26 April 2012

The Honorable John Cornyn

United States Senate

600 Navarro Street, Suite 210

San Antonio, Texas 78205

Dear Senator Cornyn:

During the course of the last school year I have observed, and spoken with, Robert Dittman on many, many, occasions. I had first hand experience in seeing him interact with the faculty, staff and fellow law students at this, the Center for Legal and Social Justice of St. Mary’s University School of Law. He is an outgoing and amiable gentleman who never fails to find the good in all mankind..

It is my privilege to enthusiastically recommend Robert D. Dittman for selection to serve as an officer in the ranks of the armed forces of the United States. Robert stands out from the pack by his limitless love and dedication to this country, he is ready and willing to serve this country in any fashion.. As a former Marine infantry officer I considered myself honored to work alongside men such as Robert. I was lucky to experience these men of boundless enthusiasm and limitless energy, men for whom no obstacle was too great, and whose last ounce of energy was always directed towards accomplishing the mission. Robert Dittman is just such an individual. Most impressive is the fact that Robert’s inherent fortitude and steadfast physical and moral courage do not allow his lifelong physical disability to slow him down. This facet of one’s character can neither be taught nor honed on the drill field, a person either has it or they don’t.

Robert’s educational accomplishments speaks volumes with respect to his tenacity and intellectual abilities, they also speak to his potential. Not everyone has the drive and intellect to attain a university degree much less the focus and stamina to successfully complete a law school’s rigorous course of study. To be sure, Robert is no ordinary individual.

A review of Robert’s work experience is indicative of an individual who has willingly undertaken diverse tasks and assignments without hesitation or reservation. The various duties Robert has been involved in would be monumental even for a sighted person, Robert refuses to allow his disability to be a problem.

Currently, the United States has physically impaired individuals serving in the active military services. Robert’s previous volunteer experiences have shown him to be a man with an affinity and love of wearing the uniform of this nation’s military. He is unswayed in his willingness to serve the United States in whatever avenue might be open to him.

There might be nay sayers who would automatically dismiss this man’s efforts to join the military as whimsy...surely, they have not met Robert Dittman. For these reasons I truly feel that Robert would be an invaluable asset to this nation, if allowed to practice law as an officer in the uniformed service of the United States.

Respectfully submitted,

S. D. Martin

Major USMC ret.

Center for Legal and Social Justice

2507 NW 36th Street

San Antonio, Texas 78228