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Honorable Dennis J. Waldron
Criminal District Court, Sect. F
2700 Tulane Ave.
New Orleans, LA 70119

December 11, 1995

Please file
↓ *APW*
12-14-95

Dear Sir;

This letter is written as a character reference for Dr. Christopher Nabors. I have known Dr. Nabors since the fall of 1989 when as a graduate student in the Anatomy Department he came by my lab to ask if he could do research in my laboratory. He studied for four years under my tutelage and during that period we also became close friends. Since his graduation in 1993 when he received his PhD, we have maintained a professional relationship as well as a close friendship. I have observed Chris in many environments; at work in the lab, at my home, at social gatherings and on vacations in Florida. I feel I can give a true assessment of his personality, his feelings, his philosophy of life and his heart.

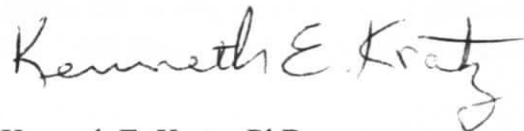
For a person with a dental degree and the prospect of receiving a medical degree, the benefits of obtaining a PhD are not numerous. Except for the fact that it places one in a position to do research, the financial rewards of receiving a PhD are minimal compared to a clinical career. Generally the motivation for conducting research comes from ones innate curiosity about the world and a desire to benefit society through scientific contributions. I truly believe that this was Chris' motivation when he decided to pursue a PhD and for this effort should be commended. I watched Chris work in my lab and observed him many times help other students with their studies and research when he was not required to do so. He gave of himself in these situations despite the fact that the demands on his own time were immense. As part of our curriculum, we require students to teach and often this is done in a very mechanical, uncaring fashion to merely fulfill the requirement. Chris' approach instead, was one of clearly desiring to benefit his students and to help them understand the material he had presented. He did not have to give as he did in the lab, he did not have to give as he did in his teaching, and he did not have to pursue a PhD. However, all of these behaviors attest to the concern and feeling he has for others and for society.

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I personally have two boys who have met Chris many times, he has always been helpful to them in their attempts to understand the world and me. Chris has visited my wife and I and her family while on vacation and I have watched Chris interact with my niece and nephew in this situation. Again, he has been helpful to these young teenagers in ways even I could not be. They could relate to him and he chose to help guide them and to help them understand their parents better. We as a family have all benefited from Chris' concern about young people and his willingness to share with them his own positive values about parents and life.

What I describe for you is a caring and thoughtful individual, one who is concerned about his fellow human being and the society in which he lives. He has been involved in a terribly unfortunate accident that resulted in a tragic death and surely he is partly to blame for this event. But I have talked with him numerous times since the accident and I truly believe he feels for this girl and her family. He asked me a number of times following the accident whether it would be appropriate for him to contact the parents and express his regrets and his understanding of their grief. I referred him to his lawyers in this instance but it should be known that Chris did ask what he should do. This and other conversations convince me that he does care deeply about Ms. Hansen, her family and the tragic accident. The picture portrayed of Chris at the trial and subsequently in the paper is terribly inaccurate with regard to his feelings and concern. Full of bravado, surely selfassured, surely overly confident at times, and certainly argumentative but these are only the facade of his personality, they do not describe what is in his heart.

Respectfully yours,



Kenneth E. Kratz, PhD
Professor of Anatomy
and
Assistant Director, Neuroscience
Center of Excellence

xc: Mr. Harry Connick, D.A.