



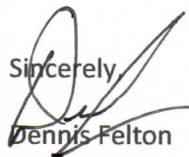
To Whom It May Concern,

Tony Squire has truly built something special and lasting in Richmond! Tony was a pioneer over 25 years ago when he was inspired to start an organization for the purpose of helping young kids through the game of basketball. Many of his players would have fallen through the cracks without his leadership. The fact that the Squire's Richmond has remained a strong, vibrant and relevant organization for over 25 years while many similar programs have come and gone is a true testament to the perseverance, leadership and integrity of Tony and his mission. Tony has managed to consistently staff his program with people who are in it for the right reasons. For a program like his to endure, it's critical that its' coaches understand that *every* kid is important, not just the superstars.

When looking at Tony's program from a distance it's easy to get caught up admiring the successes he's had with all of the NBA players who have played for him like Ray Allen and Kevin Garnett but to truly understand the value of his program, one needs to look a little closer, to see all of the rest of the kids, who's lives have been enriched by the fortunate circumstance of becoming involved with the Squire's Richmond. Over the years there are literally hundreds of young men who've been able to take advantage of the opportunity to grow as people, mature as students, develop as basketball players, be inspired to expect more and have the platform to earn college scholarships, earn a degree and put together great lives, all because of the Squire's Richmond!

As a long time college basketball coach, I've been able to see this process play out year after year. I know, first hand, that lives are saved by programs like Tony's. There are plenty of young men that need people like Tony Squire. He has a devotion to helping them understand their potential and implementing the discipline and work ethic required to reach that potential. I also believe the entire Richmond community benefits from the efforts and successes of the Squire's Richmond Program. Tony's role in helping kids succeed and prosper through education is a critical spoke in the wheel of what's important to everyone in the community.

I'm proud to see what Tony has been able to build and I hope, for the sake of the young lives he impacts, that the Squire's Richmond are part of the Richmond community for a long time.

Sincerely,

Dennis Felton
San Antonio Spurs