



CITY OF CUDAHY CALIFORNIA

Incorporated November 10, 1960

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April 2nd, 2026

Attention: University Scholarship Selection Committee,

It is my distinct pleasure to recommend Tyler M. Gregory for any scholarship sponsored by any organization. I have known Tyler for approximately six years, in my past capacity as former Mayor and Council Member of the City of Cudahy, California, and as a cross-regional leader in neighboring cities and counties. Tyler and his family members are among the most civically engaged individuals I have worked with during my time as a public servant. From my earliest interactions with Tyler, I have been struck by his integrity, intelligence, and civic engagement. **I believe Tyler is a special applicant, who exemplifies the type of young person your community aspires to mentor, and the type of scholar your organization seeks to recruit and support.**

Tyler has shown incredible determination (and achievement) in his pursuit of academic interests, extra-curricular activities, and service to his community – all with great resilience against the backdrop of family challenges and setbacks. He has made the Principal's Honor Roll for at least three years at Linfield School and has a distinct penchant for immersing himself in wide variety of academic disciplines – ranging from business startups, to cell research on Leukemia, to examination of black holes, to evaluation of election integrity solutions. He is like a young Benjamin Franklin! In addition, he has been a contributing athlete on his school's football and lacrosse teams, lettering when he was only a sophomore. Most importantly from my perspective as a public servant, Tyler has found time to serve his community, volunteering as a tutor to classmates, mentoring young people at his Church, and engaging with local elected officials and candidates on a variety of policy prescriptions. Tyler also appreciates the United States Constitution as the crux of America's legal framework, and as the basis for limits on government. For a young man of his age, he has excellent perspective of American history and political role-models.

I know Tyler's family well and can speak to challenges and tragedy that has afflicted Tyler in recent years, including loss of his mother to cancer (Leukemia) and economic challenges in the household. Tyler's family has struggled to secure basic amenities like shoes and clothing, emergency dental care, or adequate food at home. Despite these personal setbacks (which could easily and discourage young people in his circumstances), Tyler has helped raise money for worthy non-profit organizations, like *Wells of Life*, which has the important mission of building clean drinking water wells in Africa. I also know of Tyler's recurring volunteerism with his local church, especially during summer months, mentoring children in sports, academics, and faith-based subjects. I have visited his church, and Tyler is a favorite among congregants.

One year, Tyler won a school essay competition and secured a trip to Washington, D.C., and Arlington National Cemetery. His winning essay was a tribute to the Greatest Generation, and more specifically, to family members who served in World War II. He wrote about his maternal great-grandfather, Bethel, who was an Army Chaplain in the war, and who prayed over both soldiers and civilians alike. In fact, his great-grandfather was one of only six Americans allowed to liberate Auschwitz with the Russians. While at Arlington, Tyler placed a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier – an experience that still moves him emotionally when he recounts it. That same year, Tyler secured General George Smith Patton's grandson, Robert Patton, for a lecture on the famous General at his school. It was a special treat that sent a buzz around the entire school. Tyler is now working to secure the local school board President (a family friend) to speak at his school regarding student issues, parental rights, and policy trends and challenges in education.

Like Tyler, I come from a Mexican/Hispanic family with parents that inculcated university education as the single best medium for success, and the most fulfilling plan for realizing our fullest potential in the service of others. I attended Stanford University and Harvard Business School, before taking careers with global financial institutions. Later, I relocated back home to the Los Angeles area and shortly thereafter joined a new wave of fresh leadership (as Mayor and City Council Member) to rebuild a troubled region; and to inspire young people to pursue their educational goals. It was in this capacity that I worked with the Gregory family and began a mentorship relationship with young Tyler.

I will defer to Tyler's application for more specific information about his academic achievements, but I can definitely speak to Tyler's overall character, ethical conduct, and personal demeanor. At first introduction, Tyler can be soft spoken, but he quickly pivots to strength and conviction when defending his values or fighting for justice. Tyler is also a go-getter with a streak of adventurism. A common phrase of his is "*why not?*" Or "*why can't we?*" Admittedly, this is also a source of healthy frustration when his outside-the-box thinking cannot be readily accommodated. Finally, Tyler makes the best use of limited resources to maximum benefit or achievement. He is resourceful and responsible, because the cards his family has been dealt leave him no other choice! Calvin Coolidge once said, "*After order & liberty, economy is one of the highest essentials of a free government.*" He understands this point well. Like the strong America envisaged, successful individuals must govern their affairs responsibly, economize their "cards" to greatest potential, and dedicate themselves wholeheartedly to service. I believe Tyler exemplifies this spirit.

It is with great pride, that I endorse Tyler's application for your scholarship program with and should you have further inquiries about this evaluation, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

CITY OF CUDAHY

MAYOR JACK GUERRERO (RET.)

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Very sincerely yours,



Jack M. Guerrero, MBA, CPA

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