

Character Reference Letter Sample for Court: DUI Offense

Below is a sample character reference letter template that can be used for court when supporting someone facing a DUI charge. Adapt it to reflect your genuine thoughts and your relationship with the individual.

[Your Name]
[Your Address]
[City, State, ZIP Code]
[Phone Number]
[Email Address]
[Date]

The Honorable [Judge's Name]
[Court Name]
[Court Address]
[City, State, ZIP Code]

Re: Character Reference for [Defendant's Full Name]

Dear Judge [Last Name],

I am writing this letter in support of my [relationship to defendant, e.g., friend, coworker, neighbor], [Defendant's Full Name], who is currently before the court regarding a DUI offense. I have known [Defendant] for [duration], and during this time, I have found them to be a responsible, honest, and caring individual.

[Defendant] has always demonstrated a commitment to their family and community. They have participated in [mention any volunteer work, community service, or involvement], and I have consistently observed their willingness to help others in need. This incident is out of character for [Defendant], and I believe it does not reflect the person they truly are.

Since the offense, [Defendant] has expressed deep remorse and has taken concrete steps toward making amends, including [mention any rehabilitation efforts, counseling, or programs attended]. I am confident in their dedication to learn from this mistake and to act more responsibly in the future.

I respectfully ask the court to consider [Defendant's] positive qualities, genuine remorse, and determination to make better choices moving forward when determining their sentence. I truly believe that this experience has had a profound effect on [Defendant], and I am optimistic that this will be an isolated event.

Thank you for considering my perspective. Please feel free to contact me if further information is needed.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]

Tips for Writing a Strong Character Reference Letter

- Be honest and sincere throughout your letter.
- State your relationship and how long you've known the defendant.
- Highlight positive attributes and any community involvement.
- Mention specific examples, if possible, that demonstrate good character.
- Acknowledge the offense but focus on the person's efforts to make amends.