From: Barry Gafford 9 Overcup St Texarkana, Texas 75503

April 4, 2022

Subject: Character Reference for Paul Conover

Your Honor:

My name is Barry Gafford and I would like to provide a character reference for Mr. Paul Conover. We met in 2004 when I was General Manager of Crane Lincoln Mercury in Texarkana Texas. The dealership had experienced a hail storm that severely damaged our vehicles. Paul was one of the many hail technicians that wanted our business. Many of these technicians were wanting to do under the table money to fix the vehicles and seemed dishonest to me. Paul came across as well qualified and honest. All of our vehicles were repaired with excellent workmanship. We had no problems getting Paul to handle any complaints or questions from our customers. During this time Paul and I became good friends because of our hobby of working and training Labrador retrievers. As a result we also duck hunted together on several occasions. During time in the duck blind we talked and I got to know Paul better and learn that he is honest, hardworking and still a kid at heart. We kept in touch over the years and in 2007 the dealership called Paul again to repair the hail damage. We did not consider any other hail technicians because we knew his integrity and quality of his work.

I know Paul loves to have a good time but I also know Paul works hard, is honest, patriotic and loves his family. I do not think Paul meant any disrespect of the law in his involvement in the Capital demonstration. Paul has admitted that he is remorseful and wished he had thought his actions through.

Respectfully submitted,

Barry (Gafford