

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA
CHARLESTON DIVISION

| | | |
|---------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, |) | Criminal No. 2:25-cr-01241-BHH |
| |) | |
| |) | |
| v. |) | |
| |) | |
| LEVI PHILLIP MILES, |) | |
| |) | |
| Defendant. |) | |

**MOTION FOR VARIANCE OR DEPARTURE AND
SENTENCING MEMORANDUM**

Defendant Levi P. Miles respectfully submits this Sentencing Memorandum requesting that this Court impose a noncustodial sentence, or in the alternative, a substantial downward variance from the advisory guideline range. Mr. Miles’ extraordinary post-offense rehabilitation, complete sobriety, military service, faith-based transformation, acceptance of responsibility, substantial community support, and the unique facts and circumstances surrounding this offense support a sentence outside the advisory guideline range and consistent with the “sufficient, but not greater than necessary” mandate of 18 U.S.C. §3553(a).

BACKGROUND AND PERSONAL HISTORY

Levi P. Miles is 48 years old and was raised in a close Christian family in South Carolina. The Presentence Report (PSR) reflects that Levi’s father served as a pastor for nearly forty years and that his mother worked as an elementary school teacher. Levi was raised in a stable and loving environment grounded in faith, service, and family values.

Levi enlisted in the United States Army in 2003 and served honorably as a linguist and financial management technician. The PSR reflects that Levi completed Airborne School and

earned the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terror Service Medal, and the Parachutist Badge.

Following his military service, Levi maintained consistent employment and ultimately worked for many years at the David Aylor Law Office, working directly for David Aylor, before later becoming employed with Riders Law Group after David's death. Levi has remained steadily employed throughout the pendency of this case and has fully complied with all conditions of release. Additionally, gainful employment will remain available to him should he be granted a noncustodial sentence.

The PSR also establishes that Levi struggled for years with severe alcohol abuse and cocaine abuse. However, the PSR further reflects that immediately following David Aylor's death in January 2023, Levi stopped using alcohol and drugs entirely and has maintained sobriety since that time. David's passing was more than a wake-up call for Levi, and the shock of David's passing caused a significant change in Levi. The PSR further notes that Levi explained that he poured out all alcohol and discarded all drugs from his residence shortly after David's death and recognized that he may not have survived had he continued living the way he had previously lived.

Dr. Anna Feinman examined Levi, and found that Levi suffers from alcohol use disorder and cocaine use disorder, both in sustained remission, and concluded that no formal treatment was presently necessary due to Levi's sustained sobriety, strong support systems, and rehabilitation.

I. Insights From Those Who Knew Levi and David Best

As of this filing, the undersigned has received thirty-seven letters in support of Levi Miles. These letters were not heavily solicited but instead were voluntarily submitted by

individuals who felt compelled to speak on Levi's behalf. As expected, given Levi and David's close relationship, the letters often speak to both Levi and David. Taken together, however, the letters consistently reveal several unmistakable themes: (1) extraordinary and authentic rehabilitation; (2) genuine remorse and grief over David Aylor's death; (3) a deeply personal and emotionally complex relationship between David and Levi; (4) the absence of malicious or predatory intent; (5) substantial community service and faith-based transformation; and (6) the overwhelming belief among those who knew both men that incarceration would not serve justice, healing, or David's memory.

1. Extraordinary Rehabilitation, Community Support, and the Unique Relationship Between Levi Miles and David Aylor

Levi accepted responsibility early in these proceedings and pled guilty pursuant to an Information. The PSR reflects that Levi fully accepted responsibility and qualified for the full reduction under §3E1.1.

More importantly, the evidence before the Court overwhelmingly demonstrates that Levi fundamentally changed his life beginning immediately after David's death in January 2023. Unlike many defendants who promise future rehabilitation, Levi has already accomplished extraordinary rehabilitation over the last three years. The letters attached to this filing detail how Levi fundamentally changed his life following David's death:

"The changing moment in Levi's life was when a cousin whom he thought highly of passed away. Levi knew that he had to make a 'life change'." — Craig L.

"Your Honor, I have seen a few through my 68 years who have such an incredible life change!" — Craig L.

"From that moment forward, his life took a radically different course." — Tomelex C.

“Over the months and years that followed, I witnessed a profound transformation in Levi’s life.” — David H.

“Since January 2023, I have witnessed a significant and sincere transformation in Levi’s life.” — Ryan H.

“I witnessed a profound and life-altering transformation in Levi.” — Rachel P.

The significance of these statements is heightened by the fact that they come from entirely different categories of people in Levi’s life. These are friends, employers, church leaders, mentors, and family members. Yet all independently describe the same dramatic and sustained transformation.

The letters demonstrate the substance of Levi’s change (that he is sober, no longer involved in drug activity, fully employed, and committed to service), as well as the timing of it. His rehabilitation was immediate, voluntary, and authentic long before Levi was being investigated:

“He had poured out any alcohol and discarded all drugs in his house.” — Lynn M.

“He has been alcohol and drug free three years this January 2026.” — Lynn M.

“Levi has already been actively engaging in personal reform of his own accord for the past three years.” — Ryan H.

“Mr. Miles has taken responsibility for his actions and began doing the difficult internal work immediately upon his independence from his prior circumstances.” — Katherine H.

These letters collectively demonstrate not speculative future rehabilitation, but extraordinary rehabilitation that has already occurred. Levi is a productive member of society who learned from his poor life choices years ago, prior to any court involvement.

2. Genuine Grief, Remorse, and Love for David Aylor

The letters from those who knew Levi and David consistently portray Levi as devastated by David's death and carrying profound grief, guilt, and remorse.

"Levi loves David. Deeply and unconditionally." — Will G.

"Nobody at the funeral was more devastated than Levi." — Will G.

"He and David were more than cousins. They were like brothers and truly loved each other." — Bill F.

"David Aylor was like a brother to Levi." — Laura C.

"My heart goes out to Levi, I know he loved his cousin dearly." — Nate L.

"[Levi] was grieving deeply and blaming himself for the loss of someone he loved dearly." — David H.

Collectively, the letters portray a man profoundly devastated by the death of someone he loved deeply, not someone indifferent to the consequences of his conduct.

The Court, and others, may rightly wonder why, if Levi had such remorse and acceptance for his actions, he did not immediately disclose that he provided pills to David to law enforcement after David's death. First, as is reflected in the discovery, David was suffering from a need to obtain pain pills. In the month leading up to his death, text messages from David's phone indicate he sought pain pills from more than one individual. Consequently, Levi was never sure that the pills he gave David resulted in David's death. He believed the pills likely came from someone else and had little understanding of Fentanyl being contained in fake pain pills. Moreover, Levi was simply afraid. He was human and did not want to confront the possibility that he contributed to David's death. He has since done that, and as will be explored further at the scheduled sentencing hearing, he has overwhelming regret for not disclosing his conduct earlier.

3. The Relationship Between David and Levi Was Deeply Personal, Emotionally Complex, and Influenced by Loyalty and Pressure

Another recurring theme in the letters is the unusual, emotionally intertwined relationship between David and Levi.

“David had high expectations of loyalty to ‘David,’ and being disloyal would be the ultimate betrayal.” — Sarah K.

“Levi’s devotion to David as his boss, friend, cousin was unparalleled.” — Sarah K.

“Mr. Aylor [created] frequent pressures and demands of Levi.” — Ryan H.

“[It was a] struggle for Levi to establish healthy boundaries in that relationship.” — Ryan H.

“David was the type of person that would never take no for an answer.” — Will G.

“He was only doing what his employer had asked of him.” — Laura C.

“no longer compelled and pressured to participate in an unhealthy and destabilizing environment.” — Katherine H.

The PSR also reflects this relationship. It shows that, coexisting in this relationship of loyalty and pressure, David actively sought pills from Levi. More than that, as a friend and employer, he pressured Levi for pills and increasingly drove the conduct that ultimately led to the offense. As Levi has stated that after David began experiencing significant personal and professional turmoil “Aylor became ‘depressed’ and began to ‘press’ Miles for pills or ‘Smurf turds¹.’”

The PSR explains:

“As the Christmas and New Year holidays approached, Miles confirmed that Aylor was becoming more desperate for pills. As a result, Miles began to ‘put out feelers’ for a new source of supply of pills, so he could fulfill Aylor’s requests.”

¹ “Smurf Turds” or “Turds” was the term used for pain pills, based on their typical blue color.

That statement is particularly important because the PSR expressly connects David's increasing desperation for pills, David's requests, and Levi's efforts to locate additional pills specifically to satisfy David's requests.

The PSR also repeatedly documents David's directness and, at times, demands, directly requesting pills from Levi. For example:

"Could really use some Smurf Turds before you leave." — David Aylor

"I want turds please." — David Aylor

"I need some turds now!" — David Aylor

"Can you bring me some turds?" — David Aylor

"Man you got any turds? I'm dying with this migraine." — David Aylor

The PSR further reflects that David repeatedly linked his requests for pills to emotional distress, anxiety, depression, headaches, professional pressure, and inability to function. For example, on December 20, 2022, David described an overwhelming personal and professional collapse:

"If I don't drink until I pass out or take pills I can't eat, I can't sleep, I can barely function." — David Aylor

David further stated:

"F*** I've never had a panic attack this bad." — David Aylor

Then, only days later, David again requested pills from Levi while describing severe migraines and emotional distress:

"Man you got any turds? I'm dying with this migraine." — David Aylor

When Levi responded he was "trying to today," David escalated further:

"If I can't get rid of this migraine I'm going 187 via suicide on cop." — David Aylor

The PSR also reflects David's increasingly desperate and persistent requests immediately before his death.

On December 31, 2022:

"Let's get turded up and jump in the pool and jacuzzi." — David Aylor

Later the same day:

"Thanks for the turds too." — David Aylor

On January 1, 2023, David again discussed pills while intoxicated and discussing emotional distress:

"I need 7 turds in the jacuzzi right now." — David Aylor

The PSR further reflects that David's requests were not isolated incidents, but part of an ongoing pattern of dependence and repeated solicitation. The text messages contained in the discovery from David indicate that David was struggling with personal and professional issues, which increased his requests for illegal substances. Finally, the PSR confirms that Levi's conduct was heavily influenced by loyalty and emotional obligation to David rather than financial gain: "Miles never charged Aylor for the pills 'as a favor for everything Aylor ever did' for Miles."

Taken together, the PSR supports the conclusion that David Aylor repeatedly and persistently requested pills from Levi; David's worsening emotional and professional instability increased those requests; Levi responded out of loyalty, emotional dependence, and longstanding relational dynamics; and Levi's efforts to obtain pills escalated specifically because David became increasingly desperate for them.

These statements consistently portray a tragic and unhealthy dynamic shaped by addiction, emotional dependence, loyalty, and pressure, not one that with predatory intent or malice.

