend recovered miraculously. She is now fully recovered and free of cancer medications. Steffi has since returned to Taiwan and established her own aquaponics training farm in Taipei. Steffi Li's website is <http://www.aquaponics.com.tw>. and, <https://www.facebook.com/avataaquaponics>. Steffi's students have also established their farms and practice groups, for example, <http://community.theaquaponicsource.com/profile/FrankWej>. Without the pioneer work and labour of love from Mr. Tim Mann, these people will not enjoy their life and career.

Judge, please do not put Tim Mann in the prison.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Wing Ho Wong', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Prof. Ir. Dr. James Wing Ho Wong
President

To The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi,

My name is Lillian Paiva. I am the Head Instructor for Honokaa Ki Aikido Club. I am a wife, Mother, Grandmother. I am a member of the Waimea Bonyu Kai Bonsai Club, the Hilo Orchid Society and have a small Garden Consultation business.

I met Tim Mann about 25 years ago when I was working for Norwest Financial as their Customer Service Representative. Tim had his Home Design business, CAD Services, in the same building. We would talk every so often. When he heard I was trying to figure out how to use my lunch hour to work on art for an upcoming show my children and I were having at a local gallery, he offered me the use of one of his design tables whenever I needed it. I took him up on his offer and of course we have been friends ever since.

Tim is a Kendo student/Instructor and we would talk about Asian and Western philosophy. One of the things Tim has dreamed about is trying building a community dojo so that all of the arts could be shared. He wants a meeting place for people to come together.

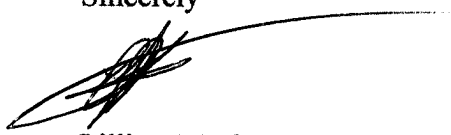
Tim's 3 children, Jack, Lucky and Rose are in my Children's Aikido Class. They are committed to showing up every Tuesday and Thursday. These 3 children are a joy and a blessing. They are kind, funny and compassionate. They are a reflection of all of their parents best traits.

Tim, along with his family has worked hard to bring a healthy way of life to our community with their organic and aquaponics system of growing vegetables. They gave away as much as they sold. They encouraged others to learn, they truly care about everyone they come in contact with.

Tim is a wonderful Father and friend. He truly cares about his Community and fellow human beings. I know he is sorry for all of the pain and suffering he has caused his family. He has not tried to excuse his mistakes. He has tried to stay focused and keep on doing whatever he can for those around him.

I ask you to please let him stay with the family that needs him and to please find a way to let him continue to serve his community.

Sincerely



Lillian J. Paiva
463760A Kapuna Rd.
Honokaa, Hi. 96727
(808) 775-0425

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1-28-14
Rp

PETER ROSTI

Phone: 818-383-0364 • 4045 Vineland Avenue #324, Studio City, CA 91604 • alulag2@yahoo.com

January 13, 2014

To: The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi.

My name is Peter Rosti. I am an ocean scientist, with a degree in Ocean Engineering, (MS, University of Hawaii, 1991). I work in ocean sciences, as well as software development as it applies to environmental sciences. My recent work focuses on software in support of alternative energy systems, especially power-generating wind farms. I have also done significant work in aquaculture systems design, the study of ocean waves, distillation of fresh water from seawater, and various other areas of ocean-related science and engineering.

I have known Tim Mann for over thirty two years. During that time I have grown to appreciate his focus on environmentally beneficial development work. During the last few years his focus, together with his wife Susanne Friend, and their family, have been on the development of aquaponics. Aquaponics is a hybrid technology combining the growth and production of land-based food crops such as vegetables, together with raising fresh-water fish for human consumption. Aquaponics is likely to have a very significant worldwide impact as the efficiency of growing food becomes an ever-increasing issue. Aquaponics simply provides a lot more for a lot less than many other food production systems. It would not be a stretch to say that Tim Mann's and Susanne Friend's work stands at the very forefront of scientific and operational development of aquaponics techniques. From my perspective as an ocean scientist, their invaluable contribution to this technology will surely have a global impact.

