

Roger Moats Letter of Support

Hello my name is Roger Moats and I am a convicted felon. I was released on February 3, 2023, from a state institution. When I was released, I painfully realized I no longer had a home to return to. As a result, I came to Baltimore and moved into a shelter run by Mission Possible ministries. My next goal was to secure steady employment. I did the normal job search routine and applied for jobs in the area but was often automatically disqualified from these positions due to my criminal record. I had no idea where to be linked to background-friendly employers.

Fast forward to February 23, 2023, when I enrolled with America Works of Maryland, Inc. Initially, I was very skeptical about the services I would receive. I figured America Works was just another temp agency that would make promises of employment until my background check processed. That was not the case. The America Works staff assured me that they could work with me and put me on the right path despite the stigma my felony conviction holds.

Once I met with a Sales Representative by the name of Nicole Taylor, my initial anxiety and skepticism disappeared. Ms. Taylor absolutely blew me away with her ability to put my fears to rest and prepare me for suitable openings. Furthermore, my concerns about my living situation and background were addressed, which made me feel comfortable and confident that this was the right place to be for hard-to-place job seekers.

Long story short, the staff at America Works equipped me with the tools and confidence I desperately needed to secure gainful employment. I was hired on the spot with Clendenin Brothers and am even pending for a Mechanic position with a Tractor Trailer company. Additionally, I received a referral to Sharp Dressed Man, which is a nonprofit that provides free interview attire. Thanks to AWMD, my outlook for the future is wide open and the sky is truly the limit. From the bottom of my heart, this type of organization needs to be expanded and

duplicated in as many communities as possible! Words are simply not enough to express my gratitude to AWMD. Committee members, thank you for taking the time to review my testimony.

Sincerely,

Roger Moats

Baltimore, MD