

Judge Reggie B. Walton
United States District Judge for the District of Columbia
February 15, 2009

Sir,

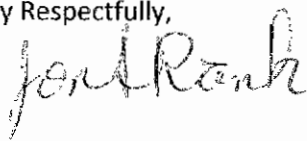
I first met Felipe Sixto my freshman year at Christopher Columbus High School in Miami, FL. During our Catholic high school experience we worked a lot together and became good friends. Felipe was known to be a conscientious person that looked out for other people. During our days in high school Felipe's girlfriend, now his wife, got pregnant. Felipe had the moral courage to deal with the situation by marrying Laura and becoming a young father.

Before attending the U.S. Naval Academy I attended Miami-Dade Community College with Laura and got to know the both of them even more. When I was a midshipman at the U.S. Naval Academy Felipe was concurrently attending American University Law School. Felipe and Laura would let me spend my hard earned weekends with them and their son at their house outside of Washington, D.C. During this time, when Felipe was in law school, I always remember his passion for public service and wanting to be a part of government. After my graduation I served as a Surface Warfare Officer with deployments to the Middle East, still keeping in touch with Felipe and his family.

Felipe recently moved to Miami and it is hard to get him by himself because he is always with his son. We have been fishing and diving together since high school and now he is passing the traditions on to his son. His mentoring is not only limited to fishing and diving but extends to sportsmanship and leadership in athletics, boy scouts and the classroom. Felipe is insistent on being present for all his son's athletic events and scout meetings. His son, little Felipe, wants to go to an academy and took the direction set forth by his father's mentorship. I have spoken to little Felipe more than a few times about the military and I firmly believe he will be a great candidate for any academy.

I know Felipe recently made major mistakes in regards to his recent past, but I can say that after serving in the military through tough times Felipe is still a man whom I would trust with my life. Please take my thoughts into consideration in respect to Felipe and his family.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jon A. Rank". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Jon A. Rank
LTJG USN(Ret).