4. The Conduct Was Tragic and Wrong, But Not Motivated by Malice or Predatory Intent

The letters consistently distinguish Levi from individuals motivated by greed, exploitation, or intentional harm.

“He and David both made unfortunate decisions, but these decisions were not meant to harm.” — Nate L.

“There are individuals you have sentenced, and you will sentence who meant to create negative outcomes and cause harm to others, bad people. My friend, Levi Miles, is not one of those men.” — Nate L.

“[Levi] would never purposefully harm.” — Will G.

These letters consistently portray Levi not as a malicious or predatory trafficker, but as a deeply flawed individual trapped in an unhealthy and mutually destructive relationship dynamic fueled by addiction and poor judgment.

5. Faith, Community Service, and Commitment to Helping Others

Another dominant theme throughout the letters is Levi’s devotion over the last three years to helping vulnerable individuals in the community.

“He volunteers weekly at our church serving food to those experiencing homeless.” — April Williamson

“75 - 100 meals were taken to our homeless friends on Monday nights.” — Jeffrey R.

“He would also pray over the homeless.” — Ezra P.

“He has demonstrated a long standing pattern of service responsibility and positive contribution to our community.” — Travis N.

“He’s always willing to put the needs of others ahead of his own.” — Patrick S.

These letters collectively demonstrate that Levi has already become precisely the type of rehabilitated, sober, accountable, and service-oriented individual that the criminal justice system seeks to create.

6. Those Close to David Aylor Do Not Believe Incarceration Serves Justice, Healing, or David's Memory

Perhaps most significantly, several individuals who personally knew both David Aylor and Levi Miles expressly stated that David would not have wanted Levi incarcerated.

“David Aylor was more than just a fellow attorney to me he was also a dear friend. He loved Levi like a brother. Having known David and witnessed firsthand the extent of his relationship with Levi I have no doubt that he wouldn't want Levi to spend a single day incarcerated behind the unfortunate circumstances that led to his passing.” — Culver K.

“Your honor, I respectfully ask that you Levi serve no jail time. It is best for all parties involved. Including the immediate Aylor family. It is time to move on and continue the healing process.” — Will G.

“The pain that the family has been through has been more than enough when we lost David Aylor three years ago. I am respectfully asking for consideration that we not lose a second nephew and son in the process.” — Bill F.

“his continued commitment to rehabilitation and community support would be far more beneficial than incarceration.” — Ryan H.

“It would be deeply unfortunate to see the positive progress Levi has made... cut short by a lengthy sentence.” — David H.

“Levi doesn't deserve to be incarcerated. He does not present a danger to the community, but the complete opposite. He has been and will continue to be an asset to the community. Levi lost his best friend in David, and his loss has been more than enough punishment.” - Jonathan M.

Collectively, the letters overwhelmingly support the conclusion that continued rehabilitation, accountability, and service in the community better serve the interests of justice than a lengthy custodial sentence.

II. Federal Sentencing Principles Allow for a Noncustodial Sentence

Title 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a) seeks to achieve an equitable sentencing scheme. In determining the sentence to be imposed, a district court must consider the range of the advisory guidelines and sentencing factors set out in Section 3553(a). *United States v. Moreland*, 437 F.3d 424 (4th Cir. 2006). District courts are mandated to impose a sentence sufficient, but not greater than necessary, to achieve the goals of sentencing. *Kimbrough v. United States*, 552 U.S. 85, 101 (2007).

A defendant “shall be sentenced in accordance with the provisions of this chapter so as to achieve the purposes set forth in subparagraphs (A) through (D) of § 3553(a)(2) to the extent that they are applicable in light of all the circumstances of the case.” 18 U.S.C. § 3551(a).

The purposes of sentencing are set forth in Section 3553 (a)(2): (A) to reflect the seriousness of the offense, to promote respect for the law, and to provide just punishment for the offense; (B) to afford adequate deterrence to criminal conduct; (C) to protect the public from further crimes of the defendant; and (D) to provide the defendant with needed educational and vocational training, medical care, or other correctional treatment in the most effective manner. The sufficient-but-not-greater-than-necessary requirement is not simply another “factor” to be considered along with the others outlined in Section 3553(a). Instead, the sufficient-but-not-greater-than-necessary requirement sets an independent limit on the sentence a court should impose.

With the Sentencing Guidelines now advisory, District Court Judges have a renewed, virtually unlimited ability to consider facts relevant to the Section 3553(a) factors in fashioning a sentence. *United States v. Booker*, 543 U.S. 220 (2005), *Gall v. United States*, 128 S. Ct. 586, 596-97 (2007).

To comply with the four purposes described, the sentencing court must consider the

following seven factors identified in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a)(1)-(7), which are summarized as follows:

- (1) *The nature and circumstances of the offense and the history and characteristics of the defendant;*
- (2) *The need for the sentence imposed to reflect the seriousness of the offense, to afford adequate deterrence, to protect the public, and to provide educational or vocational training to the defendant;*
- (3) *The kinds of sentences available;*
- (4) *The kind of sentence and the sentencing range established pursuant to the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines;*
- (5) *Any pertinent policy statement issued by the Sentencing Commission;*
- (6) *The need to avoid unwarranted sentence disparities among defendants with similar records found guilty of similar conduct and*
- (7) *The need to provide restitution to any victims of the offense.*

Consideration of the Guidelines is only “the starting point and the initial benchmark.” *Gall v. U.S.*, 552 U.S. 38, 39, 128 S.Ct. 586, 596 (2007). The sentencing court must make an individualized assessment based on the facts presented and may not assume that the guidelines' range is reasonable. *Id.* at 40-41.

SENTENCING RANGE

The advisory guideline range in this case is substantial. However, the advisory range does not adequately account for the uniquely mitigating circumstances present here.

This case does not involve a traditional fentanyl trafficking organization, a profit-driven narcotics operation, or a defendant targeting vulnerable strangers for financial gain. Rather, the evidence reflects a tragic and mutually destructive relationship between two men struggling with addiction, alcohol abuse, emotional dependence, and poor judgment.

The letters overwhelmingly demonstrate that Levi did not act out of malice, greed, or predatory intent. Nate L. explained: “He and David both made unfortunate decisions, but these decisions were not meant to harm.”

The evidence further demonstrates that Levi has already undergone extraordinary rehabilitation, maintained years of sobriety, embraced accountability, and become a productive and service-oriented member of the community.

I. The Goals of Sentencing Under §3553(a) Do Not Require Incarceration

The evidence before the Court demonstrates that Levi Miles presents little danger to the public. He has remained sober for more than three years, complied with all conditions of release, maintained employment, engaged in substantial community service, restored family relationships, and devoted himself to helping others.

The letters repeatedly emphasize that continued rehabilitation in the community would better satisfy the purposes of sentencing than incarceration. Levi Miles has become the type of rehabilitated, sober, accountable, productive, and service-oriented individual that the criminal justice system seeks to create. A lengthy custodial sentence would interrupt, not create, that rehabilitation.

CONCLUSION

Levi P. Miles stands before the Court fully accepting responsibility for his conduct and fully aware that nothing can undo the tragic death of David Aylor. He has lived with that loss every day since January 2023 and will continue to do so moving forward.

The evidence before the Court demonstrates extraordinary rehabilitation, sustained sobriety, genuine remorse, military service, deep community support, faith-based transformation, accountability, stable employment, and years of productive service to others.

The totality of our submitted letters further demonstrates that those who knew David Aylor best, including individuals who personally knew both David and Levi, do not believe that lengthy incarceration serves justice, healing, or David's memory.

For these reasons, and pursuant to the factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. §3553(a), Defendant Levi P. Miles respectfully requests that this Court impose a noncustodial sentence, or in the alternative, a substantial downward variance from the advisory guideline range.

Respectfully submitted,



Nathan S. Williams (Fed ID 10400)
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Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464
(843) 209-6972
E-mail: nathan@scfederaldefense.com

May 20, 2026
Mount Pleasant, SC

January 29, 2026

Alyssa Caruso

[REDACTED]
Charleston, SC 29414

The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

I am writing this letter in support of Levi Miles, whom I have known for approximately ten years and worked closely with for the past three. During that time, I have come to know him not only as a colleague, but as a trusted friend. We both work at the same law office—I am a paralegal, and he is a Client Services Manager—and our roles have allowed me to see his character on a daily basis.

In both my personal and professional experience, Levi has consistently demonstrated integrity, compassion, and a strong sense of responsibility. Working in the legal field, I have seen firsthand how seriously he takes his role and the trust placed in him. He genuinely cares about the clients we serve, often going above and beyond to ensure they feel heard, respected, and supported during what are often very difficult moments in their lives.

Beyond his professional dedication, Levi is a person of strong character. He is deeply committed to his family and friends. He is also heavily involved in his church, where he actively contributes his time and energy to his community, including leading mission trips abroad, weekly prayer groups, and volunteering to feed those in need. His faith and sense of community are important parts of his life and strongly influence the kindness he shows to everyone around him.

Levi is widely liked and respected by those who know him. In the many years I have known him, I have found him to be honest, thoughtful, and genuine, and these qualities have remained consistent over time.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Alyssa Caruso

(703)-[REDACTED]

January 27, 2026

Amanda L. Herron

[REDACTED]
Ocala, FL 34473

The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

My name is Amanda Herron, and I am writing to offer a character reference for Mr. Levi Miles. Until last year, when my husband David and I relocated out of state, he served as the president of the Charleston chapter of a Christian motorcycle club. Our involvement in this ministry brought us to many biker events throughout the Lowcountry, and it was through these events that I first came to know Levi. Although I had been aware of him for years, it was not until the summer of 2023 that I truly began to know him personally.

During that year, Levi became a frequent and welcome visitor in our home as his priorities, friendships, and overall direction in life began to shift. We tinkered with our bikes in the garage, shared meals, hosted cookouts, and enjoyed countless evenings of conversation. He and my husband rode together regularly—both on and off road—and we even scheduled play dates for our dogs, Tater and Ziggy. Over time, Levi has become not just a friend but someone we consider part of our extended family.

Within the Charleston biker community, Levi is widely known not only because of his position with Riders Law Group but because of his genuine heart for people. If there was a charitable cause taking place, Levi wanted to be involved. He supported veterans' organizations, cancer fundraisers, medical expense benefits for injured riders, Christmas toy drives, homeless outreach efforts, and many other initiatives aimed at helping locals. When my husband organized events through his club—such as the Annual Blessing of the Bikes or food and clothing drives for the veterans at Patriot Villas—Levi was someone we could always count on to show up and help in any way he could.

Levi's dedication extended beyond community service. When he began regularly attending church, he fully committed himself to growing spiritually. He joined small groups, participated in Bible studies, served within the church, and even volunteered for mission trips to Central America.

His commitment to others was also clear in his professional life. Levi did not treat his work at the law firm as just a job. He cared deeply about the people he served. He taught himself Portuguese to better communicate with and earn the trust of some of his clients, and I personally witnessed him interrupt his own plans—even during his off hours—because someone needed his help.

