

MUNDY LANE

ENTERTAINMENT

March 2008

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

Re: Character reference for Mr. Wesley Snipes

Honorable Judge Hodges,

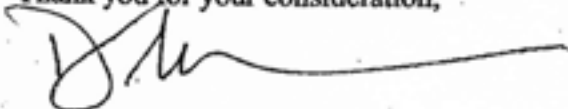
It has been said that great leaders build their lives upon simple principles. I was fortunate enough to meet Wesley Snipes over twenty (20) years ago and have called him a friend since that first day. We have worked together, laughed together, shared our knowledge with one another and respected each other throughout those years.

I have seen and am aware of the principles on which he has built his life: honesty, truth and courage. In the motion picture industry, it is easy to fall into the world of gossip and petty talk yet he has always been the pillar of dignity, distinction, value and powerfully intended integrity. He always puts principles before personalities.

Wesley is like a tree - a mighty oak. He stands for so many, "like a tree, planted by streams of water with leaves that do not wither." Many who know him have witnessed the fruit of his labors, have sat in his shade and even been protected by his presence. I am proud of him, proud to call him a fellow thespian and most importantly, proud to call him a friend.

I hope that sharing my observations will assist you in making the appropriate decision in his case.

Thank you for your consideration,



Denzel Washington

WOODY HARRELSON

March 24, 2008

The Honorable Judge William Terrell Hodges
Senior United States District 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,

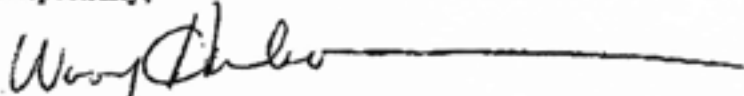
I've known Wes over 20 years, since the very beginning of my career. My first movie was also his first movie, Wildcats with Goldie Hawn. Both of us were 23 and our birthdays are only one week apart. I was, along with Goldie's character, the only Caucasian associated with the team. A few of the folks on the production were followers of Louis Farrakhan. It was the first time I experienced racism towards me. This was challenging and what could have been an ugly situation turned out to be quite the opposite. Wes took the time to discuss and dissect the issue of racism with all of us, and most of our free time together on the set was spent discussing race from a historical perspective. He strives for rightness in all his relations and I realized early on what a true citizen of the world Wes is. He continues to earn my respect to this day.

Wes is extremely well read and his quest for knowledge is relentless. He respects a healthy debate, as do I, and we've had some memorable ones over the years which have influenced my thoughts and actions. Wes seeks solutions and resolutions rather than sitting back and watching the horrors and injustices that plague our world.

Wes continues to encourage and challenge me to be the best man I can be by being a constant friend. A devoted, caring and loving husband and father, Wes is also a strong role model for me in my own family life. I consider him a part of my family, and it is an honor to call Wes my brother.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Woody Harrelson

April 7th 2008

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

RE: Wesley Snipes

Dear Honorable Judge Hodges:

Please accept this letter in reference to my long time friend Wesley Snipes who I have known for a number of years in both a professional and personal manner. I have had the distinct pleasure of observing him as a father, colleague, friend and mentor. Wesley is a very spiritual individual whom, despite his wealth and fame, remains extremely humble and has expressed to me his sincere regret throughout this entire process.

Wesley has become educated on the pitfalls of being generous, trustworthy and honest. Unfortunately, it was his honest nature that forced him into these legalities. I can say from my personal experience as a Judge that people are always trying to manipulate and defraud people with a high profile status. Wesley has mentioned to me his desire to educate individuals to seek knowledge and a clear understanding of all information before accepting what is presented to them.

I strongly believe that jail time would not benefit Wesley and respectfully request leniency from the court. Wesley is remorseful for any involvement he had with these other individuals and is willing to share his experience with others in the community and in encourage them to not become involved in tax-related schemes to defraud the IRS.

I hope my insight about Mr. Snipes will aid you in your final decision of his case. If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Sincerely,


Judge Greg Mathis

**JUDGE
BROWN**

March 19, 2008

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

Re: Wesley Snipes

Your Honor:

First, as a public figure with a television program and a retired criminal court judge for the state of Tennessee, I wish to disclaim any intention to convey the impression that that my current and prior professional status in anyway be thought submitted for the purpose of enhancing the impact of my advocacy of merciful consideration for the petition for leniency advanced by your defendant. Rather, this is a heartfelt supplication by a humble citizen on behalf of a young man that I have come to respect and admire.

