

FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER  
Southern District of Florida

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Federal Public Defender

Location: Fort Lauderdale

**Michael Caruso**  
Chief Assistant Federal Public Defender

January 24, 2011

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To whom it may concern

Re: Michael Levas

In May of 2010, I hired Mr. Levas to testify as an expert witness for me in a very high profile public corruption case. The government alleged that my client assisted undercover FBI agents with opening a bank account in the Bahamas to conceal funds which the FBI agents represented were the proceeds of a Ponzi Scheme. My client was charged with participating in a money laundering conspiracy and six substantive counts of money laundering.

Mr. Levas provided expert testimony about different investment vehicles. He explain the meaning of the term "Ponzi scheme" and he explained to the jury that there were a number of innocent reasons for having an offshore bank account. Mr. Levas' testimony was well received by the judge and jury, and the jury was unable to reach a unanimous decision as to my client's guilt.

Prior to hiring Mr. Levas, my office ran an extensive background check. Our investigators found nothing in Mr. Levas' background which could be used to impeach his credibility or attack his character.

I would gladly recommend Mr. Levas as an expert witness on investment management practices.

Please contact me at 954-356-7436, extension 0 if you have questions concerning the contents of this letter.

Sincerely,

  
Daryl E. Wilcox

Assistant Federal Public Defender

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