As a friend, Levi has shown up for us time and time again. He has cared for our pets and watched over our home while we were away. He has prayed for us, helped us move, shared laughter and tears, and ridden hundreds of miles by our side.

I cannot speak to who Levi was before the summer of 2023, but the man I have come to know since then is a kind, gentle, and sincere Christian man. He has demonstrated growth, humility, and a genuine desire to serve others. I am proud to call him my friend, and I hope the Court will take these qualities into consideration.

Respectfully,

Amanda L. Herron

(843) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@hotmail.com

FITSNEWS

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to provide a character reference for Levi Miles, whom I have had the pleasure of knowing for approximately two years. During this time, I have worked closely with Levi in mentoring at-risk youth and serving our community through various outreach programs.

Levi currently mentors a 17-year-old boy from a challenging family background. He has consistently demonstrated exceptional moral character, offering not only guidance and support but also genuine compassion and patience.

He volunteers weekly at our church serving food to those experiencing homeless in addition to leading a men's bible study group. He also provides mentoring for teenage youth that are risk and provides council to them as well as others.

In addition to his work with youth, Levi is an integral part of our community outreach efforts. He plays a key role in opening warming shelters during the winter months and regularly cooks and distributes meals to those experiencing homelessness. His dedication extends beyond just physical support; he also provides emotional and spiritual encouragement to those in need.

Levi's kindness, unwavering belief in the potential of others, and his willingness to serve selflessly make him an invaluable asset to our community. I have no doubt that he will continue to make a positive impact wherever he goes.

If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,
April Williamson
Friend/ Campus Admin Seacoast Church NCH
(843) [REDACTED]

William L (Bill) Fletcher
[REDACTED]
Spartanburg, SC 29302

The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

Hello, and thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of Levi Miles. Levi is my nephew and the son of my oldest of two sisters, Lynn Fletcher Miles. I have known Levi for all of his 48 years. I have always loved Levi and have always admired his concern for other people. He always treated his grandparents (my late parents) with complete respect and love and that is one of my fondest memories of him. Seeing a young boy with that much compassion told me a lot about who he was. We have maintained a close relationship ever since, though because of distance, we haven't been able to spend as much time together over the last number of years.

I had a long phone conversation with Levi yesterday. It's the first time that I have had a chance to speak to him since his conviction. Despite the gravity of the situation, I was very heartened as to how maturely he is handling it. He has been a changed person over the last three years and it shows. His commitment to sobriety and his faith is very apparent and he is very aware of mistakes that he has made, as we all have as human beings.

This has been a painful time for our entire family, with David's passing and now with Levi's conviction. Nobody feels worse about it than Levi. He and David were more than cousins. They were like brothers and truly loved each other. We have all been proud of the man the Levi has become and his work and growth with David's law firm. Levi had definitely become a part of the fabric of Charleston from with his work with Riders Law Group.

In closing, the pain that the family has been through has been more than enough when we lost David Aylor three years ago. I am respectfully asking for consideration that we not lose a second nephew and son in the process.

Sincerely,

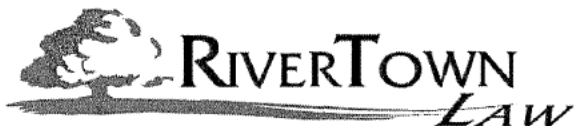
William L Fletcher

864 [REDACTED]
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The attached photo is of Levi and I during an Easter egg hunt at my parent's home many years ago



FITSNEWS



*L. Bradley Smith, Esquire**
*O. Terry Beverly, Esquire***
John C. Zilinsky, Esquire

**Certified Family Court Mediator*
***Retired Attorney*

December 16, 2025

Lawrence Bradley Smith.



Conway, South Carolina 29526

The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks
Re: Character Reference for Levi Miles

Your Honor:

My name is Brad Smith. I am an attorney licensed in South Carolina, and I have known Levi Miles for roughly thirty years. Levi has been a close personal friend, and I have also worked with him professionally over that time. Our relationship spans decades and multiple phases of life, giving me a meaningful and consistent opportunity to know him well.

Levi is also the person who introduced me to David Aylor. David and I later practiced law together when we were both starting out, and we spent a significant amount of time together during those early years of our careers. Because Levi introduced us, and because of my continued personal and professional relationships with both men, I had a firsthand view of their relationship over many years. Levi and David were cousins, but more importantly, they shared a very close bond. I observed that bond repeatedly—in work settings, in personal interactions, and in the way they supported one another. Their relationship was genuine, longstanding, and deeply personal.

Because I have known Levi for such a long period, I have had ample opportunity to observe his character. I am aware of Levi's conviction and understand the seriousness of the offenses before the Court, as well as the profound consequences associated with them. Nothing in this letter is intended to excuse or minimize his conduct. I write solely to provide the Court with my honest perspective based on decades of knowing him as a person.

Professionally, Levi worked as an investigator at David Aylor's law firm. I personally observed him in that role and saw him handle sensitive matters that required discretion, reliability, and attention to detail. He took his work seriously and understood the responsibility that came with

working within the legal system. In my experience, he showed respect for the process and for the people he worked with.

On a personal level, Levi has historically been loyal, steady, and dependable. One recent example is particularly meaningful to me. In August of this year, my daughter began attending Charleston Southern University, which is located only a few minutes from Levi's home. Levi was the first person I called when she moved to Charleston. I made sure they had each other's contact information, and without hesitation, Levi immediately reached out to her, welcomed her to the area, and made it clear that if she ever needed help or a safe place, he would be there for her. Since then, he has continued to check on her and even helped her secure employment locally.

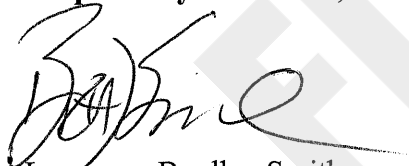
I include this not as sentiment, but as a reflection of my continued trust in Levi's judgment and character. Despite everything that has occurred, I trust him with my daughter's safety and well-being. That trust is based on decades of firsthand experience, not obligation or convenience.

Since his conviction, my conversations with Levi have reflected a clear acknowledgment of responsibility and an understanding of the gravity of what has occurred. He has not attempted to justify his actions or shift blame in discussions with me. Instead, he has expressed remorse and awareness of the harm involved. From my perspective, he understands the seriousness of the situation and the consequences he faces.

I recognize that this Court must weigh punishment, deterrence, and public safety in reaching its decision. I submit this letter solely to offer the Court my personal observations of Levi Miles as someone I have known for most of my adult life, and to provide context for his character beyond the offenses before the Court.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'LBS', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lawrence Bradley Smith

Character Reference Letter for Levi Miles

January 3, 2026

Chuck Coffman

[REDACTED]
Hanahan, SC 29410

Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

I have had the privilege of knowing Levi Miles for the past couple of years and am grateful for the opportunity to offer this character reference on his behalf. I first met Levi through the Seacoast Homeless Street Ministry, where our team regularly serves meals to individuals experiencing homelessness in the North Charleston area. In every interaction, Levi consistently demonstrated kindness, compassion, and respect. He would personally ensure each person received food, blankets, hygiene items, and—just as importantly—words of encouragement and prayer.

During this time, I have also participated in multiple Bible study groups with Levi. His leadership, insight, and willingness to teach have been a source of encouragement not only to me but to many others. Levi has played a meaningful role in helping me grow in my commitment to volunteering and generosity. As a result of his example and guidance, I now serve on my church's dream team in hospitality and security.

One of the most significant ways Levi has impacted on my life has been through our shared passion for hunting. I have been invited to his property in Bamberg, South Carolina on several occasions, where we spent many hours talking about life, faith, and personal growth. Sixteen months ago, I was involved in a serious truck accident that left me temporarily unable to work and in need of ongoing medical treatment and therapy. During this difficult time, Levi's consistent support, encouragement, and genuine care were instrumental in helping me maintain a positive outlook and remain hopeful throughout my recovery.

Levi is a trusted friend and mentor, and I hold him in the highest regard. I am sincerely grateful for the opportunity to speak to his character and respectfully submit this letter for your consideration.

Respectfully, Chuck Coffman

512-[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@chuckcoffman.com

January 7, 2026

Christina Fox

████████████████████
North Charleston, SC 29406

The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

I have known and interacted with Levi Miles for approximately 11 years. I met Levi initially through mutual friends while attending various motorcycle events. He has always been dedicated to awareness and support of charitable causes and support of the (biker) community.

Over the years, Levi and I became friends, sharing conversations over our connected joy in gardening, plants, dogs, home improvement, riding and events in the low country. Levi was a trusted friend when I was injured in motorcycle accident and offered his assistance multiple times; both legally and physically.

Levi and I have also connected professionally as he has interacted on cases with my coworkers. I have always known him to have a positive reputation and knowledge in legal arenas and his ability to gather facts and present them honorably is respected.

Levi and I have had multiple conversations, at length about the importance of family, faith and community. He has been a solid shoulder to lean on more than once when I have struggled with my family dynamics and repeatedly supported good decisions and guided me when I was at my weakest. I have valued his position in my life.

I have always known Levi to have an outstanding reputation everywhere he goes and he's greeted repeatedly with full hugs, warm smiles and firm handshakes. Levi is the kind of man people get out of their seat to spend time with and interact with.

I sincerely hope the court takes this letter into consideration as it's written from heart to support somebody I care about. Levi isn't just a wonderful human being, but an important part of the community and deeply adored by those that consider him family.

Thank You

Christina Fox

843-██████████



May 15, 2026

Via Hand Delivery

**United States District Court
District of South Carolina
The Honorable Bruce H. Hendricks
85 Broad Street
Charleston, SC 29401**

RE: Levi Miles Character Letter

Dear Judge Hendricks,

I am writing on behalf of Mr. Levi Miles, whom I have known for approximately fifteen years. Our relationship began as acquaintances and has developed into a genuine friendship over time.

Throughout the years, I have discovered that Levi is among the kindest and most generous individuals I have ever met. He consistently demonstrates a strong work ethic, compassion, dependability, and respect toward others. Levi dedicates a significant portion of his time volunteering at his church and actively supports underserved communities in the Charleston area. Since the passing of his cousin, I have personally observed the meaningful changes Levi has made in his life.

David Aylor was more than just a fellow attorney to me he was also a dear friend. He loved Levi like a brother. Having known David and witnessed firsthand the extent of his relationship with Levi I have no doubt that he wouldn't want Levi to spend a single day incarcerated behind the unfortunate circumstances that led to his passing.

As a criminal defense attorney, I am fully aware of the seriousness of the offense that Mr. Miles is pleading. My intention is not to diminish the gravity of the matter. However, I firmly believe that this single incident does not represent the true character of Mr. Miles as I know him. Although he may have made questionable decisions at the time of the alleged event, I have witnessed firsthand the positive transformation in his behavior and outlook.

