

Character Reference Letter for JAHmere Webb

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The Honorable Judge Denise R. Ferrero
Hillsborough County Courthouse
800 E. Twiggs Street
Tampa, FL 33602

RE: Character Reference for JAHmere Webb - A Transformational Force

Dear Judge Ferrero,

My name is Brooks Lopez, and I am writing to share my profound respect and support for JAHmere Webb, whom I had the privilege of meeting through our mutual connection with Michael Mataluni and Bravëtto. As someone who collaborates in the business transformation space, I've encountered countless entrepreneurs and visionaries. Few have left the impression that JAHmere made on me.

The Night Everything Changed

I first met JAHmere at Michael Mataluni's 46th birthday party. What should have been a simple social gathering became a pivotal moment in my understanding of what true passion and purpose look like when they intersect.

When Michael introduced JAHmere and he began speaking about The Bridge Project, I witnessed something extraordinary. This wasn't a polished pitch from a seasoned entrepreneur seeking funding. This was raw, authentic passion pouring from someone who had lived the problem and discovered the solution through his own transformation.

Overwhelmed by Vision

I'll be honest, Judge Ferrero—I was overwhelmed. In my years of business collaboration, I've heard hundreds of pitches, business models, and social impact ideas. But JAHmere's vision for The Bridge Project was different. It wasn't born from market research or academic theory. It

came from the deepest well of human experience—his own journey from incarceration to innovation, from being written off to writing a new narrative for others.

What overwhelmed me was:

- **The Authenticity:** JAHmere didn't hide his past; he transformed it into his qualification
- **The Clarity:** He saw exactly what was missing in youth intervention—credible mentors who'd walked the same path
- **The Passion:** This wasn't about profit; it was about preventing others from experiencing what he had
- **The Practicality:** Unlike many social entrepreneurs, JAHmere understood both the problem and the solution intimately

A Powerful and Compassionate Man

During that birthday celebration, I observed JAHmere interact with various guests—successful business people, family members, people from all walks of life. What struck me was his unique combination of power and compassion.

Power in his presence—not intimidating, but commanding respect through his authenticity and conviction. When JAHmere speaks about transformation, you listen because you know he's not theorizing. He's testifying.

Compassion in his approach—despite his own struggles, or perhaps because of them, JAHmere exhibited genuine care for everyone he met. He asked about people's children, their challenges, their dreams. He listened with the intensity of someone who understands that everyone has a story worth hearing.

The Bridge Project: More Than a Business

As our relationship developed from that initial meeting, I came to understand that The Bridge Project isn't just another social enterprise. It's JAHmere's life mission crystallized into actionable form. His insight that "at-risk youth don't trust adults who haven't lived their reality" isn't a marketing angle—it's a truth he learned through painful experience.

In my collaboration with Bravëtto, I've seen how technology can transform businesses. But JAHmere showed me how authenticity can transform lives. The Bridge Project works because JAHmere IS the bridge—between two worlds that rarely communicate, between pain and purpose, between systems that punish and communities that need healing.

Why JAHmere's Freedom Matters

Your Honor, I write this letter not just as a business collaborator, but as someone who recognizes rare transformational potential when I see it. JAHmere Webb incarcerated serves no productive purpose. JAHmere Webb free to build The Bridge Project serves thousands.

Consider what we lose if we imprison him:

- The credibility that can't be manufactured or hired
- The passion that comes only from lived experience
- The bridge between two worlds that desperately need connection
- The preventive impact on countless youth who need to see that transformation is possible

But more than what we lose, consider what we gain with his freedom:

- A living example that our justice system believes in redemption
- A model for how pain can become purpose
- A practical solution to youth intervention that actually works
- A bridge that others can cross toward their own transformation

My Ongoing Commitment

As someone involved in the business transformation space, I commit to:

- Supporting The Bridge Project's development and scaling
- Providing business guidance and connections
- Helping document and share the model for replication
- Standing with JAHmere as he builds this vital bridge

A Personal Reflection

That night at Michael's birthday party, I expected to celebrate another year of life with a colleague. Instead, I met someone who challenged my understanding of what transformation really means. JAHmere didn't just share a business idea; he shared a vision for healing that could only come from someone who had been broken and chose to become a bridge rather than a barrier.

Your Honor, in business, we often talk about "disruption" and "innovation." JAHmere Webb represents something far more valuable—redemption in action. His freedom to build The Bridge Project isn't just about second chances; it's about creating first chances for young people who might otherwise follow his former path.

I urge you to see what I saw that night and have continued to see—not a criminal deserving punishment, but a transformer deserving the opportunity to complete his metamorphosis and help others do the same.

Thank you for considering this perspective on JAHmere's character and potential.

With deep respect and conviction,

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"Sometimes the most powerful business partnerships begin not in boardrooms but at birthday parties, where authentic passion meets willing support, and transformation becomes not just possible but inevitable."