



## EUROPEAN UNION

DELEGATION TO THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA

Ambassador/Head of Delegation

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### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

#### Re: Reference for Mr. Shelley M. Liberto

During my tenure as Ambassador to The Gambia for the European Union, I have had the pleasure to know and work with Mr. Shelley M Liberto in his capacity as Team Leader of the EU funded Access to Justice and Legal Education Project for The Gambia. I can say without reservation that under his guidance and leadership, the Project met with resounding success under countless adverse circumstances, and has been received with enthusiasm and support from Gambian counterparts at both the highest ministerial and popular levels.

The Project directed by Mr. Liberto was a multi-faceted complex project with a budget of approximately €4.5 million. One of the most challenging programs that he designed and managed was the Access to Justice Civic Awareness Campaign which Mr. Liberto personally directed in the field in some of the most remote parts of the country. This involved face-to-face interaction with regional and local government and the Gambian population at the village level. The program required intense advance preparation and, in the end, drew over 41,000 participants and involved his successful exploitation multimedia visibility tools.

Another component which received accolades from ministry counterparts was the compilation and hard bound publication of the Gambia's official court reports for the Supreme Court and, for the first time in its history, The Gambia's Sharia Law Reports. Yet another accomplishment was the ground-breaking sensitization program for 250 village leaders known as the "Alkalolu" on human rights issues. These programs attracted high-profile media coverage as did the workshops and training sessions implemented under Mr. Liberto's direction.

It is therefore with great pleasure and without reservation that I recommend Mr. Liberto for continued work in any position in the field of international technical assistance, particularly in the role of director or team leader in which he has demonstrated remarkable competency.



Attila LAJOS

Ambassador/Head of Delegation