

To Whom It May Concern:

It is a genuine honor to write this letter of recommendation for Marcus Thigpen. Over the course of his practicum and internship under my supervision, I have had the privilege of meeting with Marcus weekly and observing his steady growth as both a counselor-in-training and a person. His deep commitment to the field of counseling, along with his strong character and work ethic, consistently stand out in both clinical and professional settings.

Marcus is a gifted counselor-in-training who brings a rare mix of humility, presence, and purpose into every client interaction. His ability to connect with clients through empathy, spiritual understanding, and sound clinical skills is both impressive and inspiring. Marcus is teachable, reflective, and consistently brings thoughtful questions and insights to our supervision sessions, showing a genuine desire to grow and serve well.

Throughout his time at both sites, Marcus has demonstrated integrity, professionalism, and a heart for those who are hurting. He navigates sessions with a trauma-informed lens and a deep-rooted compassion that helps clients feel seen and safe. His natural leadership qualities, coupled with a strong work ethic, make him someone who raises the standard for those around him.

Marcus shows up prepared, willing to learn, and eager to apply feedback. He holds space for clients with maturity and grace beyond his years in the field, and he's not afraid to engage with complex emotional issues with steadiness and care. He's also well-versed in blending theological insight with clinical competence, a balance that enhances his effectiveness and impact.

If you are considering Marcus for any professional opportunity, I wholeheartedly recommend him. His presence brings warmth and insight, his work ethic drives excellence, and his heart is truly centered on service. I am confident that wherever Marcus goes, he will bring lasting value and leave a positive, transformational impact.

Sincerely,

Mark Odland, MA, LMFT, MDIV Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist Site Supervisor

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