



To Whom It May Concern:

February 22, 2013

Through the years I have been asked to scribe many letters of support for deserving individuals and organizations. I am truly honored to write this letter in support of Mark and Lorraine Richards and the MyAshleah Foundation. Mark contacted me a few years ago volunteering his services to the Eddy County DWI Program, with the desire to share his daughter Ashleah's story and save others from the physical and emotional scars from DWI crashes and the abuse of alcohol and other drugs. I have been privileged to work with Mark and Lorraine as partners with our program. They have presented at DWI Offender Programs, driver's education for beginning drivers, and I have witnessed some of their other very public work. The My Ashleah Foundation shares the common goal of the Eddy County DWI Program to reduce alcohol related harm, injuries, deaths, property damage and the myriad of other consequences from the unsafe or illegal use of alcohol and other drugs. The Richards are at the forefront of prevention efforts not only in Eddy County but throughout New Mexico. Through the years their efforts have resulted in fewer people driving impaired, an untold number of injuries prevented and lives saved as a result of their dedication to stop this violent crime.

The MyAshleah foundation is a valuable resource and I strongly recommend that funding be approved for it. This epidemic will never end without the support and dedication of programs such as theirs. The Richards have experienced first-hand the high cost of DWI; a child lost, injuries and the families left to pick up the pieces after their loss. They know first-hand what this violent crime does to a family and how it crosses generational lines; an effect often lost to the media. My Ashleah Foundation is a valuable source to assist other individuals. The Richards are dedicated, intuitive, professional and committed.

Should you have any questions or need additional information I may be reached at 575-234-9963.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Eddy County DWI Program Coordinator