

9 November 2017

Texas Folklife
1708 Houston Street
Austin, Texas 78756

Attn: Ian Hallagan

To whom it may concern:

My name is [name]. I am a retired Episcopal Priest. I was ordained in 1981. Although retired, I serve as a volunteer police chaplain to the San Antonio Police Department and continue to serve as a supply priest in the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas. I have known [name] since 1982. He was one of my parishioners during the five years I was in Eagle Pass, he taught my son at Eagle Pass High School and became a good friend during that time. We have remained in touch over the years.

I cannot imagine a better candidate for the Folklife Apprenticeship Program than [name]. He is a true artist with great creative abilities and holds himself to the highest standards as a silversmith. Every creation of his that I have seen is flawless. In fact, the beautiful pectoral cross I proudly wear when serving the Church is an original design that [name] crafted.

Beside his creative abilities and attention to detail, he is a patient and perceptive teacher. Teaching is in his DNA. Several times, while I was observing him at work on a silver project, he explained the intricate steps of the work. He made it possible for me to understand the process, even though I have no experience with the art. As a master in the apprenticeship program, I am convinced that he will excel and his apprentices will have the best instruction possible.

Thank you for your consideration of this most worthy candidate for your program. In my humble opinion, you could not do better.

Sincerely,

[name]