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John E. Smith

Clark Professor of Philosophy

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Ms. Lenore Ross
Barry University
8177 West Glades Road, Suite 217
Boca Raton, FL 33434

Dear Ms. Ross:

I am writing to you at the request of Dr. Richard T. Nolan whom I understand has been asked to teach philosophy at Barry University. I have known Dr. Nolan for some ten years and during that time I had an opportunity to review the work he did in connection with Living Issues in Philosophy and Living Issues in Ethics and I have no hesitation in saying that he did a good job in both cases. We worked together on an extended recorded conversation about the present philosophical situation for the Yale/Berkeley continuing education series and I found that he was extremely well-informed about the relevant philosophical issues under consideration and the main philosophical trends. In an interview/conversation format a great deal depends on whether the one putting the questions has the knowledge necessary to frame them properly. I thought Dr. Nolan was very good in this regard and I believe that you will find the tape coherent, lively and interesting in describing the interplay between current philosophical ideas and issues in ethics and religion.

On the basis of what I know about Dr. Nolan's educational background, teaching and written work, I certainly regard him qualified to teach undergraduate courses in philosophy.

Sincerely yours,

JES:rgg