I have known Susanne for only a much shorter period of time, but have come to understand the value of her contribution as well.

Further, Tim and Susanne have taken a critically valuable step: Teaching their techniques to others, through intensive seminars held in various places around the USA. Their focus on spreading the knowledge about this valuable technology will serve to propagate it rapidly throughout the world. Their techniques have already reached even China, where aquaponics farms are being built modeled on Tim and Susanne's designs.

I know Tim to be of uniquely caring character - caring about his family, his friends, the environment, and the global situation.

I believe the unique value of that the work of Tim and his family bring to the world should not be forestalled or interrupted by confining him or his wife Susanne to prison. In light of their practice of teaching about aquaponics in many places remote from their home, I would further urge that they not be restricted from traveling at will.

Respectfully yours,

Aloha,


Peter Rosti

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1-28-14

From:
Dominic Leow
17 Braemar Drive
Singapore 559420
Mobile : +65 9764 3726
January 24, 2014

Tim's copy.
Good luck!
God Bless,
Dominic.

The Honorable Judge Leslie Kobayashi:

Allow me a short introduction. I am Dominic Leow, a Vice-President in OCBC Bank of Singapore, the world's 2nd strongest bank 2013 (conferred by Bloomberg). I've known Tim Mann & Susanne for about 2 years. I chanced upon "Friendly Aquaponics", owned by Tim & Susanne, when I was searching the internet for Aquaponics information. Though I have not met them personally, I feel they are good people, having seen and experienced their contributions to the Aquaponics community. I am a fervent fan of their weekly Aquaponics newsletter where Tim & Susanne contribute openly their innovations, discoveries and lessons learnt.

Tim & Susanne have been very open and very remorseful about their involvement in the illegal cultivation of Marijuana. They have openly regretted their wrong doing in the Aquaponics community. This is how I learnt of their predicament. I feel compelled to plead for leniency on their behalf.

I testify that they are both genuine & socially responsible adults who really care about the environment & are strong advocates of cultivating organic vegetables & healthy living. They make an honest living providing "How to" DIY aquaponics system. They are really passionate about their cause, dispensing free advice & making new found knowledge widely available. It seems that money is a secondary consideration, an after-thought. "Friendly Aquaponics" differentiate themselves from their competitors by offering continuous updates on their innovations & findings weekly for free, with no strings attached, something none of their competitors come close to doing. They have lived up to their claim; "Share our knowledge in Aquaponics with as many people as possible." – quoted from their website. They have made it their mission to teach people to grow organic, healthy vegetables, so that they can be vibrantly alive, independent, and free.

Many people, including me, have benefitted from their cause. I've learnt to grow my own organic food & eating & living healthy lives. Many have launched successful careers in organic farming (Aquaponics). Students, as far away as from China, have shared their success stories in their newsletter. Yes, their influence is world-wide. They have helped to grow the body of knowledge and accelerated the adoption of Aquaponics by the masses in the last 2 years. To say Tim & Susanne have touched many lives is an understatement.

Page 2

Their family (four children of their own ranging from 8 to 18 years old, plus two adopted ones including Susanne's 88 year old mother who lives with them) depends on their Aquaponics business for their livelihood. None of them are ready to take over the household should Tim & Susanne be sent to jail; Susanne's mum is too old & the eldest child too young.

So I appeal to your leniency and compassion in sentencing. Their contribution to society in terms of the mass adoption of Aquaponics is atonement for their moment of folly. Let Tim & Susanne serve their time in Supervised Release (Home Detention), and be able to continue living their lives with their family & continue to have a positive impact to society. I know because I'm one of the beneficiaries. I'm confident that when they've been forgiven much, the more they'll give back to society. The last 2 years is a good indication of the future.

Sincerely,

Dominic Leow
Aquaponics Hobbyist
Sunny Island of Singapore
Indebted to Tim & Susanne (Friendly Aquaponics)