



**LAURA E. ROTH**  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT - VOLUSIA COUNTY  
P.O. BOX 6043 DELAND, FLORIDA 32721-6043 - WWW.CLERK.ORG

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November 19, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

I appreciate the opportunity to share with you about the candidate you are considering, Dalton Hooper. I am the Clerk of the Circuit Court in Volusia County, Florida, and an attorney. We had the pleasure of meeting Dalton several years ago when he came to work for the Clerk's office to assist our IT development team as a contractor.

In his role as a help to the development manager, technical team and business users, Dalton's services were very much appreciated. He possessed the skills necessary to serve as a bridge between the tech and business teams, always a challenge in our complex office. He was able to increase understanding and clarity between very disparate groups with his excellent communication style and patience.

Though we truly appreciated Dalton's work in that role, I was even more impressed by an above-and-beyond value Dalton added to our whole organization that we never expected. Understand, we are a very budget-limited organization. Dalton attended a meeting where our need for several important trainings and our lack of funding to hire trainers was being discussed. After that meeting, Dalton met with our Human Resources lead and myself and explained that he had experience in preparing and presenting training material. He volunteered to create a presentation on a pressing topic and do a trial run with our leadership team to see what we thought, at no additional pay.

We accepted his offer, and we were glad we did. The training content and presentation style was fantastic. With the unanimous approval of the leadership team after the trial run, Dalton then proceeded to perform the training throughout the organization of 260 employees at numerous small group trainings. He was a hit, and the employees enjoyed and learned something from the trainings—no doubt a small miracle with our very busy staff. He then performed a series of supervisor trainings over the span of a year that allowed us to offer sorely needed training at no additional cost.

Later, Dalton interviewed me to create an enrolling presentation for our employees about a foundational topic of great import to me. The resulting product coupled with Dalton's effective presentation style was extremely effective. Employees were moved and inspired and the training is still talked about to this day.

To our dismay, the COVID-crisis impact has resulted in employee layoffs throughout the office and further constrained our funding source for contractors. For this reason, we were unable to renew Dalton's contract despite our desire to do so. It has been a real loss for us. I strongly encourage you to give Dalton a chance at the position he's applying for—I'm confident he'll exceed your expectations, as he did ours. Feel free to call me if you'd like more information at 386-337-1011.

Sincerely,

Laura E. Roth  
Clerk of the Circuit Court, Volusia County