



Alabama Fisheries Cooperative
A Multi-Cultural Fisher and Seafood Worker Coop

P.O. Box 94
Codon, Alabama 36523

Dear Sir/Madam,

September 14, 2014

I am writing on behalf of Paul Roland Nelson's application for disability. I have worked with Mr. Nelson many times since 2006 in our efforts to receive fair recovery for people who suffered from the disasters of Katrina and BP. Mr. Nelson is an extremely hard worker and a very proud person. I know that it is very difficult for him to acknowledge his health disabilities preclude him from working as he has all his life. Thus I believe his application is necessary for his economic well-being, and I am hopeful that his application will give provide him the medical treatment that he vitally needs.

As an example of Mr. Nelson's tireless and effective work for his community and beyond, I am attaching two letters addressed to me from Mobile County officials who supervised at different times the Mobile County Katrina Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) home rebuilding program.

The first letter, from Cathy McHugh indicates that Mr. Nelson's (voluntary) participation on the Housing Committee was important with respect to their advocacy (and in partnership with us) for sufficient funds from the U.S. Congress and the State of Alabama.

The second letter, written over a year later, from Carol Reddoch, in her own words states:

“Paul Nelson has served on the Mobile County Housing Committee since its inception, and he has faithfully fulfilled the responsibilities of that position. He assisted in getting the program “on track” when it took longer than necessary to get housing assistance underway. He has spoken out on behalf of many applicants when others found reason to doubt whether they were worthy recipients of program assistance. As a result of this program and the support of people like Paul Nelson, 41 new homes (we modular and 18 manufactured) have been placed, and 260 homes have been extensively rehabilitated.”

In recent months I have witnessed Mr. Nelson's struggle his health: with diabetes; blockage in his leg; and terrible pain in his throat. Indeed I received a phone call last year from Mr. Nelson when he was going into surgery in Louisiana, it was a very risky operation. Many times I have had the privilege of being invited to Mr. Nelson's family dinners. And on several occasions he had such terrible pain with his acid reflux that he had to leave the dinner table.

Again I want to stress that based on the 8 years that I have know and worked with Paul Roland Nelson, I feel that his application is sincere, and indeed without it's approval I worry that he may not be with us much longer on this earth.

Sincerely,

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