



## Minnesota Department of **Human Services**

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To Whom It May Concern:

Friday, October 24, 2008

It is with pleasure I write this letter of reference for Samara C. Kezele Fritchman about a recent ethics seminar I attended while in Des Moines, Iowa on 10/8/2008. I found her style of presentation to be thought provoking and captivating. She held the attention of the audience with relevant illustrative stories and humour.

Samara had clear knowledge of the content, as well as the various differences and range of legal requirements between States. Her presentation and style was formatted to stimulate and provide for ample discussion among participants. This is a vital element to learning and understanding the ethics within the practice of other disciplines and settings.

Samara was able to "breath life" into the topic of ethics applying it to the everyday dilemmas we all face in our daily practice.

At the outset of this presentation I was attending to fulfil a license requirement. Having logged 20 years in my profession I was sceptical that I would learn a lot from the presentation. By the end of her one-day seminar I was inspired, and realized how intriguing and fascinating the field of professional ethics can be, as well as all the ways in which I reconcile with the simplest ethical dilemmas everyday.

I felt professionally validated learning, and then knowing I am correctly drawing appropriate ethical conclusions.

During this one day training the "back drop" was the information important to include on a professional disclosure statement. It became clear a disclosure statement was vital to maintaining and protecting one's professional credentials and standing within the professional community. From the review of the disclosure statement content came a wealth of knowledge and understanding of the range of ethical considerations important for professional practice.

I could have talked the evening away with Samara by the end of the day, (a recognition of the engaging quality and approachable nature Samara maintained), as I wanted to discuss the nuances of various ethical situations.

Her presentation was thought provoking awakening an interest in ethics I didn't realize I had until after I had attended the training. I whole-heartedly recommend Samara for any dialogue or presentation on the topic of professional ethics.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Pellecchia, LICSW". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Michael Pellecchia, LICSW  
Professional Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker