



Veterans Inn and Resource Center, Inc.

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Larry Matthews
President and C.E.O.

August 14, 2026

Honorable Leigh Martin May
Chief United States District Judge
2167 Richard B. Russell Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse
75 Ted Turner Drive, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303-3309

Re: Character Letter for Edwin Brant Frost IV

Dear Judge May:

My name is Larry C. Matthews. I am 85 years old, have spent most of my adult life in business and real estate development, and serve as President and C.E.O. of Veterans' Inn and Resource Center, Inc. I have known Brant Frost IV for many years as a friend. I understand that Brant has admitted serious wrongdoing, and I do not write to excuse it, dispute the case, or diminish the losses and suffering of anyone affected. I write because the Court has the difficult responsibility of judging the whole person, and there is one deeply personal chapter of Brant's life that I believe the Court should know.

Several years ago, just before Christmas, my 54-year-old son urgently needed surgery. He was a single father, and his 14-year-old daughter - my granddaughter - depended entirely upon him. The physicians had generously agreed to donate their professional services, but we still needed approximately \$12,000 to pay the nurses and secure the operating room. We created a GoFundMe page, and at about seven o'clock one morning, a business friend helped me send thousands of emails asking for

assistance. I was frightened for my son and worried about what would happen to my granddaughter if we could not act quickly.

Within an hour, Brant telephoned me. He did not begin by asking for documents or by offering a few polite words so he could move on with his day. He asked me to explain what was happening, listened to me for nearly an hour, and prayed with me for my son's health and healing. Brant had never met my son. He had no obligation to my family. Yet, before most people had even opened the email, Brant contributed \$1,000. His was the first donation. That first gift did more than reduce the balance by \$1,000; it gave the appeal credibility, hope, and momentum. Other contributions followed, and the campaign soon raised the full \$12,000. My son received the surgery, and it was a complete success. I will always believe Brant's immediate compassion helped open the floodgates that made the surgery possible.

Two years later, tragedy came without warning. My son [REDACTED] and died while waiting to have lunch with his boss at a fast-food restaurant. No parent is prepared to bury a child, regardless of age. When Brant learned what had happened, he immediately contacted my family and me. He prayed with me and for me, offered whatever help we needed, and, when we accepted that offer, he followed through without hesitation. He then drove to Alpharetta to attend the funeral of a man he had never met. He came because my son was my son, because I was his friend, and because Brant believed that friendship and faith require a person to show up when another human being is hurting.

That is the Brant Frost I personally know. There are people who say they will pray; Brant prayed and acted. There are people who offer help as a courtesy; Brant followed through. His kindness to my family was not public, calculated, or performed for recognition. It came at moments when we were frightened, grieving, and in genuine need. I owe him a debt of gratitude that I cannot repay. At 85 years of age, I have lived long enough to know that good deeds do not erase serious wrongdoing. I have also lived long enough to know that a grave mistake, even one with painful consequences, does not erase every act of compassion, faith, loyalty, and generosity that came before it.

I sincerely believe Brant understands the seriousness of what he has done, and I believe it is exceedingly unlikely that he will ever repeat the conduct

that brought him before the Court. In my respectful judgment, a lengthy prison sentence would remove from the community a man who still has the ability to work, make amends, work toward restitution, care for his family, and serve others. I therefore ask the Court to consider the most merciful sentence consistent with the law, one that imposes real accountability but gives substantial weight to restitution, strict supervision, service, and Brant's capacity to spend the remainder of his life doing constructive good.

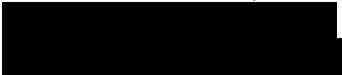
Whatever sentence the Court imposes, I will never forget that Brant responded when my son was fighting for his life and returned when I was forced to bury him. Thank you for considering my personal experience and this truthful account of Brant's character.

I will gladly appear in person before Your Honor and swear under oath the truthfulness of this letter to you.

Respectfully submitted,



Larry C. Matthews
President and C.E.O.
Veterans' Inn and Resource Center, Inc.

Laura Bell McKinley


August 11, 2026

The Honorable Leigh Martin May
Chief United States District Judge
United States District Court
2167 Richard B. Russell Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse
75 Ted Turner Drive, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3309

Re: Character Reference for Brant Frost

Dear Judge May:

I am writing to offer a character reference on behalf of Brant Frost. I have known Mr. Frost for more than 30 years, having first been introduced to him by my parents in 1988. Over the course of those many years, I have known him to be a person of wisdom, integrity and Godly character who has devoted considerable time and effort to helping individuals and small businesses.

