

My name is Andrew J. Theile, I am twenty-seven years old, and I am a barber. I was born and raised in Owosso, Michigan. After graduating from Owosso High School in 2004, I moved to Grand Rapids. I enrolled in GRCC and took a few classes towards a degree in business administration. As it turned out, I did not have my heart set on such a degree. At age nineteen I moved to Lansing, Michigan to try my hand at barbering. I registered at Lansing Barber College in January of 2005 and completed my course in a little less than a year. I passed the state tests and became a licensed barber in January of 2006, and began barbering at Campus Barber Shop in East Lansing. I stayed at Campus for about a year and a half. I was feeling a bit restless in a college town, and wanted to be closer to my girlfriend (now my wife), so I moved to Chicago.

When I arrived in Chicago, I didn't know anyone, save from my girl and a couple of high school friends who had moved out this way. My first week here, I walked in to The Belmont Barber Shop. I cut the owner's hair and the rest is history. I became the third barber. After five and a half years at Belmont I am ready to start a legacy of my own. I have a steadfast clientele that continues to grow, and I could easily start a shop here in Chicago. Unfortunately, Chicago is not where my heart is. Michigan is calling me back.

My wife and I have spent a couple years traveling around the mitten state, searching for the perfect spot to set up shop. We have settled on Grand Rapids; it's perfect for our needs and lifestyle. It's not too small, but not too big either; it's closer to our friends and family, and I have something to offer that currently doesn't exist in Grand Rapids. With the help of Jason Carpenter, Blu House Realty, I have been scouring the city for the perfect location since November, 2012. This past week Jason forwarded me the information for a suite on Jefferson that is becoming available in the next couple of months. I would like to submit my name and documents as a potential lessee for that space.

My intentions are simple. I would like to open a three chair, traditional style barber shop that caters to men only. My shop will include a back bar with three mirrors, two sinks, and cabinetry for supplies. I will offer classic services: hair cuts, and straight razor shaves. I will also sell select hair products: pomades, and shampoo. I would like to contract a builder to create a partition to divide the space since barbering doesn't require as much space as is provided. I would use the back area as a break room with a washer, dryer, and shower. In the beginning I will be the only barber. I believe that after six-months to a year, the shop will be able to support an additional barber. A friend of mine currently working in Haslett has expressed an interest in doing business with me in Grand Rapids when the opportunity becomes available. In short - a traditional barber shop where a guy can walk in and get a reliable hair cut from a classically trained barber; like the places we went to as children with our fathers, a place of camaraderie, fraternity and the foremost hair cut every time.

Sincerely yours,

Andrew J. Theile