I respectfully urge the court to take into consideration Mr. Miles' character, his contributions to society, and his dedication to personal growth and change when determining an appropriate sentence in this case.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kind regards,


E. Culver Kidd

12/13/2025

Craig Lambright

[REDACTED]
Charleston, SC 29414

To The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

I've known Levi Miles for over two years, and we have been part of a weekly men's group during that time. We have also attended the same Church, served on special projects together as well as attended men's retreats, and even a mission trip to Honduras together.

I know nothing of Mr. Miles' conviction or his past other than that he had run with a tough crowd. Serving as a pastor for 13 years, I absolutely love stories like Levi's. Being the son of a pastor, Levi chose a different road than his father. Like many (including myself), he ran far away from the faith his father lived and taught.

The changing moment in Levi's life was when a cousin whom he thought highly of passed away. Levi knew that he had to make a "life change". That brought him back to the Church, and by fate, it was at the congregation that my wife and I attend.

Your Honor, I have seen a few through my 68 years who have such an incredible life change! While I didn't know Mr. Miles prior to this change, the life that he exemplifies today is a picture of a transformation that both you and I long to see in the lives of those who have struggled to make positive life choices.

The Mr. Miles I know is a very caring, sincere, and honest man. A few months ago, while sharing a time in our group together, I told him that his father has to be very proud of him. I said that because there are very few in our world that are what we would like our son's lives to reflect, I can honestly say if my son was just like Levi, I would be very grateful.

Your Honor, I love and respect Mr. Miles because I know this man is the kind of man I need to help me be the best version of myself that I can be. There is a quality about Levi that stands far above most men, and our society needs more men like him. He is a man of peace, integrity, and humility.

I hope that my few words help you to understand the transformation that has happened in Mr. Miles' life. We absolutely need more of this kind of change in our world today.

Thank you for your time, and I'm grateful for those who serve in your capacity. I'm sure that it is very difficult to deal with the issues that are always before you.

God bless

Craig Lambright

574-[REDACTED]

To The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks

It is a pleasure to write this character recommendation for **Levi Miles**, whom I have known closely since early 2023. Having observed Levi in various capacities, as a fellow church member, a partner in community service, and a peer in our men's Bible study group, I can speak with confidence regarding his character, work ethic, and heart for service.

Community Impact and Service

Levi is a significant asset to the North Charleston community. He does not just "attend" events; he actively seeks out opportunities to help those in the most vulnerable circumstances. My firsthand experience working alongside him includes:

- **Food Pantry Operations:** We have worked together at our church's food pantry, where Levi consistently demonstrates efficiency and a welcoming attitude toward every neighbor we serve.
- **Homeless Ministry:** He is a dedicated participant in the homeless ministry at **Seacoast Church North Charleston**, providing consistent support and resources to those in need.
- **Warming Shelter Volunteer:** Levi also serves at local warming shelters, often during the most difficult hours and weather conditions, ensuring that our community members have a safe, dignified place to stay.

Personal Character

In our weekly men's Bible study, I have seen Levi's personal integrity and commitment to growth. He is a man of his word, a thoughtful listener, and someone who leads by example. He possesses a rare combination of practical reliability and genuine empathy.

Summary

Levi Miles is a man of action and deep compassion. Whether he is organizing supplies for the pantry or providing direct outreach on the streets, he handles his responsibilities with humility and a "can-do" spirit. I am certain he will be valuable to our community.

Sincerely,

Charles W Simons

North Charleston, SC 29405

Phone: 843-

Email: [@billysimons.com](mailto:charles@billysimons.com)

03/01/2026

Ezra Elizabeth Pellegrino

[REDACTED] Duncan SC, 29334

The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

Levi Miles is my uncle, my moms eldest brother, all whom we dearly love. I am a sophomore at Charleston Southern University. Growing up, the only time I got to spend with him was during christmas time when he would come and visit. He would always make sure to bring my siblings and I a little gift and a funny card that he knew would make us laugh. Once I moved to Charleston, I became very close with my Uncle Levi. He was always checking up on me and making sure my needs were met and that I was doing okay adjusting to my freshman year of college. Each Sunday, he would pick me up for church and we would go to Sunday service together. The car rides to church were some of my favorite moments with him. We often talked about our relationship with the Lord; how the Lord was moving in our lives; what He was teaching us in our lives. My uncle is very on fire for the Lord and it has been so encouraging for me to see how God can truly completely change someone's heart. Uncle Levi demonstrates resilient patience, faithfulness, and obedience to where the Lord has called him and what he should be doing. My Uncle Levi was heavily involved with his church at Seacoast. He once took me with him to his church where they prepared meals and fed the homeless in Charleston. He attended this every Monday evening. I often think back on the one time I attend because what I saw shifted my perspective forever. One thing that amazed me was how my Uncle Levi and the other church attendees knew the homeless name and treated them like a real human being and not just some random insignificant person. The people that were homeless, that lived under the

bridge, were very kind and it left me in awe. I was saddened that people actually live a life like that. He would also pray over the homeless on the Mondays when he went out with the church. My Uncle Levi was also a consistent prayerful man. I enjoyed getting to hear about his experiences with his men's prayer/meeting group. It encouraged me to see how he would be nervous about speaking but he would let the Holy Spirit guide him and give him confidence to be obedient to the Lord. He would always send me encouraging texts or prayers when I was going through a hard time or just to uplift me in general. I would also share my favorite verses and encouraging words too. Uncle Levi also got to go on a mission trip to Honduras and speak there. It is truly so amazing to see how with consistent surrender to the Lord, a person can be used in big and mighty ways.

In addition to his steadfast love for the Lord, Uncle Levi had a love for caring for others and having a servant's heart. There were many times he would cook dinners for me, let me borrow his kitchen to cook, buy the things I needed, and he even treated me to my birthday at Hall's chophouse! Essentially, whatever was his was mine. One of my favorite memories with Uncle Levi was when we planted a garden together. He taught me how to use the tiller, dig out the even rows for the plants, and plant all of the veggies. One of my other favorite things about Uncle Levi was how he could always make me laugh. He always knew how to make me laugh with his funny jokes. One other attribute I admire in my Uncle Levi was his humility. He had a pure heart towards others and was not afraid to admit when he was wrong. Overall, I have loved getting to live near Uncle Levi, and he inspires me because despite everything going on in his life, he still strives after the heart of God and is obedient to the Lord.

Sincerely,

Ezra Elizabeth Pellegrino

[REDACTED]@gmail.com

864 [REDACTED]

FITSNEWS

Character Reference for Levi Philip Miles

January 26, 2026

Ms. Cyndi Pisani

[REDACTED]
North Charleston, SC 29405

To the Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

I am writing to offer my character reference for Levi Miles, whom I have known for approximately two years. Levi and I first met through our volunteer work with Seacoast Church in North Charleston, specifically through the Monday Night Food Ministry, which prepares and distributes food to individuals experiencing homelessness in our community.

Through this ministry, I have consistently seen Levi demonstrate genuine compassion and a deep commitment to his faith in Christ. He willingly shares encouragement, prayer, and kindness with those who are homeless, incarcerated, or simply in need of someone to listen. Levi's service goes beyond volunteering his time—he has routinely used his own personal finances to purchase basic clothing and hygiene items for individuals in need.

On a more personal level, following a tropical storm in 2024, Levi was part of a men's group from our church that assisted with community recovery efforts. He helped remove a large fallen tree limb and repair a 24-foot section of fencing on my property that had been destroyed.

Levi consistently displays this same level of genuine care and selflessness within our church and throughout the broader community. His actions reflect strong character, integrity, and a sincere desire to serve others.

Based on my observations, Levi consistently displays integrity, selflessness, and a strong commitment to serving his community. His conduct reflects positively on his character, and I believe he is a person who strives to live responsibly and to help others whenever possible.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this letter. I offer it with respect and honesty, and I am willing to provide additional information if needed.

Sincerely, Cyndi Pisani

Cell: 608-[REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]@yahoo.com

Daniel Lamar Brown

████████████████████
North Charleston, South Carolina 29406

Date: January 2, 2026

The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

Let me please start out by saying, your honor, that I understand that you have a job to do, and myself, along with my brother in Christ, Levi Miles, and the rest of his support team, will accept whatever verdict that you render, but I would be remiss should it go unmentioned that I have spent the past couple of days leading up to the my brother's next court date, fasting and praying, in hopes that it catches Heaven's attention, which will then sway you to grant him leniency. I can testify of my brother's character, I know him to be a God-fearing man, as a matter of fact, my first encounter with Levi was at our home church, Seacoast (North Charleston Campus). I can count on one hand how many people I've had the pleasure of meeting who I knew from the first impression of them, that we were going to be life long pals, and Levi was surely one of them. I've known Levi for a year or two and since then he has only spoken words of affirmation by constantly reminding me the difference between how the world sees me and what God sees when He looks upon me, which is His one and only begotten son, Jesus Christ. Levi has shared his home with me and fed me on numerous occasions, putting in an effort to count all the times he has laid hands and prayed over me would be all for nothing, because I know I can't count that high. He has gone as far as visiting me when I was omitted to Ralph H. Johnson Veterans Affairs mental ward (better known as 3A). Oftentimes, I have partnered with Seacoast by delivering meals and laying hands over the less fortunate in the North Charleston community, and sure enough, I couldn't look over my shoulder, not even once, without seeing my brother striking up conversations and exchanging handshakes and hugs with the men, women, and children that we were there to help. My brother is wise beyond his years and I've personally witnessed firsthand the level of maturity he shows when faced with adversities. He does not shy away from turning to those who care about him most, for prayers and conviction. As his support team, we believe every word that comes out of his mouth when he expresses remorse about that which he is being judged for. Throughout this difficult time for him, he has shown me God's steadfast love by how he walks with conviction, remorse, and courage, all the while, keeping a genuine smile on his face and attending church and church-related events faithfully. I inspire to be at least half the man that my brother is one day. Since you've taken the liberty to read this far into my letter, your honor, I want to use this time to thank you for residing over this case and I know whatever call you decide to make, your heart was in it, and that's all I could really ask for.

Sincerely,
Daniel Lamar Brown

Gmail Account: [REDACTED]@gmail.com

FITSNEWS

February 3, 2026

David Herron

[REDACTED]

Ocala, FL 34473

The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

My name is David Herron. I have known Levi Miles for approximately six years. I met Levi through our shared involvement in the motorcycle community. At that time, I was serving as President of the Sons of God Motorcycle Club Ministry, and Levi was working with Riders Law Group. Through our time working together at community events—serving the motorcycle community, homeless veterans, and other outreach efforts—I began mentoring Levi and offering him spiritual guidance.