Please be advised that I have been personally acquainted with Dr. Snipes for approximately five or six years and I have found him to be one of those rare individuals possessed of an extremely developed social conscience. He has caused me to be of the opinion that he is extremely well read and constantly vigilant of the opportunity to apply the principles of equity and egalitarianism that he has gleaned from his readings, experience and general character to the world around him; his altruism in reaching out to his fellow man appears to reflect consistent and genuine traits that I am refreshed to find in him. His is a goodly nature that I fear is sadly rare these days if not out right endangered with extinction. He appears to be consistently motivated by a desire to be of service to his fellow man. I believe that the appearance reflects the actual reality with as near a confidence of certainty as I am able to assign to such things.

I have reached the determination expressed above during the course of many intense discussions on the nature and characteristics of humanity with the young man. He is an intense and engaged individual who has convinced me that he is earnestly dedicated to the betterment of mankind. The good doctor came to me with excellent family credentials as a matter of reference from one of his parents with whom I had the pleasure of being involved in a number of projects to address the needs of at risk inner-city youths. I was actually introduced to him by one of my closest friends and colleagues (Mr. Clifford Stewart); a man of depth who I have known for more than forty years and of whom I have an excellent opinion; someone in whom I have the greatest trust and confidence in his judgment and opinion. The stipulation was that Dr. Snipes was a person that I would appreciate meeting; a traveler on that narrow path traversed by persons who look at the journey through life as an opportunity to deliver service to their fellow man and return and amplify the advantages that they have acquired to the benefit of others.

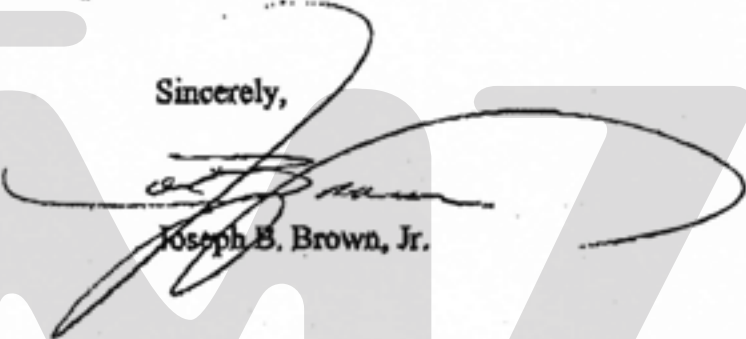
As a qualifying preamble to what follows, let me first assure your Honor that I am convinced that your petitioner is not only well aware of but is, in fact, a vigorous advocate of the principle of personal responsibility and confesses full acceptance of his personal accountability for the consequences of his own actions and offers no artifice of evasion for them. I am also confident that Dr. Snipes is one of those persons whose motives are on balance most likely to be noble in essence. On the other hand, I have cautioned him from time to time that he is sometimes all together too trusting and is thereby likely to find himself at odds with his own elevated purposes as a consequence of sometimes being entirely too prone to bestow well intentioned but ill advised confidence upon persons with whom he has only slight acquaintance.

He means well, but has yet to learn that his dedication and good purpose are not as universal with others as he tends to believe; a fault served up by a basic soundness and goodness of his heart. He suffers from the consequences of mistakenly believing that his sincerity, integrity, motivation and purpose are commonly shared. It is an unfortunate reality that many of those he finds himself in league with are undeserving of such confidence. The person before you is a trusting, sometimes gullible, individual who is vulnerable to the opportunist invariably drawn to such celebrities as your defendant; the sometimes false, sometimes misguided, sometimes reckless

who would deceive or mislead to secure the endorsement, trust and support of a 'star'.

If I might be indulged by pointing this out, your defendant is a person possessed of an enormous appeal to today's youth. In this context, he is uniquely capable of having a very positive impact upon them with the positive message of duty and obligation that he has consistently urged upon and for them. I would propose to you that he should be permitted to pursue such aims with as little penal encumbrance as is possible and appropriate. He is an individual who has done - and will continue to do - positive things for our society. I therefore urge you, your Honor, to grant him such consideration and mercy in sentencing as you might find merited. I would advocate, on his behalf, that your leniency be extensive. I further contend that in the event that your august person accepts this humble commendation of mine you will find that the probability is high that your largess will prove well placed and beneficial to the public.

Sincerely,



Joseph B. Brown, Jr.

bb / JBB Jr