



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
86TH AIRLIFT WING (USAFE)**

28 April 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR 37/CC

FROM: SMSgt Richard W. Horn

SUBJECT: Character Reference Letter – SSgt Loverde

1. I am SMSgt Richard Horn. I've been in the Air Force 23 years and worked at five different Precision Measurement Equipment Laboratories (PMEL) at various bases to include one NATO assignment. My current duty title is the 86 Maintenance Group Quality Assurance Superintendent. I have been a supervisor for the last 12 years of my career supervising as many as 21 people at one time. In my current duty position I supervise 14 quality inspectors ensuring the quality of maintenance on 20 C-130E aircraft.

2. I first met SSgt Anthony (Tony) Loverde when I arrived at Ramstein in February 2004. At that time he was a SrA. I worked with him at Ramstein on and off from February 2004 until he PCS'd to Edwards AFB. I also worked with him again during a deployment from August 2005 to January 2006. Although I have never interacted with him outside of work, I was his supervisor at various times at Ramstein to include being his Flight Chief during the deployment. As his supervisor, I provided career counseling and discussed his long term personal goals. It was also my impression that he felt at ease talking to me about problems with the work or with other personnel. In some respects I felt like a mentor to him.

3. In short, Tony has always been a strong asset to my team. He displays a concern for the mission and a strong desire to do the job right the first time. I have seen him work in three areas of the PMEL from the technical electronics maintenance arena to the tedious scheduling section. No matter what the task, he ensured he knew all the rules and completed each task on time and in a flawless manner. This includes performing assigned duties as well as helping other coworkers. Tony has always demonstrated the highest level of military bearing, honesty, and trustworthiness. Since I've know him, he has always been a self-starter both eager and able to accomplish his duties. I never had to ask him to stay longer when there was too much to do. He always took the initiative to stay until the job was done and done right. Tony was my scheduler at the deployed PMEL location where he successfully resurrected a substandard operation from the previous crew surpassing all my expectations. His level of customer support and ability to follow-up was uncanny. I truly believe it was all due to his ingenuity for thinking out of the box to solve problems.

4. I have recently learned of the situation requiring character reference letters for Tony. In my opinion, he has been a strong asset to the United States Air Force. I have enjoyed working with and around him. It is rare to find someone with his level of dedication and commitment. If I ever had the opportunity to build my "dream team" for work, I would take an entire crew of SSgt Loverdes over most other workers I have encountered. Should he be considered for retention, I would recommend it. If that is not an option, an honorable discharge is a must. All things considered, he is a superior Airman.

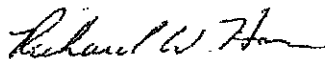

 RICHARD W. HORN, SMSgt, USAF
 Quality Assurance Superintendent
 86 Maintenance Group, Ramstein AB

EXHIBIT 2	
Depoent	LOVERDE
Date	8/11/10 Rptr. D.H.
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