

World Black Belt®

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March 11, 2008

The Honorable Judge William Terrell Hodges
Senior United States Judge
United States District Court: Middle District of Florida
Ocala Division
207 N.W. Second Street
Ocala, Florida 34475

Re: Character reference - Wesley Snipes

Honorable Judge Hodges:

I have known Dr. Wesley Snipes for over twenty years as an exceptional martial artist, actor, American citizen, father, husband, friend and just plain outstanding human being.

Chuck Norris and I have been partners and friends for over 42 years and back in the 1960s we built a large chain of martial arts schools. Within one day of the World Trade Center tragedy on September 11, a group of the finest martial artists were called to help create a program we named "America In Defense" (AID), later expanded and called "Aviation In Defense." Wesley Snipes was one of the outstanding people we called on whose help was instrumental in creating what we believe is the finest cabin crew self-defense programs ever created.

All of the instructors were required to submit to a criminal background check and go through the certification process. On October 1, 2001, we, at World Black Belt, began teaching the AID absolutely free of charge. Several months later, we were contracted by American Airlines and taught thousands of their cabin crews. Wesley was a huge help in creating the program and never asked for or received any payment or press for his efforts.

Wesley Snipes, like all of us, may have made errors in his life but he always faces the many challenges I've seen him encounter with hard work, honor and dignity. Dr. Snipes has always been kind and caring to the people he works with, his fans and my family and friends.

Chuck Norris admires and respects Wesley Snipes which is why he has used him in two of his Total gym infomercials. We, in the martial arts, say making mistakes is how you learn to go forward and be a better person.

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Wesley is a valued friend and an honorable, honest, truthful, selfless man and friend who is there whenever you need him. If ever there was a person who has learned by example, the way he has led his life, any consideration to have an opportunity to atone for any errors in a positive way, it is Wesley Snipes.

Thank you Your Honor for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,



Bob Wall

BW&

Attachments: AID letters from American Airlines
AID letter from Sheriff

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