

Keith Edward Smith, Sr.

South [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Pennsylvania 15[REDACTED]

RECEIVED

JUDGE A. MARIANI

Dear Judge Mariani,

I am writing to express my sincere appreciation for your appointment of Frank Walker to be my attorney in a case that finally came before you on July 5th after almost three years. As you might recall, there had been three other attorneys on my case, all of whom withdrew because of conflicts of interest.

The purpose of my letter is not to comment on the work of the first three attorneys but rather on the work of Mr. Frank Walker. Unlike some of my previous experiences with those who attempted to handle my case, I found working with Mr. Walker to be a very pleasant and encouraging experience.

First, *he was thoroughly prepared* by taking time to explore the appropriate case law and legal issues involved and by actually taking the time to listen to his client's version of events.

Second, *he was accessible*. There was never a period of time greater than 12 hours when he failed to respond to an e-mail or telephone call.

Third, *he was available*. We met on several occasions, some of which were even on the weekends. That availability I found to be extremely valuable as the trial date approached.

Fourth, *he was aggressive* in preparing a vigorous defense on my behalf. His efforts made the efforts of other attorneys on this case look little better than the efforts of an overweight dog sleeping in the hot sun!

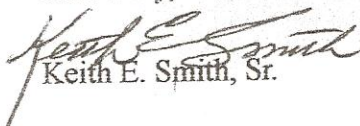
Fifth, *he was unafraid*. While it seemed to me along the line that others were afraid of offending the Pittsburgh police, this was in no way the case with Mr. Walker.

Sixth, *he was pragmatic and strategic* in his efforts to separate chaff from wheat and in his efforts to determine an appropriate legal course of action.

In short, it seems to me that Frank Walker epitomizes what one would hope for in his or her defense attorney, as well as the kind of attorney every Law School should aspire to produce. While it is not my place to say, based upon my personal experience the court should have no hesitation in appointing Mr. Walker to handle any case of any kind in the future. In my opinion, he did excellent and outstanding work on my behalf.

Finally, because my case had a number of delays, I had the opportunity to be in your courtroom on many occasions. I want to express my sincere appreciation to your staff for their courteousness, professionalism, and extraordinary ability to put up with dumb questions from people like me and, I imagine, countless other defendants. What difficult and important work they do!

Sincerely,


Keith E. Smith, Sr.