



**NORTH AMERICAN AEROSPACE DEFENSE COMMAND
AND
UNITED STATES NORTHERN COMMAND**



6 Apr 10

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N2C2 Ops. Support Deputy Director
HQ NORAD J33
Peterson AFB, CO 80914

Disenrollment Board
United States Air Force Academy
Colorado Springs, CO

Sir/Ma'am,

I have known Cadet DeRito for over 12 years. As his neighbor in New Jersey, he would often babysit my children. He was my protégé and I was most likely his most influential mentor. I wrote a letter of recommendation on his behalf to attend the Air Force Academy and got him in touch with the appropriate liaison officer. Cadet DeRito's traits that I wrote about in that letter have not changed. His dedication to serving this nation and his high moral character are as undying now as they ever were.

Cadet DeRito has done the honorable thing. He has taken responsibility for his actions and signed documents to that effect. I am quite confident that he has learned a valuable lesson about inappropriate contact, an unfortunate situation that will never occur again. I offer you my strongest encouragement to allow him to graduate on time so that he can get on with the business of serving this great country as an officer in the United States Marine Corps.

Adam has a strong personality. He is very demanding of himself. Like the quintessential Marine, he is also demanding of others, which in the environment of the Air Force Academy can sometimes be misconstrued as insubordination, or at the very least, a lack of tact. I dare say that some of our most influential military leaders possessed a similar personality. After a long counseling session with Cadet DeRito, I can assure you such transgressions will not happen between now and the day he leaves the grounds for good. I have advised him, and he has agreed to keep his eyes front, his nose clean, and his mouth shut.

I know Adam would never use his family situation as a request for leniency, but he has not had an easy childhood. His father's alcohol abuse has led to the separation of his parents. His sister is still recovering from a serious drug problem for which she spent a full year in rehab. Through it all, as the rock of the family, Adam has remained focused on his one and only goal; to serve. Now, after nearly four years of commitment, all he needs to do, and all he wants to do is graduate on time in order to attend USMC's "Basic School". Please do not waste such a valuable asset. Please let him go on to fulfill his unlimited potential. You will not regret your decision.

Please feel free to contact me anytime. I welcome the opportunity to speak with you personally about the character and integrity of Cadet Adam DeRito.

Very Respectfully,

Glen E. Gentile, Lt Col, USAF