



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

OFFICE OF THE AMBASSADOR

Helsinki, Finland

July 30, 2019

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to offer my sincere recommendation on behalf of Ms. Caceres, who has been a responsible and valuable member of our Political and Economic Section this summer. Over the past two months, Maria has demonstrated her ability to investigate sensitive political issues, work closely with our team to accomplish essential tasks, and function as a foreign policy professional.

After Ms. Caceres demonstrated a nuanced understanding of human rights and development issues, our Political Officer asked her to take responsibility for researching and writing a cable touching on both of her interests. With minimal instruction, she was able to identify the critical Finnish experts, request interviews, and obtain the information of greatest interest to policymakers in Washington. In her meetings with human rights activists, she was an admirable representative of the United States, able to speak diplomatically on complex issues of identity and politics.

In addition to her ability to research and deliver analysis, Ms. Caceres brings a strong work ethic to the myriad essential tasks of a federal office. When faced with 700 confidential files to be examined and archived, she was quick to create an efficient disposal process in collaboration with her other intern colleague. With minimal guidance, they found solutions and kept their team motivated through long hours of review. Our office has benefited greatly from Maria's deliberate approach and we were ultimately able to comply with federal archive disposal regulations on time thanks to her teamwork.

Outside of the office as well, Ms. Caceres is a confident and careful representative of our embassy. Seeing her abilities in action made us comfortable including her in sensitive meetings involving the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs throughout July and August 2019. By the end of the summer, she was capable of taking notes, identifying what points would be relevant for Washington, and drafting cables on her own. Not only would we be happy to have Maria intern at our Embassy again, I am confident that she would find permanent employment with us if she were so inclined. I stand ready to answer any questions regarding her performance and would recommend her for any future position of responsibility.

Sincerely,

Robert Frank Pence