Over the years, our friendship deepened significantly. Following David's passing, Levi leaned heavily on me for spiritual and emotional support. During that period, I was genuinely concerned for his well-being. He abruptly removed himself from a party-centered lifestyle and stopped engaging in recreational substance use. As he distanced himself from his former social circle, he expressed overwhelming guilt and remorse, repeatedly stating that it easily could have been him who lost his life. He was grieving deeply and blaming himself for the loss of someone he loved dearly.

Over the months and years that followed, I witnessed a profound transformation in Levi's life. He fully committed himself to a Christian lifestyle, and his character, priorities, and daily habits changed completely. His focus shifted from personal enjoyment to service, accountability, and purpose. He became actively involved with Seacoast Church, participating in mission trips to other countries and dedicating substantial time to a homeless outreach ministry.

Through this ministry, Levi regularly goes out several nights a week to assist individuals experiencing homelessness—working to connect them with rehabilitation programs, shelter, spiritual support, and community resources. He demonstrates genuine compassion, consistency, and a sincere desire to help others rebuild their lives. I have personally observed his dedication and the positive impact he has made through this work.

During this same period, Levi also took meaningful steps to repair strained relationships within his family that had suffered during years of self-indulgence. He made intentional

efforts to reconcile with family members and rebuild trust, demonstrating accountability and maturity.

I respectfully ask the Court to consider leniency in Levi's sentencing. While I fully recognize the gravity of this case and the loss of life involved, I believe Levi has already endured profound emotional consequences and has demonstrated sincere remorse, personal growth, and a commitment to living a responsible and service-oriented life. He lives daily with the weight of his loss and has chosen to honor that loss by helping others and contributing positively to his community.

It would be deeply unfortunate to see the positive progress Levi has made, and the good he continues to do for others, cut short by a lengthy sentence. Regardless of the Court's ultimate decision, I believe Levi is committed to ensuring his life has meaning and that his actions going forward reflect accountability, compassion, and service to others.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

David Herron

██████████@gmail.com

(843) ██████████

To The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

I am pleased to recommend Levi Miles, whom I have known since the spring of 2023 through our shared involvement at Seacoast Church in North Charleston. Over the past years, I have had the privilege of serving alongside Levi in our church's warming shelter ministry, where he has consistently demonstrated compassion, reliability, and a genuine heart for helping others.

Levi approaches every volunteer opportunity with humility and dedication. He is the kind of person who quietly steps in wherever help is needed, treating every individual with respect and kindness. In addition to volunteering, Levi participates in a men's Bible study with my husband, and through that group, it has become clear that his faith and integrity guide every area of his life.

Levi's character is one of honesty, thoughtfulness, and service. He is dependable, considerate, and a steady presence in any group setting. I have no doubt that he will continue to be a positive influence on our community.

Sincerely,

Darlene B Simons

██████████
North Charleston, SC 29405

843-██████████ ██████████ [@gmail.com](mailto:██████████@gmail.com)

Character Reference for Levi Philip Miles

December 27, 2025

Jeffrey A. Reed

[REDACTED]
Hanahan, SC 29410

To the Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks

I first met Levi Miles in January 2024 at a 21 days of Prayer and Fasting Service at Seacoast Church in North Charleston. I was speaking that morning on healing and remember that Levi had asked our team for prayer. It was on that same morning that I introduced myself to Levi and invited him to attend our men's bible study on Saturday mornings.

Levi became a regular at our Saturday men's bible study then and continues to be a big part of our group today - whether it be teaching, leading table discussions, leading prayer, and or encouraging men in their faith. It can not be overstated, the number of guys who have had or still have addictions in the areas of drugs, alcohol, pornography, and other abusive behaviors. Levi's deliverance from his previous life with drugs and alcohol has been a testimony of his faith and instrumental in mentoring other men struggling with the same issues.

I also served alongside Levi on our Monday Night Street Ministry Team during 2024 in which 75 - 100 meals were taken to our homeless friends on Monday nights in the city of North Charleston. We would stop at homeless encampments and abandoned areas where many of these folks would make temporary shelters. We would bring them a plate of food, some clothing and hygiene items, and spend some time getting to know them by name and hearing their stories; many of which had battles with drugs, alcohol, and mental health issues. Levi was a big part of that team and personally invested in the purchasing of socks, undergarments, shoes, and other items for our friends. Levi continues to be an advocate for our friends and a mentor and recruiter of people to serve the homeless community.

As a previous member of a missions team that traveled to Honduras, I encouraged Levi to do the same in the summer of 2024. Levi traveled with the team that participated in prayer, teaching, discipleship, and evangelism at Men's conferences, Care Points, and Prisons with our mission partner Casa Oracion Familiar in the capital city of Tegucigalpa and surrounding areas. Levi fell in love with missions and the people of Honduras and led the team that returned to Honduras in August 2025.

Levi has also served as a teacher and table leader in both our Rooted and Freedom courses, is a member of our prayer team on Sunday mornings and at various events, and a consistent volunteer at church and community events. Levi was a big part of last year's warming shelter and has signed up to volunteer again this year.

Some general things that I know about Levi is that he is single, works for Rider Law Firm, and lives in Goose Creek with his dog Tator Tot. Levi enjoys riding motorcycles and has ridden in several charity events. He loves gardening, growing and giving vegetables away, and making his own hot sauce.

Levi also is an avid hunter, and has shared his passion and experience with many of the guys in our group on his property in Bamberg, South Carolina. The window time on many of those drives have been instrumental in mentoring a particular young man in our group that has dealt with addictive behavior, depression, mental health issues, and has been institutionalized on a few different occasions. Levi has been and continues to play a critical role in the mentoring of this young man.

I don't know what the old Levi was like. Levi has never backed away from sharing his past of partying (the girls, drugs, and alcohol). But the Levi that I know today is not the same person he once was. I can only speak about the guy I know today who has embraced his faith and the changes that it brings. He is a humble, kind, loving, and very generous man. He is a valued friend, confidant, and accountability partner in which I have daily contact.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly vouch for Levi's character and the significant positive changes he has made. He is a valued member of our community, and I am confident that he will continue to be a source of support, encouragement, and leadership to others.

Sincerely, Jeffrey A Reed

Cell: 513- [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]@aol.com

January 28, 2026

Justin Roach

[REDACTED]

Moncks Corner SC, 29461

The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

I am writing this character statement on behalf of Levi Miles, whom I have known personally for over 10 years. Throughout our long-standing friendship, Levi has consistently demonstrated reliability, integrity, and a strong sense of responsibility toward others.

Levi is deeply rooted in his community and has always shown a genuine willingness to help those around him. He has never turned away from someone in need and is often one of the first to offer support, guidance, or encouragement.

I have found Levi to be dependable and accountable in both personal and professional settings. He follows through on commitments, values honesty, and conducts himself in a manner that reflects strong moral character. His encouragement and steady presence have had a positive impact on many people, myself included.

Based on my personal experience and long-term knowledge of Levi's character, I believe him to be a person of good judgment and strong values. I respectfully submit this statement for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Justin Roach

[REDACTED]@gmail.com



Levi Miles

[REDACTED], Goose Creek, SC 29445

Monday, January 5, 2025

The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

My name is Ciarrah Lindsay, and I serve as a leader within the Local Missions and Outreach ministries at Seacoast Church North Charleston. It is an honor to provide this character reference on behalf of Levi Miles, who has been a committed and dedicated volunteer within our church community.

Levi has attended and actively served at Seacoast Church for approximately two and a half years. From the outset of his involvement, he demonstrated a strong sense of commitment and a willingness to serve wherever needed. Beyond simply volunteering when asked, Levi consistently took initiative to identify additional ways to support our church and the broader North Charleston community. My first interaction with Levi was prompted by his proactive interest in learning more about our outreach efforts serving individuals experiencing homelessness.

In addition to his involvement in the ministries I oversee, Levi remains deeply engaged in the life of our church. He participates regularly in weekly community groups and frequently steps into leadership roles during church events and initiatives. Throughout his time with us, Levi has proven himself to be dependable, consistent, and generous with both his time and resources. He approaches his service with sincerity, responsibility, and genuine care for others.

Based on my direct experience working with Levi over several years, I believe he is a person of integrity and genuine character. He consistently demonstrates responsibility, compassion for others, and a sincere desire to contribute positively to his community. I respectfully ask that you consider this letter as a true and accurate reflection of Levi Miles's character and his ongoing efforts to live a constructive, service-oriented life. Please feel free to contact me if any additional information would be helpful.

Sincerely,

Ciarrah Lindsay

[REDACTED] [@seacoast.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@seacoast.org) | 843-[REDACTED]

May 4, 2026

Jonathan Miles

[REDACTED]

Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

My name is Jonathan Miles, and I am the youngest brother of Levi Miles. I tell people often, I began my journey to become a lawyer because of David Aylor, but I was able to see it through because of my brother, Levi. He knew exactly when I needed tough love and when I needed encouragement. I have always looked up to Levi; never more than now. He is not just my brother, but a mentor and dear friend.

Levi has always had a tremendous work ethic the entirety of our relationship. Whether it was diving in gator infested ponds for golf balls, or preparing for a trial with David Aylor, he put everything into it. I got to see that firsthand when I worked with him at David Aylor Law Offices as a law clerk in law school and again when I joined David's staff as an attorney. It was here that I learned the true meaning of hard work. Levi stepped in to show me the ropes and helped continuously guide me in my work. Unfortunately, I found myself unable to maintain the high volume and high stress environment working for David as an attorney and left after only 18 months. I love my cousin David more than anything, but there were never any "days off", and I quickly found myself burned out. The fact that my brother was able to work with David in that environment longer than any other employee directly speaks about how hard he worked.

One of Levi's best characteristics has been his trust, his faith, and his selflessness. I watched a complete transformation in him following David's death, which helped encourage me to do the same. He has gotten involved with his church and jumps on any opportunity to serve people both domestically and abroad. In my nearly 10 years in practicing in Criminal Law, I have seen many people find God when they are facing criminal charges and/or incarceration. The most impressive thing about Levi is that his transformation came years before these charges. As a former Solicitor with 15th Judicial Circuit, where I prosecuted drug cases and death cases, this entire prosecution of my brother has been extremely difficult on me. I will not share my reasoning, but I can confidently say that the prosecution of my brother Levi is not motivated by any form of justice. It is difficult to write this letter without getting angry, but the one person who has kept me centered and encouraged throughout this process is Levi.

When I had my meeting with Jimmy Richardson, 15th Circuit Solicitor, following my hire, I will never forget what he told me.

“Jonathan, I didn’t hire you because of your experience, because you ain’t got none. I hired you because of your character. As a Solicitor, you have a lot of authority and a lot of responsibility. Always remember, just because you can do something, doesn’t mean you should do it. Be sure to always look at the whole picture.”

