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To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I furnish this letter of recommendation for Ancil Taylor. I have been involved in the dredging industry for many years, both as an attorney for the Corps of Engineers, and as an attorney in private practice, and I have met and worked with many of the members of the dredging community. Everyone I know has a great deal of respect for Ancil because of his extensive knowledge, experience, technical capability, honesty, and integrity. He is a “straight shooter” who provides honest, well-supported technical opinions that are of great assistance to dredging contractors, project designers, and government agencies.

In the practice of law, there is frequently a need to obtain the opinions of experts to assist in the resolution of disputes. Initially, an expert may be requested to offer an opinion as to whether a potential claim has merit, and this can later lead to the need for an expert report and testimony at trial. Ancil has provided both deposition testimony and trial testimony in cases where I have served as lead counsel, and his expert testimony has always been accepted by the Board or Court. When Ancil provides the details of his training and his considerable experience, his credibility is unquestioned and unimpeachable.

Ancil also has the rare quality of being able to explain complicated technical matters to layman, including attorneys and judges, in a manner that can be easily understood. He is articulate, organized, and always well-prepared. When challenged on cross-examination by opposing counsel, he defends his position adeptly and without any hint of arrogance or condescension. Judges are often anxious to be educated on technical matters by an expert, and Ancil does an excellent job of responding to their questions. When a case involves a “battle of the experts,” Ancil is the person I want on my side.

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I recommend Ancil highly to anyone seeking technical expertise on the unique issues faced by the dredging industry. Because of my own personal experience as a trial attorney, I can think of no one better than Ancil to provide litigation support and expert testimony. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide additional information.

Sincerely yours,



Michael H. Payne

Chairman, Government Contracting Group

MHP:TB