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August 12, 2015

RE: Recommendation for Timelist Group

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the City of Union City, this letter is written to express the City's strong support for the Timelist Group. Forged in the State prison system by Andre Wiley, Sr. as a "self help" program for incarcerated persons serving life sentences, Timelist emerged from the prison system as a well-conceived re-entry support program for not only "lifers", but any parolee who might need support to re-enter the "real world". Now, the City of Union City is proud to support Timelist with offices as it builds a funding base upon which to expand its service delivery capacity.

For the past six years, the City of Union City has provided support services for youth 13-24 years old in our Youth Violence Prevention & Intervention Program (YVPIP) ranging from counseling, youth employment training and placement, educational support/referrals, health care service referrals, and pre-apprenticeship construction trade skills (in partnership with the nationally-recognized Cypress Mandela Training Program in Oakland), all in a coordinated and individualized case management system that delivers measurable positive outcomes. Using a street outreach approach under a modified Boston Ceasefire program model, the YVPIP has contributed to a significant reduction in youth violence in Union City since its inception in 2009.

What the YVPIP has lacked is a viable re-entry support service system, and through our collaboration with Timelist, we now have the promise of expanded services in this area, as well. Mr. Wiley has assembled a team of volunteers dedicated to reducing recidivism through the application of proven techniques and interventions, with Mr. Wiley as a powerful role model for what personal transformation looks like. The City is providing substantial in-kind support to Timelist, but we do not currently have a funding source to directly support Timelist. Timelist needs your support in order to survive and become a viable organization.

In my 37-year career in public service, I have developed, managed and directed youth violence prevention programs in both Oakland and Union City, and I have learned to evaluate individuals who claim to have "transformed" themselves in various ways. Some are truly "transformed"; others, not so much. Mr. Andre Wiley Sr. is "the real deal", a man who has dedicated his life to serving others who face daunting challenges in rejoining a society that fears and marginalizes them. I can professionally and personally vouch for Mr. Wiley's integrity, and urge you to give Timelist your most serious consideration for funding support.

If there are any questions concerning this letter, or you wish to discuss Timelist with me in greater detail, please contact me at [Tonya@unioncity.org](mailto:Tonya@unioncity.org) or by phone at (510) 657-5344.

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City Manager  
City of Union City