That is exactly what I am pleading to Your Honor; do what should be done looking at the whole picture. While I believe as a brother and as an attorney, this prosecution should have never been pursued, I am begging Your Honor for justice. Levi doesn’t deserve to be incarcerated. He does not present a danger to the community, but the complete opposite. He has been and will continue to be an asset to the community. Levi lost his best friend in David, and his loss has been more than enough punishment.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Miles

843- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@cityofmyrtlebeach.com

Lynn Fletcher Miles

██████████
Conway SC 29526

The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

Levi Miles is our oldest son. When he was 17 months old, his twin sister and brother were born followed by another brother seven years later. My husband Phillip, pastored the same church for 37 years so our four children were “preachers kids.” Levi was about 15 when he began to waiver from the values we held in our home. He did not seem happy being a PK. As his mother, I began to pray every day for this prodigal son. He lived with us until college and then joined the army. He continued to wander eventually moving to Charleston to work for our nephew David Aylor, also Levi’s cousin, best friend and eventual boss. On January 2023 Levi called to say David had died. He was my sister’s son and we were devastated. Levi took it hard. I was worried about him more than I ever had been. I could tell he was struggling terribly. I never expected my prayers to be answered during this horrible time for our whole family. Three weeks after David’s death on January 20, 2023, Levi had a powerful spiritual experience in the privacy of his home, where he lived alone. Later, he told us he had poured out any alcohol and discarded all drugs in his house. He broke off all friendships from the culture of substance abuse. He has been alcohol and drug free three years this January 2026. He joined a church, Seacoast North Charleston, where he continues to be involved in homeless and men’s ministry. He has taken two mission trips to Honduras, speaking to inmates in several prisons there. As his mom, I do not recognize my son. He calls regularly to share scripture and pray for his dad and me.

We have always loved Levi but the last three years, he has been the son that is more than we could have ever asked for or imagined. My husband and I are 75 and realize we could be separated from Levi the rest of our lives. As his mother, may I ask the court to please consider an alternative to prison?

Sincerely,

Lynn Fletcher Miles

██████████@gmail.com

Melanie Crystal Alexander

██████████
Orlando, FL 32836

The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

I am writing to respectfully serve as a character witness for Levi Phillip Miles. I understand the gravity of this matter before the Court and offer my testimony regarding Levi's character.

I have known Levi for over 30 years as a very close friend. During the entire time I have known Levi, I have consistently observed him to be honest, hardworking, considerate, reliable and God-fearing. I might also add he has a great sense of humor and people truly enjoy being around him. He leads his life with a positive mindset. Levi has a strong relationship with his family, and I have seen him go above and beyond to help others, which speaks highly of his character and sense of community. I have always been able to count on Levi to be there and lend support through the good times and bad, from when we were teenagers to now as grown adults in our forties. I look back on all my time spent with Levi over so many years and embrace every memory as they are filled with happiness. Countless friends, relatives, co-workers, neighbors and those within the community would say the same about Levi.

I hold Levi in high regard and know him to be a person of integrity.

Thank you for considering this letter as part of the proceedings.

Sincerely,



Melanie C. Alexander

843. ██████████

Nate Lopes

[REDACTED]
Charleston, SC 29414

The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

My name is Nate Lopes, I am writing on behalf of my friend, Levi Miles.

Levi and myself became acquainted through Levi's cousin, David, in 2008. I had met David about a year prior as David was a frequent guest on my morning FM radio show. I am a radio professional, DJ & host of Cumulus media stations for over 20 years.

Levi and I became fast friends, as his jovial spirit, big smile, sense of humor and his duty to his loved ones was apparent immediately. My heart goes out to Levi, I know he loved his cousin dearly. Levi is a giving man, not a man who wants to see anyone harmed.

There is no ill intent in the heart of my friend Levi, or we would not have been friends. I have seen him and David give back to their communities and underrepresented communities with time, effort and both financial and legal donations. He has helped my friends with legal problems at no cost, simply because they were my friends. That is the heart of Levi Miles, a good person. I'm writing this letter in hopes that you see that Levi does not have the heart of someone who was seeking ill intent. He and David both made unfortunate decisions, but these decisions were not meant to harm. There are individuals you have sentenced, and you will sentence who meant to create negative outcomes and cause harm to others, bad people. My friend, Levi Miles, is not one of those men. Levi is a good person. I hope you consider his kind heart while you pass your sentence your honor.

Thank you for your time.

Nate Lopes

[REDACTED]@gmail.com

Charleston, SC

Tancel "Pete" Marion Lee III

[REDACTED]
Greensboro, NC 27410

December 28, 2025

The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

I am thankful for the opportunity to write a character letter on behalf of Levi Miles. I have known Levi since 1985. When I was seven years old, my family moved a couple houses down from Levi. We quickly became best friends. Levi was a wonderful friend who always invited me into any fun he was planning. I have always been thankful that Levi led me to have a relationship with Jesus Christ. Levi has served a large role in my life story that has led me to become a missionary.

Over the years our relationship has changed due to our geographic locations, but I always enjoy times when we can talk and reminisce about the old days or share stories about our current lives. Levi has always been a friend that I can count on in times of need. Since the day we first met, Levi has shown me kindness and respect. Levi has been a wonderful friend to me for 40 years and I am very thankful for each of those years.

Since David Aylor passed away, I have witnessed an amazing shift in Levi. The painful loss of David had a profound impact on Levi. In these past three years, I have watched Levi begin to live for the Lord in ways that I have not seen since middle or high school. I am always encouraged by our phone conversations when I hear about a Bible study, a recent sermon he has heard or the fruits of his prayer life. I have seen a complete change of direction in his life. It has been a real joy for me to hear about the mission trips Levi has taken to serve and tell others about Jesus. I have read and heard about these types of changes, but Levi must be the best example that I have ever seen.

Having the opportunity to talk with Levi as he has taken accountability for his actions has been encouraging to me. These past months have given me the opportunity to encourage Levi and be available for a friend that I am thankful to know. I have always known Levi as a trustworthy friend who cares deeply about the people around him. I can honestly say that moving to his neighborhood 40 years ago was one of the most impactful events of my life. I know Levi to be of great character and an asset to his family, friends, church and community.

Sincerely,

Tancel Marion Lee III

336 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@lee.world

Character Letter for Levi Miles

January 5, 2026

Patrick Schultz

[REDACTED]

Goose Creek, SC 29445

To The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

I have known Levi since August of 2024. I consider Levi a close friend, mentor, and a Brother in Christ. I do not think I am overstating it when I say that Levi helped save my life 17 months ago. I had been an alcoholic for 40 years and had one foot in the grave before I met him. When I came to the church Levi was attending, he welcomed me into his life and became a mentor to me.

While I was in the early days of my sobriety Levi constantly checked in on me and made sure I was okay. He prayed for me and continuously gave me words of encouragement. I do not think I could have remained sober over this time if it hadn't been for Levi's efforts and his caring love for me.

I have seen him care for so many other people in this same manner. He is such a loving, caring, and encouraging person. He's always willing to put the needs of others ahead of his own. I've seen him pay for warm weather clothing for the homeless, give out food for those in need, and volunteer to help remodel a women's domestic violence shelter. Most importantly Levi is always looking for ways to share the gospel with others and to bring hope where there is none. He has served on street ministries for the homeless, gone on mission trips, and has served on the prayer team.

I don't know the full details of the case that has been brought up against Levi, nor do I know the character of Levi prior to my meeting him. All I know is the man that I met back in August of 2024. He has been nothing but a beacon of light in our community, and without him that light would be much dimmer.

I understand justice must be served. I would ask that you consider the man Levi is today along with the man he was when he made a bad decision that will haunt him the rest of his life.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Sincerely,

[Signed]

Patrick P Schultz

920-[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@aol.com



January 2, 2026

Tomelex Copeland

Seacoast Church

[REDACTED]

North Charleston, SC 29406

To the Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

I am writing this letter as a character reference for my friend and brother in Christ, **Levi Miles**. I have known Levi for a little over two years through our church community at Seacoast Church, and during that time I have witnessed an extraordinary transformation in both his faith and his character.

When Levi first came into our church, he was searching—lost, broken, and in need of direction. It was during a mission trip that Levi encountered God in a life-altering way. From that moment forward, his life took a radically different course. What followed was not a short-lived emotional experience, but a sustained and visible change that continues to this day. Scripture tells us, *“If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, behold, the new has come”* (2 Corinthians 5:17). Levi is a living testimony to that truth.

Since that time, Levi has become one of the most consistent and selfless servants I know. He volunteers daily, giving his time and energy without seeking recognition. He faithfully serves single mothers, helps lead a small group, participates in and helps lead mission trips, and every Monday he goes out to feed the homeless. His service is not out of obligation, but out of a genuine love for people and a desire to live out his faith. As James 2:17 reminds us, *“Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.”* Levi’s faith is very much alive.



Levi has also demonstrated personal responsibility, humility, and growth. He maintains steady employment, shows up when he is needed, and lives with integrity. His reputation within our church and community is one of reliability, kindness, and compassion. He has shifted from living for himself to living for others, embodying Christ's example of servanthood: *"Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant"* (Matthew 20:26).

In my role as a leader at Seacoast Church, I do not offer endorsements lightly. I can say with full confidence that Levi Miles is a man who has taken responsibility for his past, embraced accountability, and committed himself to a life of service, faith, and purpose. His actions consistently reflect the values of repentance, restoration, and redemption.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this letter. Should you need any additional information, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tomelex Copeland", is written over a large, faint watermark that says "LEVI MILES".

Tomelex Copeland

Cell Phone: 843- [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]@seacoast.org



RIDERS
LAW GROUP

RYANE E. HUNTLEY
1721 ASHLEY RIVER ROAD, UNIT A
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April 27, 2026

Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks
U.S. District Court, District of South Carolina
Post Office Box 835
Charleston, SC 29402

Re: Character Letter for Levi Miles

Dear Judge Hendricks:

I am writing this letter in support of Mr. Levi Miles. I have known Levi for 13 years as a co-worker, friend and most recently, as a key employee of my firm, and I feel compelled to share my perspective on his unwavering character and personal growth.

I met Levi in 2013, when I was hired by the late Mr. David Aylor as an attorney working at David Aylor Law Offices. At that time, the firm was comprised of only six employees, and we all worked very closely together on a daily basis. During that time, I observed the dynamic between Mr. Aylor and Levi as both co-workers and cousins. More particularly, Mr. Aylor's frequent pressures and demands of Levi, and the struggle for Levi to establish healthy boundaries in that relationship. I have always known Levi to be a compassionate, fiercely loyal and deeply caring individual who exhibits a strong sense of responsibility towards his family and friends. While an admirable trait, this has placed Levi in a very difficult and emotionally complex situation that influenced some of the poor decisions that led to the current charges. While this does not excuse the behavior, it does provide important context into how external pressure and a deeply personal family crisis affected by addiction contributed to Levi's involvement.

