

Letter of Recommendation for John S. Halbrook for the “40 Under 40” Award

It is both a great honor and pleasure to write in support of John Halbrook as a top candidate for the *Business Record's* special “40 Under 40” designation as one of Des Moines rising stars. As Dean of the Criminal Justice Program at DMACC and on a personal level, I have known John for many years as he has become an important member of our community.

Professionally, John has excelled in many areas, and most recently and importantly, he serves as the Safeguard Iowa Partnership Program Coordinator while at the same teaching courses for DMACC's national Homeland Security (TSA) Certificate Program offered in 36 states and the District of Columbia. Our TSA Program Director, Steve Barger considers John to be one of, if not the best, instructors we have in this Program, especially because of John's passion for the field and his students' learning. He receives outstanding student evaluations for his innovative, enthusiastic, and supportive approach, and it is obvious from their feedback that they always find him inspiring, friendly, and fair. If we had the opportunity, we would love to have him on Criminal Justice faculty.

Anyone who knows John will always comment on his amazing, positive attitude and helpful ways, regardless of the challenges. His exemplary and selfless service to others is exemplary, and his educational career path from Paramedic to Masters of Public Administration has paralleled his success and impact. A quick overview of John's resume demonstrates his ongoing commitment to all aspects of his profession and, significantly, his active volunteer work and leadership. At DMACC, he has volunteered, and continues to volunteer, to help our College integrate several of our Departments to address Emergency Management in the broadest terms; in fact, at some point, he may help us develop a new EM Program. In so many ways, John goes above and beyond what's expected in so many arenas.

Given his impressive and persistent dedication to his students, his colleagues, his profession, and the greater Des Moines community on many levels, I give John Halbrook my highest recommendation; he is most deserving of the “40 Under 40 Honor.

Respectfully yours,

James W. Stick, Jr.
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