

March 27, 2017

Dear Ms. [REDACTED]

I wanted to thank you for the medallion gift you recently gave to me. It is one of the most thoughtful and timely gifts I have received in years.

I am definitely a friend of law enforcement. I believe that the significance of what the law enforcement community does can hardly be overstated, even though it is often largely outside the conscious awareness of most people.

The greatest strength of any legal system is actually not the power of its weapons or the sophistication of its intelligence. It is the atmosphere of fairness and impartiality that is protected and promoted by the law enforcement community in every moment of every day. This atmosphere creates a sense of hope and opportunity for people. It gives people a sense of empowerment and self worth. It makes people willing to work harder and take more calculated risks than they otherwise would because they know that their actions are more likely benefit them directly. In this way, our legal system is ultimately responsible for our emotional well being and our economic prosperity. A strong and equitable legal system is fundamental. It is also paramount.

In my opinion, law enforcement personnel should have more training in the philosophy of law than in how to fire their weapons accurately or otherwise subdue an adversary. The "regular citizen" across from you is you. They are you. They have all the same desires, fears, flaws, insecurities, and hopes as you or anyone else. And they need you. They need to have the same sense of fairness and justice that you would want and expect, and I'm sure you agree that they deserve this regardless of whether they are revered or despised.

I will cherish this medallion for the rest of my career. Somehow my recent life experiences have brought into my conscious awareness the strength and importance of equitable law enforcement. You are definitely a credit to your profession, and I wish you the best.

Respectfully,



Christopher Milford