



UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

DIVISION OF ECONOMIC
AND RISK ANALYSIS

November 1, 2019

To whom it may concern:

It is with absolute certainty and pleasure that I recommend David Pham for PPIA's Junior Summer Institute. David possesses not only the genuine desire to help others, but also the technical acumen, willingness to learn, and the focused determination that will lead to success wherever he goes in public service. His broad and impressive array of experience thus far make him a prime candidate for this opportunity, and participation in this program will surely benefit all organizations in his path.

The moment I met David this past summer at his interview for the Securities and Exchange Commission's (SEC) Student Business Honors Program, I knew he had the enthusiasm and drive to fully reap the benefits of our internship program in the Division of Economic and Risk Analysis (DERA). The intern selection committee was deeply impressed with David's public service record, and not just what was evidenced by his military service. In multiple instances, he took initiative to not just notice areas in need of improvement, but to really take action to address them, and thereby affect change. This includes improving cross-cultural relations in Okinawa by teaching English to rural locals, and offering transition training for veterans with disabilities to assist with educational success. These were clear signs of effective leadership, and we were more than happy to select him.

This fall in DERA, David has been working with the Office of Policy Economics' Applied Research and Statistics Branch. Before he even started his internship, he opened communication lines to ensure he could gain skills and knowledge that would help him hit the ground running. To help DERA support the SEC's mission to facilitate capital formation, David uses SEC filings data to produce meaningful statistics by writing Python code. He has also become the Commission's Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) mascot, and been integral to building comradery among DERA's fall intern cohort. Whether he is writing code for hours on end or helping to raise awareness for the CFC effort, David consistently demonstrates his determination to improve whatever he touches.

Thank you, and I sincerely hope that you take advantage of David's positive contribution to your program so that he may further build his toolkit for policy-oriented impact. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at the information provided below.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lauren S. Bae".

Lauren S. Bae
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