Since January 2023, I have witnessed a significant and sincere transformation in Levi's life. Without the unhealthy environment and ongoing pressures, Levi has taken very meaningful steps to change the direction of his life, reflect on his past choices, and focus on personal growth. He has shown accountability and a clear commitment to living a healthier and more stable life. Most importantly, Levi has shown genuine remorse and an understanding of the seriousness of the situation. Since 2023, he has committed to sobriety and has worked every day to maintain this healthier lifestyle, consistently shown a willingness to support those around him, whether through faithfully serving at his church in various leadership roles, volunteering at our local food banks, delivering food and clothes to the homeless community, and traveling with his church overseas every year to co-lead a team that ministers and witnesses to incarcerated individuals in Honduras. These actions reflect the core of who he truly is beyond the circumstances that brought him before the court.

I understand the seriousness of the charges and do not excuse the mistake that was made. However, I firmly believe that the charges do not define Levi as a person, and he should not be defined by a mistake, but rather, by the positive changes that he has made over the past three years and is still actively making

today. More importantly, Levi is not a danger to the community and has strong support from family and friends, myself included, who are committed to helping him stay on a positive path. In my experience, he responds well to structure, guidance and support, and I truly believe that his continued commitment to rehabilitation and community support would be far more beneficial than incarceration. It is the judicial system's desire for incarcerated individuals to achieve rehabilitation during their time in prison; however, Levi has already been actively engaging in personal reform of his own accord for the past three years, and I truly believe him to be a changed man. He has expressed deep remorse for his actions and understands the consequences of those choices, and I have personally observed a complete shift in his mindset, with a greater focus on his faith, responsibility, sobriety and health, and long-term stability.

I can also confirm that should the Court sentence Levi to probation rather than incarceration, he will have steady and reliable employment available to him at my firm. He has demonstrated a strong work ethic and a genuine commitment to rebuilding his life, and continued employment will provide him with structure, accountability and financial stability. I firmly believe that remaining in the community and maintaining his employment and dedication to his church and community will only continue to strengthen the progress he has already worked so hard to achieve over the past three years. I respectfully ask the Court to consider Levi's character, support system and commitment to changing his life when determining sentencing. I sincerely believe that if permitted to reside in the community, he will continue to make meaningful, positive contributions to society.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan E. Huntley", written in a cursive style.

Ryan E. Huntley, Esq.

December 31, 2025

Gerald & Kathy Driggers

[REDACTED]
Goose Creek, SC 29445

The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

We are honored to write this character reference for Levi Miles, who has been our neighbor for approximately five years. In that time, Levi has proven to be one of the kindest and most considerate neighbors we have ever had.

Levi consistently goes above and beyond to show care and thoughtfulness. When Kathy's father passed away, Levi sent flowers—a gesture that meant so much to our family during a difficult time. He often shares fresh produce from his garden, brings our trash cans in from the road without being asked, and checks in on us when someone is ill. When Gerald was sick, Levi offered to bring anything we needed, demonstrating his genuine concern for others.

He also takes time to build meaningful connections. After a rare snowfall, Levi spent several hours with Gerald and our grandsons, letting them slide down his steep driveway and creating lasting memories. He frequently engages in friendly conversations, patiently answering Gerald's many hunting questions and offering helpful tips.

After the first couple of years of being our neighbor, we noticed an even deeper change in Levi as he renewed his relationship with Jesus. He is now active in his church and has participated in mission trips, living out his faith in tangible ways. It has been our joy to get to know Levi on a deeper level and share our mutual love of Jesus.

Levi's actions and character speak volumes—he is compassionate, generous, and guided by strong values. We wholeheartedly recommend him as someone of outstanding integrity and kindness. Please feel free to contact us if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Gerald & Kathy Driggers

Email: [REDACTED]@gmail.com

Gerald – 843-[REDACTED]; Kathy - 843-[REDACTED]

Katherine Huntley

[REDACTED]
Charleston, SC 29407

January 27, 2026

Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks
U.S. District Court, District of South Carolina
Post Office Box 835
Charleston, SC 29402

Re: Character Letter for Levi P. Miles

Dear Judge Hendricks:

Please allow this correspondence to serve as my unwavering support and confirmation of character for Mr. Levi P. Miles. I have known Mr. Miles for 13 years, and I consider him now to be one of my closest friends, akin to a brother.

I most recently had the opportunity to work with Mr. Miles as office manager of his current employer, Riders Law Group, and he has been nothing short of an integral and irreplaceable member of our team since 2023. He has proven himself to be a hard worker, always going above and beyond to assist not only our team but our clients, a dedicated client services manager, and a man of the utmost moral character and integrity. His reputation amongst our colleagues and clients is one of dependability, trustworthiness, empathy and respect.

He dedicates his time not only in the office, but also outside of the office serving others – by volunteering at our local food banks and delivering food and clothes to the homeless community, faithfully serving at his church as a greeter and prayer team member, helping his community either by gifts of labor or financial support, and traveling overseas every year to co-lead a team that ministers and witnesses to incarcerated individuals in Honduras.

While I do not seek to excuse or minimize the severity of the charges against Mr. Miles, I do wish to share my perspective on Mr. Miles as an individual member of our society. I have personally witnessed Mr. Miles' redemption over the past three years since he is no longer compelled and pressured to participate in an unhealthy and destabilizing environment. Mr. Miles has taken responsibility for his actions and began doing the difficult internal work immediately upon his independence from his prior circumstances – seeking treatment, choosing sobriety, reflecting honestly on his choices, and committing to a different path forward. In my view, this growth has occurred not out of fear of punishment, but from a genuine desire to live responsibly and contribute positively to those around him.

While I recognize the role incarceration can play in rehabilitation and its ability to interrupt harmful patterns and environments, that interruption has already occurred and Mr. Miles began that process over three years ago on his own volition and continues to do so today. Continuing

this progress in the community, with appropriate structure and support, would allow him to build on the progress he has already made that has touched and ministered to so many lives already, which is exactly the outcome that the justice system hopes to inspire in an individual.

Furthermore, Mr. Miles' absence would have a significant impact on the lives of his family, friends, colleagues and community, and I firmly believe that he has the capacity, motivation and determination to continue to grow in his faith and values and make positive contributions to society if given the opportunity to remain with his family and friends. I respectfully request that the Court consider this information when determining an appropriate sentence.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

/s/ Katherine Huntley

FITSNELMS

December 26, 2025

Laura Cooke

[REDACTED]

Conway, SC 29526

The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

I met Levi Phillip Miles when he was five years of age at the time my husband and I began attending his parent's church in Conway. He was very mature for his age, most likely due to the fact he is the eldest of his siblings. As we became close friends with the Miles family, we were asked many times to take care of the children in their home while they were away on pastoral retreats. Levi was always up early for school, eager to please, and a good student. He was well-mannered; always remembering to say please and thank you. As the years passed he became interested in hunting. He accompanied my husband many early mornings to duck hunt.

He later joined the army making us all proud as we knew he would be a perfect fit. I always made a point to keep up with Levi through his parents. After leaving the army, he worked diligently at running his own pressure washing business. He was successful but not fulfilling his potential until he became employed by his cousin, attorney David Aylor, as an investigator with Riders Law Group. He had great respect for David and was very happy working for him. I knew then Levi had found what he was meant to do.

Then, the unthinkable happened; David Aylor's death in January 2023. Levi was devastated. I respect the court has charged him in connection with Aylor's death, and he has

agreed to plead guilty to two drug-related offenses. Since this tragedy, Levi, realizing how unexpectedly and easily life can be taken away has renewed his faith in Christ. He regularly attends Seacoast Church where he is involved in four bible groups. He has also been on mission trips where he has had opportunities to speak.

Thank you for the chance to write this letter. My hopes are to give you a clearer picture of who Levi is and not the individual this most tragic event portrays him to be. David Aylor was like a brother to Levi. He was only doing what his employer had asked of him. These two families have already been brokenhearted by the loss of David. The outcome of Levi's future could turn an already tragic situation into an even greater loss. Sir, my request is for you to have empathy for Levi in this case.

Sincerely,

Laura Cooke

843- [REDACTED]

Character Letter for Levi Miles
December 26, 2025

Lisa H. Desjardins

[REDACTED]
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

I have known Levi Miles for over 40 years, almost all of his life. His father, Pastor Phillip Miles was the Pastor of the church we attended for over thirty years. My interactions with Levi began when he was a young child. I was one of the people his parents trusted to babysit their four children when they had to go out of town through the years.

Levi was a fun and caring child, the oldest of the Miles' four children. He enjoyed outdoor sports with his dad, and playing with his twin siblings who were born only eighteen months after him, and a few years after that his youngest brother was born. Levi had a strong foundation in a loving home and a strong support system in friends and family. I truly enjoyed watching Levi grow up along with all the other Miles' children.

During his teen years we were also his youth leaders for a period of time, and we watched him grow into a young man who took ownership of his faith and made some common mistakes during his teenage years like a lot of kids do, but what stands out in my mind is that he took ownership of those mistakes and tried to correct the path he was on and be a role model to others. I felt this was a quality that would serve him well in life.

After he moved I have not seen him as much in the last few years, but share a very close friendship with his mom. For over forty years we have been prayer partners and both of us have shared the concerns of our children through all phases of life from diapers to college and beyond.

It has been so great for me to know of the transformation that has occurred in his life in the last several years. He has recommitted his life in his faith and has been authentic in his growth and desire to serve in the church taking missions trips, and being committed to change and growth in his life.

Levi has demonstrated to me in the years I have known him that he is not capable of intentionally hurting or harming anyone. Levi will continue to take the life circumstances he has experienced (as I have watched him throughout his entire life), and overcome the obstacles and trials to make good come out of them.

Sincerely,

Lisa H. Desjardins

██████████@gmail.com

FITSNNEWS

Rachel Miles Pellegrino

[REDACTED]
Duncan, SC

[REDACTED]@gmail.com

864-[REDACTED]

12/12/2025

The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks

Re: Character Reference for Levi Phillip Miles

Dear Judge Hendricks:

My name is Rachel Miles Pellegrino, and I am Levi's sister. I am writing to offer a character reference on his behalf, having known him my entire life. Over the years, I have had the opportunity to see Levi in many different phases of life—both in times of struggle and in times of growth—and I can speak sincerely about the man he is today.

Approximately three years ago, I witnessed a profound and life-altering transformation in Levi. He made the courageous decision to completely cut off all substances, doing so abruptly and without compromise. This was not an easy road for him. During that season, we spoke nearly every day as he worked through the physical, emotional, and spiritual challenges that come with major change. As a registered nurse who understands the scientific and medical realities of substance dependence, as well as a believer in Jesus Christ, I can say without hesitation that the changes I observed in Levi were extraordinary. His commitment to prayer, reflection, and seeking a renewed mind and body played a significant role in his recovery, and he pursued that healing with sincerity, discipline, and humility.

