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In Recommendation of Jairo Carretero-Vélez

To Whom It May Concern:

It is a pleasure to write in support of Jairo Carretero-Vélez. Although we worked together only a short time I feel that I know Jairo well. Jairo and I worked together during January, February, and March of 2012. I was in Argentina working on a book about "race" and liberal political theory and he served as my research assistant during January and February of 2012.

Jairo is highly motivated young man with a first-rate work ethic. Although the material I was working on was not in his area of expertise in a very short time he became knowledgeable about my work and located a number of articles both in academic journals and popular media that were crucial in my research. Where necessary Jairo also translated articles into English and provided a written synopsis of the material. His excellent work in this area speaks to his analytical skills and writing ability.

Moreover, Jairo served as my translator. While in Buenos Aires I met with groups like *Movimiento Afrocultural*. The directors of this organization do not speak English and I have only a rudimentary knowledge of Spanish. Jairo's ability to translate my questions from English to Spanish in a way that made the interviewees feel comfortable was especially important. When one is dealing with controversial topics like "race" and "racism" it is easy to ask questions in a way that people find offensive. Jairo's work was stellar. He is especially sensitive to linguistic nuances in both Spanish and English.

Jairo is an excellent student who is committed to education. I am sure he is an excellent colleague to fellow students, faculty, and any workplace. He is a hard worker with the intellectual honesty that one does not often find in today's student. If I can be of any further assistance please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely

John Berteaux
Associate Professor of Philosophy
California State University Monterey Bay