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To Whom It May Concern,

My name is David V. Taylor, former Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at Morehouse College and Dillard University. I am submitting this reference letter on behalf of Simeon Bunkley, an applicant for the Eta Omega Scholarship 2023 High School Scholarship . Simeon is currently a senior student attending Westlake High School.

I have known Simeon for approximately nine years. We met when he was a fourth-grade student attending Peyton Forest Elementary. He was assigned to me as a mentee, in a male mentoring program sponsored by St. Paul's Episcopal Church. He was also a participant in the Richard Wood Men and Boy's Breakfast, an annual event intended for Black boys to strengthen positive relationships with men in the community and to reinforce the necessity for remaining focused while in school. As a mentoring program mentee, he was exposed to African American history and culture, museums, musical programs, art exhibits and technology. As a participant in the Breakfast Program, he was honored one year as an exemplary student demonstrating scholarship and positive school spirit.

When Simeon entered the seventh grade at Ralph Bunch Junior High School, he was technically no longer part of the elementary school

experience. However, he and I have maintained our mentoring relationship even now continuing his senior year. He continued to excel academically, joined the school band his freshman year and was a successful member of an exceptionally good debate team. He has continued to be an exemplary student in high school.

2 years ago Simeon was invited to address 4th, 5th and 6th grade students at a virtual Men and Boys Breakfast Program for F. L. Stanton Elementary School. One of two guest speakers, his talk was about academic preparedness for junior high and high school.

[<https://youtu.be/mLt8k-iWDDc>]

Simeon has always had an entrepreneurial spirit. Early in our relationship he had expressed interest in being a businessman. He has researched business opportunities and explored “bitcoin” investment. In our discussions about college preparation, he has expressed interest in business and business administration majors. I have cautioned him to remain prepared but fluid with respect to his career goals at this point.

I believe that he would be a good fit for the Eta Omega Scholarship 2023 High School Scholarship. It would expand his horizons and allow him to have more opportunity to pursue his potential business career and ventures. He is good at mathematics, a quick study, and articulate. To quote lastly he is not afraid of taking calculated risks. I highly recommend him for this scholarship without any reservations.

Sincerely,
Dr. David V. Taylor
Retired