
Michael Smith
111 Bloggs St
MOUNT DRUITT NSW 2170

The Presiding Magistrate
Liverpool Local Court
George Street
LIVERPOOL NSW 2170

2/10/2016

Dear Magistrate,

Re: John Smith – Character Reference.

I am John's Father, a qualified accountant, with over forty (40) year's experience in the finance Industry. I am a member of the Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand; CPA Australia; and. Institute of Public Accountants, with relevant post nominals.

John informed me of his arrest and charge of Mid-Range PCA. He expressed remorse to me, not seeking any sympathy, and aware of the gravity of the error in judgement made by him.

As John's initial driving tutor, I was pleased with his attitude towards gaining a license; he understands this is a privilege, not a right and has always been mindful of his obligations, save for this incident.

When informed of the incident, both I and his Mother were extremely disappointed; more so because of his forthright refusal to drive if there is any prospect of him having a drink. There have been countless occasions when either of us, or for that matter his sister, have, either driven him to, or collected him from, social events. When asked regarding his decision making, he could not explain it, other than feeling sorry for "a friend in need". I have no doubts his decision was an aberration and totally out of character, in so far as his attitude towards driving and responsibilities is concerned.

I, respectfully, ask the Court to take into account the following when considering John's punishment:

- Whilst learning, his log book was accidentally thrown out with the rubbish. He insisted on starting afresh, rather than replicating his lessons up to that point in time. Not only does this explain why he was a "learner" for, what may be considered, a lengthy period but, importantly, it also exhibited his recognition of what rules are about. He took the view the extra hours could only be a benefit to him.

- Notwithstanding the number of Police on the road, or devices available to monitor road usage, John has never come to anyone's attention.
- I have always thought of him as a very responsible driver, never having had cause for concern.
- John has never sought sympathy or felt aggrieved and attempted to sheet the blame home onto anyone other than himself.

I am aware of John's employment circumstances. He is working in sales for a fabric supplier. I understand that his employment contract will be tendered and I can confirm that he will lose his job if his licence is disqualified. I have made enquiries with his employer as to whether a family member could drive John, if he is disqualified, whilst he completes his employment duties and I have been told this is not possible as the family member would not be insured by the company and would become a quasi employee entitled to wages.

I can assure the Court that John is truly remorseful for his decision and actions and accepts he will be punished for the Offence but ask that the court consider his circumstances in determining the appropriate punishment.

Yours faithfully,

Michael Smith.