



City of Omaha
Jim Suttle, Mayor

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Paul D. Kratz
City Attorney

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To Whom It May Concern:

My purpose in writing is to provide a letter of recommendation for Bob Swerdling. Bob and I, along with others in my office, worked together to finance a City-owned hotel which is now known as Hilton Omaha. Bob worked at City staff direction and led negotiations with the rating agencies, the bond insurer, and the investment community on the original financing of the hotel. In addition, he negotiated, along with the City Attorney's Office, the qualified management agreement with Hilton Corporation. Several years later when the City sought to refund the bond issue, we again contacted Bob Swerdling to help us through that process. Bob negotiated amendments to the management agreement with Hilton and negotiated the discharge of the developer and operator subordinate bonds as well as a significant reduction in insurance premium.

Both experiences with Bob have been very positive and rewarding for the City of Omaha.

Very truly yours,

Paul D. Kratz
City Attorney

PDK/dlm