Levi's transformation did not stop at personal improvement. He has become deeply active in his local church, consistently serving, giving, and showing unconditional love to those who are struggling or overlooked. He has volunteered his time to help the homeless in the Charleston area, offering compassion and practical support to individuals in need. In addition, he has participated in mission trips to Honduras, where he worked alongside others to serve vulnerable communities. Levi has dedicated much of his energy to serving others and building a life centered around faith, accountability, and community responsibility.

In my experience, Levi is a man of sincerity, generosity, and perseverance. The character he demonstrates today is the result of intentional choices and a genuine desire to contribute positively to those around him. I believe he possesses the maturity and commitment necessary to continue walking in integrity and to remain an asset to his community.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my perspective. If the Court requires any additional information or clarification, I would be more than willing to provide it.

Respectfully,
Rachel Miles Pellegrino

Ralph Anavitate

[REDACTED]
Ladson, SC 29456

December 17th, 2025

Re: Character Reference for Levi Miles

Dear Judge Bruce Howe Hendicks,

My name is Ralph Anavitate, and I am writing to provide a character reference for Levi Miles, whom I have known for more than 15 years. I fully understand the gravity of this case and the heartbreaking loss of his cousin and best friend. My heart goes out to the victim's family, and I recognize the immense pain this tragedy has caused everyone involved. My intention is not to diminish that loss, but to share the person I have come to know beyond this devastating event.

He has taught me skills like hunting, cooking venison, and gardening—lessons that reflect his patience and generosity. More importantly, he has always been there for me during difficult times, offering support and guidance when I needed it most. His love for his family and his dog, Tator Tot, speaks volumes about his loyalty and compassion.

He is active in his church and the men's group at Seacoast, consistently working to help others grow spiritually and emotionally. I know he feels deep remorse and is committed to making amends and becoming a better man.

If he is removed from his family and community for an extended time, it would leave a significant void. He is a source of strength and guidance for many, and his absence would be deeply felt. I respectfully ask that you consider his character and the positive impact he has had on those around him.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Ralph Anavitate

Sarah Vouwie Kvestad

[REDACTED]
Charleston, SC 29412

April 22, 2026

Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks
U.S. District Court, District of South Carolina
Post Office Box 835
Charleston, SC 29402

Re: Character Letter for Levi P. Miles

Dear Judge Hendricks,

It is with much pleasure that I write to you on behalf of Levi Miles. I have known Levi for fourteen years, since I began working at David Aylor Law Offices in 2012, and I continue to work with him at Riders Law Group. Over the years of working together we have become very close.

When I began working at David's office there were six employees. I was early in my administrative career and had no prior experience in the legal field. Levi was approachable and served as a resource and confidant. The employees at David Aylor Law Offices maintained close relationships both professionally and personally. Levi was not only David's cousin, but a cousin to all of us in the office. As David's office grew in size, Levi and I grew closer as we were amongst the most tenured.

At times, David's office could be a difficult place to work, especially in the latter years. I often observed the working, social and familial relationship between Levi and David. Their dynamic was a difficult one where the traditional employment boundaries were blurry and often crossed. David had high expectations of loyalty to "David," and being disloyal would be the ultimate betrayal. I believe this went even deeper with his expectation that his family, notably Levi, be the most loyal of the devotees. I often observed times where Levi was made a scapegoat, a person who David knew no matter if David's actions were warranted or unwarranted, Levi would remain steadfast. Levi's devotion to David as his boss, friend, cousin was unparalleled.

Without Levi in my life (and a little nudge from Kate Schmutz), I would never have met my husband, Nick. We now have two young girls. When I first started dating Nick, he and Levi were roommates, and I eventually moved in with them. Through this, I came to know a different side of Levi. A Levi who is introspective, enjoys a slower pace, nature, and calm. This stood in a stark contrast to the version of Levi I had previously observed in more social settings.

Substance use disorder is profoundly devastating, not only for the person that suffers from addiction, but those around them as well. In reflecting on the years I spent at David's office, I recognize that Levi was at times in an environment that contributed to poor decisions. However, those circumstances do not reflect the person I have come to know.

Since David's passing, Levi has had much time for self-reflection. He has focused his time on living a healthier, substance-free lifestyle and serving others. He acts as a greeter and prayer team member in his church, volunteers at food banks and travels on an annual mission trip through his church to Honduras where he ministers to incarcerated individuals. Levi is also the beating heart of Riders Law Group where he works to bring representation to many underserved groups, most recently integrating himself as a trusted resource for the local Brazilian community. In my experience, Levi is thoughtful, compassionate, and very much capable of growth. I am fortunate to call Levi my friend.

Sincerely,



Sarah Vouwie Kvestad

Mobile: 978-[REDACTED]

Travis Neal

[REDACTED]
Hanahan, SC 29410

January 8th, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter as a reference for Levi Miles, who I have known for many years through our church community. I offer the statement based on my personal experience, serving alongside and then multiple ministries and observing his character over an extended period of time.

Levi has been consistently involved in leaving men's Bible studies where he demonstrates integrity, humility, and a genuine concern for the growth and well-being of others. He has also faithfully served in our street ministry, warming shelter and the E3 mentoring program, giving his time to support individuals and families who are often facing difficult circumstances.

I have personally served with Levi onto two mission trips to Honduras, where we brought the message of Hope into prison facilities in those environments I observed his respectful demeanor, compassion toward others and willingness to serve without recognition he consistently conducts himself with maturity and sincerity, even in challenging and uncomfortable settings

Well, then our church is known as someone who can be relied on upon irregularly volunteers to help with event set up and breakdown and as quick to step in whatever help us needed, he does not see content appraised for serves quietly and faithfully, and all my interactions with him, he is shown himself to be one of the most genuine independent individuals I have known

While I understand the seriousness of the circumstance before the court I believe that is important to share that Levi has demonstrated a long standing pattern of service responsibility and positive contribution to our community based on my firsthand experience I believe he is capable of growth, accountability, and continuing to be a constructive presence in the lives of others

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to contact me if any additional information is needed.

Respectfully

Travis Holmes Neal

(843) [REDACTED]

Brother In Christ

James Wilson "Will" Gaston

[REDACTED]

Charlotte, NC 28209

The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

I first met the defendant, Levi Miles, when in 1988 when I was 8 years old. We were playing basketball in the backyard at the house of my best friend and his cousin, David Aylor.

David and I were lifelong friends for 40+ years. Outside of blood relatives, I would argue I have known both of them the longest out of anybody writing as a character witness.

Levi loves David. Deeply and unconditionally. He would never purposefully harm. Nobody at the funeral was more devastated than Levi. A tragic situation? Yes. But society would not benefit with Levi behind bars.

Since 1/2/23, he has recommitted to his Christian faith, and to my knowledge, stayed completely away from alcohol and drugs. He is a much better person, friend, and family member in the last three years. Peaceful comes to mind.

He made a poor choice, absolutely. But David was the type of person that would never take no for an answer. I cannot say that I would not have made the same choice that Levi did.

Your honor, I respectfully ask that you Levi serve no jail time. It is best for all parties involved. Including the immediate Aylor family. It is time to move on and continue the healing process.

Respectfully,



J. Will Gaston

803. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]@gmail.com

Character Reference Letter for Levi Miles

3 January 2026

Zachary Sprau

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

North Charleston, SC 29406

The Honorable Bruce Howe Hendricks,

Please accept this character reference letter for Levi Miles. I have known Levi Miles since roughly January of 2024, about two years. We struck up a conversation in the parking lot before the service one Sunday at church where we were both serving. He as a door greeter, and I on the parking team.

Since then, he has become a good friend. We have been in the same men's small group, served in various capacities with the men's ministry at church, and have spoken frequently about life and faith.

While I know very little about his past or this case, throughout the past two years Levi has proven to be a steadfast friend, and someone that is truly trying to overcome pride and selfishness to follow a higher power and serve others. We often discuss how deeply rooted pride is in our hearts and that we daily (often minute by minute) need God's help to get outside of ourselves and walk with humility. I have found Levi to be quick to examine his own heart and motives, and to seek reconciliation and bridge building rather than selfishness and division. Please allow me to provide two examples of this.

The first example of this was early in our friendship when we were discussing serving underprivileged populations both domestically and internationally. I gave him a book that I'd found helpful and asked him to read it. Levi graciously took it and read it. A few weeks later he called me and apologized that he'd been kind of frustrated and been living with some offense and resentment with me giving him the book because it felt like I was trying to call him out. In retrospect, I did not have the best motives in giving him the book and was operating in some

pride and passively trying to get him to see some points I was making. In this situation, I was at fault, but rather than blaming me, he asked my forgiveness because of his reaction to my actions, even though my actions were the real issue. This impressed me a lot, led me to apologize, and just shows me how gracious conversations with humility (in this case by Levi) can lead to reconciliation rather than division.

Another example of this was in the men's ministry at church. While men's ministries can be wonderful places of growth and healing for many men, unfortunately they often also come with pride and division. One such division had been growing within the men's ministry at church between two groups leading different initiatives. Levi took it upon himself to get lunch with one leader from the "other side" just to humbly get to know him. That led to multiple lunches, bridge building, and reconciliation. This then sparked numerous people following suit for more unity in the men's ministry than I'd seen in a long time, which may not have happened without Levi's initiative.

Professionally, I know Levi has worked on the marketing and client acquisition side with the law firm, Rider's Law Group. From what I've gathered his two main target populations have become motorcycle riders and Brazilian immigrants. My assumption is that these two populations do not overlap very much, and shows Levi's ability to relate to a wide variety of individuals. When he speaks about his work, I can see his heartfelt desire to connect people to the help they need in some of their lowest moments, regardless of who they are or where they come from.

Personally, Levi is a gardener and a hunter, and is very generous with these two hobbies. He makes excellent hot sauce (the smokey mango is my favorite) and often gives it to friends and family. He's a good teacher when it comes to hunting and often takes friends and family with him to experience one of his greatest passions. He often shows gratitude to God and the animal (typically deer, duck, or turkey depending on the season) when he cooks up a venison steak or shares the meat with friends and family.

With our church he is involved in many ways. He has been involved in various small groups, often seeks people out for coffee or lunch to have encouraging conversations, has served as a mentor with the E3 program, has been involved with the homeless street ministry, has been on several missions trips to Honduras where our church partners with a local prison ministry, has served on the greeting and prayer teams on Sunday mornings, and as I mentioned before has been very involved in the men's ministry in various capacities. Something I have appreciated about Levi is that he is always extending invitations to others to come serve with him, but never with pressure or guilt to get people involved.

In my opinion, people that are seeking to live in humility while checking their pride and motives, and doing the hard work of getting outside of their selfishness to serve others, is something we

need more of. In a society that is increasingly isolated, anxious, angry, and divided, Levi has proven himself to be someone who is doing the countercultural grassroots work of promoting peace, unity, and love through his everyday life and unique gifting of building personal relationships.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Zachary Sprau

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