



Office of Strategic Initiatives, Office of Student Affairs
Mesa Vista Hall 3019, MSC06-3840, Albuquerque, NM 87131

February 24, 2015

To: AFIO Scholarship Selection Committee
From: Dr. Frank Gilfeather, Director, UNM IC-CAE NSSP Program
Subject: Letter of Recommendation for Applicant Brandon J. Martinez

Dear Sirs,

It is my pleasure to strongly recommend **Mr. Brandon J. Martinez** for the 2015 AFIO Scholarship. Mr. Martinez is first of all a very outstanding student at UNM, with a strong background in languages. In addition he has a sincere desire for a career as an intelligence officer in an IC agency or as an officer in the US military. He will become a successful leader in whatever he undertakes. As a Professor (emeritus) of Mathematics and Director of the University of New Mexico's Intelligence Community Centers for Academic Excellence (IC-CAE) National Security Studies Program (NSSP), I have gotten to know Brandon and am extremely impressed with his talents and accomplishments.

Mr. Martinez is from rural NM, graduating from Grants High School with many honors, and is current a sophomore at UNM. I note he has focused his interest and study on Linguistics and this fall took beginning Chinese receiving an A+. In fact he has only one grade below an A in his career at UNM and that is a B+ in Chemistry. Mr. Martinez is very active in NSSP activities and is seen as developing into a leader in our program. This year he wrote a NSSP sponsored research paper "Kurdistan and US Support for the Peshmerga". It was excellent and it shows a person interested in international affairs and capable of excellent critical writing.

We expect that Brandon will be an extremely valued member of the intelligence community or become a leader in the US military. His background with his many and varied capabilities will be highly sought after by many agencies when he graduates. I also note that he is probably going to undertake a 5 year program which also gives him a MBA as well as a BA. It is tough and he can do it.

I give Mr. Martinez my strongest recommendation. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you should have any questions or need further information.

Sincerely,

Dr. Frank Gilfeather