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Law Letter of Recommendation

I would like to recommend XXX for admission to your law school. For the last twenty years I have been teaching Japanese Criminal Law at Waseda University; I am also an administrative officer of the Criminal Law Society of Japan, and a member of the Japanese bar examination committee.

I have known XXX well since he participated in my seminar on Criminal Law in 2003 at Waseda University's Graduate School of Law. I remember him as having very strong academic abilities and as being equal to the best students I have ever instructed during my teaching career.

In my seminar, XXX intensively researched corporate legal responsibilities for implementing an effective compliance program. The first time that I reviewed his research plan, I thought it was too ambitious and challenging because his intended research straddled multiple areas of the laws and regulations, which went from criminal law to commercial law. Therefore, in order to lessen the burden of his research, I advised him to focus on only the area of criminal law. However, his enthusiasm and commitment to research were beyond my expectations. Although his major was criminal law, he enthusiastically researched newly-enacted corporate law as well as criminal law and eloquently explained to me the historical background of its preceding amendments in 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2005, which were related to corporate governance systems. Moreover, from these large volumes of academic studies he sorted out several important interdisciplinary legal issues such as a director's duty to establish and operate an internal control system. I was impressed to see how quickly he was able to absorb a tremendous amount of knowledge of various laws and how enthusiastically he researched multiple areas of the law. Continuing to see the progress of his research, I gradually realized that with his great enthusiasm he would be able to complete this challenging research. In the end, he perfectly completed this difficult research and wrote a thesis entitled "Corporate Responsibility and Compliance Program", which I regard as one of the most interesting theses ever submitted at Waseda University.

In addition to his academic abilities in researching and writing about Japanese laws, he also demonstrated a proficiency in analyzing international laws and regulations, which included U.S. regulations. He was able to perform this analysis by utilizing his strong command of the English language. Six months after he began his research, I was surprised when he referred in his research progress report to several important judicial precedents in the U.S. such as *In re Caremark International Inc. Derivative Litigation*. In his report, he stated that the recent progress of the compliance program in Japan was strongly influenced by U.S. regulations. Based on his exceptional ability to analyze international regulations, and on his keen interest in this subject, I urged him to further study how compliance programs developed in the U.S with details of related judicial precedents. Eventually, he also completed this challenging research and incorporated it into his thesis.

In the presentation in defense of his thesis, XXX successfully made an excellent oral presentation and answered all the questions raised by members of the university's law faculty. He elaborated on how the formulation and implementation of an effective compliance program affects the scope of corporate legal responsibilities. Not only was his thesis based on an analysis of Japanese laws, but it also contained a detailed examination of related U.S. regulations such as the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, the United States Organizational Sentencing Guidelines as well as relevant judicial precedents including the above-mentioned Caremark case and *Dellastatious v. Williams*. All of the faculty members were quite impressed by his presentation and by the elaborate analysis in his thesis particularly because his research can provide Japanese corporations with a legal risk management framework, which can be a practical solution to coping with the newly enacted Commercial Act and the Financial Instruments and Exchange Act (the so-called J-SOX Act). As a result of his elaborate thesis and excellent presentation, we awarded him the top grade of 'A'.

It was a great pleasure for me to learn that XXX had obtained from NTT DOCOMO a full sponsorship to an LL.M. program in the U.S.A. I confidently believe he deserves it. From my extensive teaching experience at Waseda University, I can state that he fully possesses the ability to study law at an advanced level at your law school. Given his high academic abilities, his intellectual ambition, his enthusiasm for conducting extensive academic research, and his strong command of the English language, I firmly believe that he will make a significant contribution to your LL.M program. Therefore, I give XXX my highest recommendation for admission to your law school.

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