Based on my personal experiences with Mr. Frost and the trust I developed in him, I referred people to him when they needed business guidance or assistance. My professional background is in banking. I referred individuals and small businesses to Brant any time I thought he might be able to help them. I would not have made those referrals if I had not believed that he would treat those individuals honestly and make a sincere effort to help them.

The most recent example of his willingness to help others involved Neal Howard. Neal Howard was a friend and customer. I also eventually did some contract work for Neal. Mr. Frost assisted Mr. Howard in finding a business partner and launching a highway construction company. That company became successful, created jobs in Pierce County Georgia and facilitated the safety of Highways in Georgia North Florida and South Carolina. This kind of help can be transformational for individuals, their families and small communities in poverty areas of the state.

To me, this was consistent with the person I have known for decades, someone willing to use his experience, relationships, and business knowledge to help others pursue opportunities and build productive enterprises.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Bell McKinley

Honorable Leigh Martin May
Chief United States District Judge
2167 Richard B. Russell Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse
75 Ted Turner Drive SW
Atlanta, GA 30303-3309

July 7th, 2026

Dear Judge May

I am writing this letter on behalf of Mr. Brant Frost. My name is Donny McKinney, and I have known Brant through a business relationship that began in 2012 when I was working to start a new propane gas distribution company.

At that time, obtaining financing was extremely difficult because the country was still recovering from the financial crisis. Traditional lending options were limited, and without additional capital, I would not have been able to move forward with my business. Brant worked diligently to help me secure financing from two investors, in conjunction with bank financing, making it possible for me to open my company.

Although the interest rates charged by private investors were higher than I preferred, I understood the risk involved and willingly accepted those terms because they gave me the opportunity to pursue my dream of owning my own business. Looking back, it was one of the most important opportunities in my life.

Today 14 years later, our company is still operating successfully despite having been founded during one of the most difficult lending environments in recent history. We now serve customers throughout a twelve-county area, have grown to approximately 5,100 customers, and employ 15 full-time people. The business has provided stable employment for our employees and dependable propane service to thousands of families, farms, and businesses throughout our region.

When I look back, I know that none of this would have been possible without the opportunity Brant helped make available in 2012. His efforts enabled me to build a company that has created jobs, strengthened our local economy, and provided for my family over the past fourteen years.

Throughout my dealings with Brant, I found him to be professional, courteous, and committed to helping me accomplish my goals. He has always treated me with respect, communicated openly, and followed through on what he said he would do. I never experienced dishonesty, deception, or unethical conduct in any of my interactions with him.

I understand that Brant has been convicted of serious offenses, and I do not presume to comment on the facts of his case or the appropriate legal outcome. I can only speak to the man I personally came to know through our business relationship. Based on my firsthand experience, he had a positive influence on my life and played an important

role in helping me establish a business that continues to provide for my family and serve others.

I respectfully ask the court to consider my personal experience with Brant as one small part of the overall picture of his character. Thank you for taking the time to consider my thoughts.

Respectfully

Donny McKinney

William C. Meek III

Broker in Charge, Meek Realty Group

4397 Highway 53, Hoschton, Georgia 30548

• clay@meekrealtygroup.com

August 1, 2026

The Honorable Judge May

Dear Judge May:

My name is Clay Meek. I am the Broker in Charge and co-owner of Meek Realty Group, an independent real estate brokerage in Hoschton, Georgia. I write on my own behalf, and not on behalf of my company, to tell the Court what I have observed about Brant Frost across twenty-six years of friendship.

I met Brant in 2000 through a men's group, and we have known one another ever since. Twenty-six years is a long time to watch a man. It is long enough to see him when things are going well and long enough to see him when they are not, and I believe that is the only reason my opinion is worth anything to the Court.

I understand that the conduct bringing Brant before the Court is serious, and I am not writing to minimize it or to dispute the facts. The Court knows that record far better than I ever will, and the people harmed are owed the Court's first consideration. I write only because the Court is asked to sentence a whole person, and there is a part of that person I have seen up close for a quarter century.

What I can tell the Court is this. Over those twenty-six years, Brant has been a loyal friend to me. He is kind. He is thoughtful. He has been a steady source of encouragement in my life, and he has been that consistently, across a long stretch of years and through changing circumstances in both of our lives. I do not offer that as a judgment about anything else. I offer it as the honest account of one man who has known him a long time.

I make no claim to know what justice requires here, and I would not presume to suggest a sentence to the Court. I ask only that the twenty-six years I have described be weighed alongside the conduct that brought Brant before you. Whatever the Court decides, I intend to remain his friend and to stand by his family.

Thank you for your time and for your consideration of this letter.

Respectfully,

William C. Meek III
Broker in Charge, Meek Realty Group
Hoschton, Georgia