

Circuit Judge Steven Redding
Morgan County Courthouse
77 Fairfax Street
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

Your Honor,

Case # 17-F-18

My name is Ethel Powers Dugan and I am writing this letter regarding the character of Erick Shute, who recently has been convicted of first degree murder in three counts.

I had the opportunity to meet this outstanding man through working with him at the same company, Metro Public Adjustment, Inc.

He was the most outgoing and friendly person I had the privilege of working with. The company we worked for was in part helping home owners and business owners with various types of property damage.

He was very caring and empathetic in dealing with all types of clients and also in dealing with contractors and insurance company adjusters. I would say he had the patience of a saint. Most damage that property owners had was not an easy task to deal with. But, Erick always went above and beyond the call of duty to help those that he met.

Erick has an amazing work ethic and garnished many awards from the company executives. He was much younger than me, but he was a man I looked up to and learned so much about patience and empathy. Erick was called upon several times to teach a class at our monthly training classes and was featured as a speaker at an annual company convention for over 300 people. I saw this as an accomplishment to aspire to.

Erick did so well one year that he won a free trip to Mexico from the company. My husband and I also won the trip that year and we were able to go with Erick as well as a group of other coworkers. I have to say that Erick and the group had a great time with lots of laughing and adventures.

I never once saw Erick confrontational with any one and we did have what I like to call discussions about all types of topics. He was never confrontational and always respected my opinion and of those who encountered him. I absolutely can say I never saw a side of Erick that could be considered violent in any way.

In closing, I would hope that you can see that this is a description of the Erick that I personally know and respect. I am asking you to please set aside the verdict for Erick and change it to self-defense.

Sincerely,



Mrs. Ethel Powers Dugan

2176 W Calle Cacillo
Green Valley AZ 85622
856-275-7138

NOTARIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

STATE OF Arizona
COUNTY OF Pima

This instrument was acknowledged before me
this 24th day of September, 2018,
by Ethel Powers Dugan

name(s) of signer(s)

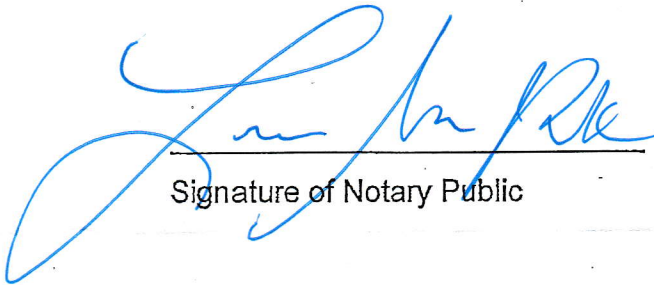
In witness whereof I herewith set my hand and official seal.

Description of Attached Document

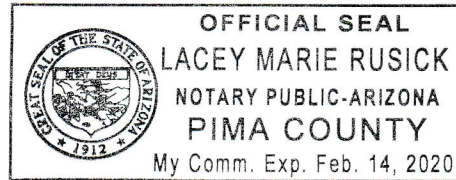
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Signature of Notary Public



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