



September 1, 2025

Dear hiring manager,

I'm thrilled to recommend David Maroon for the policy and constituent relations internship at Senator Jones's office. I had the pleasure of teaching David for a full year in the University of Chicago's "Human Being and Citizen" course, where we analyze literary texts to explore questions of justice, law, and leadership.

From the very beginning of the course, David stood out as one of the top students. There are three things that particularly impressed me about David: (1) His exceptional analytical skills and attention to detail, (2) His ability to communicate complex information in an accessible way, and (3) His interpersonal skills, especially his ability to discuss disagreements respectfully.

Throughout the course, David has demonstrated outstanding attention to detail and close reading skills. In class discussions, he will frequently analyze individual words and make compelling arguments for what this specific word tells us about the effect the author wants to create. He then uses these small details to put together the big picture. For example, David wrote a very impressive paper analyzing Sophocles's *Antigone*, arguing that the play invites the audience to think about what they would do when private desires conflict with their public duties. If you hire David for this internship, I have every confidence that he will bring this same careful attention to detail to reviewing draft legislation, press releases, and constituent correspondence.

David also has a special gift for describing complex information in a clear, easy-to-understand way. To give an example, David chose to present on the history of Greek drama for his required oral presentation. David successfully distilled hundreds of years of history and cultural nuances down to a 10-minute presentation. Many of David's peers commented on how engaging and informative the presentation was. If you choose David for this position, you will quickly find him indispensable for preparing brief, easy-to-digest summaries of complex legal and political issues for Senator Jones and her team.

Perhaps most impressive of all, David has a maturity and comfort with disagreement that is very rare in someone his age. He can passionately argue his position while respectfully acknowledging the merits of others' arguments and the weaknesses in his own. In one particularly memorable discussion, we had an energetic debate over whether the Western literary canon should continue to have such a prominent place in college curricula. The conversation sometimes got heated, but David always kept his cool and respectfully responded to his peers' arguments. Since your office works with people who have many different beliefs, David would be an invaluable addition to your team – he will stay calm even in charged environments and make sure that everyone gets a fair hearing.

In short, I think that David Maroon is an outstanding candidate for this internship. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about David's qualifications.

Sincerely,

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