

<a href="#"><u>Sample #1</u></a> - Omali Yeshitela (long)	<a href="#"><u>Sample #4</u></a> - Jesse Nevel (long)
<a href="#"><u>Sample #2</u></a> - Penny Hess (short)	<a href="#"><u>Sample #5</u></a> - Penny Hess (long)
<a href="#"><u>Sample #3</u></a> - Jesse Nevel (short)	<a href="#"><u>Sample #6</u></a> - Omali Yeshitela (long)

## Sample #1

### Character Letter Example for those who have not personally met the Uhuru 3 but know them through their work:

To: Judge William F. Jung  
United States District Court  
Middle District of Florida

From: Andi Gaither  
Street address Apt #  
City, State Zip

To the honorable Judge William F. Jung,

My name is Andi Gaither. I am a member of one of the many communities positively affected by Omali Yeshitela and his organizations. I am writing to attest to the integrity of Chairman Yeshitela and to ask for a lenient sentence for him. I am writing to attest to the integrity of Chairman Yeshitela and to ask for a lenient sentence for him.

I have been inspired by his charitable contributions to the most deserving communities of African people in St. Louis, Missouri. Some standout projects led by Chairman Yeshitela are the Community Basketball Court, the Community Garden, and Farmer's Market, and the Uhuru House Community Center.

The volunteers and donors he brought together have built several spaces for the benefit of the public. The basketball court has provided a safe space for the youth as well as adults in the community to build skills like teamwork and healthy lifestyle management through exercise. The Community Garden and Farmer's Market has given the people of the neighborhood access to fresh foods previously unattainable as well as teaching skills of self sustainability, building community commerce, and teaching how to farm and cook these cultural foods. The Community Center has given space to support community events that build the sense of belonging and togetherness that makes prosperous and fulfilling lives for these people in underserved communities.



As you can see, Chairman Yeshitela has dedicated his 7 decades of life to giving back to people who deserve it. He continuously gives time and other resources to fostering growth and togetherness of the people he serves in St. Louis, Missouri, Tampa, Florida, and around the globe.

It is for these reasons and many proven others that I come to you asking for the most lenient sentence possible regarding his case. The numerous communities he serves need Chairman Yeshitela to be able to continue his philanthropic work in neighborhoods that have been overlooked for generations.

Thank you for your time and consideration regarding this matter.

Respectfully,  
Andi Gaither



## **Sample #2**

**Character Letter Example for those who have not personally met the Uhuru 3 but know them through their work (short example):**

To: Judge William F. Jung  
United States District Court  
Middle District of Florida

From: Charlie Reilly  
Street address Apt #  
City, State Zip

To: Honorable Judge William F. Jung,

My name is Charlie Reilly and I live in Denver CO. I have known Penny Hess for 20 years.

I know her to be a generous and sincere person. She has done good work in disadvantaged communities. Please take into account all the success she has had in lifting neighborhoods.

Sincerely, Charlie Reilly



### **Sample #3**

**Character Letter Example for those who have not personally met the Uhuru 3 but know them through their work (short example):**

To: Judge William F. Jung  
United States District Court  
Middle District of Florida

From: Jada Webster  
Street address Apt #  
City, State Zip

To: Honorable Judge William F. Jung

My name is Jada Webster. I am writing on behalf of Jesse Nevel to ask for a lenient sentence. Jesse is a powerful voice in the community, speaking for those that have been inversely affected by systemic inequities in this country. He has been extremely active in raising funds to help redress these imbalances in the Black community, and his work is very important.

Thank you for your time,  
Jada



## **Sample #4**

### **Character Letter Example for Jesse Nevel:**

To: Judge William F. Jung  
United States District Court  
Middle District of Florida

From: Len Demmer  
Street address Apt #  
City, State Zip

To: Honorable Judge William F. Jung

My name is Len Demmer and I am a resident of St. Louis and a neighbor and friend of Jesse Nevel. I have had the honor of knowing Jesse Nevel for the last 4.5 years. In this time, I have come to know Jesse as an outstanding person whose integrity, dedication, and reliability have consistently inspired me.

Jesse has demonstrated time and again that he is a principled individual committed to the well-being of those around him. His dependability is unmatched-- he has been my emergency contact for various matters over the years. In one particular instance, after I was hit by a car while riding my bike to work, Jesse was the first person I called. Without hesitation, he arrived within minutes to help me, staying with me at the emergency room until I was discharged. This is just one example of the kind of person Jesse is and is reflective of his stance in all situations.

Jesse's care for the community is evident in everything he does. He always has the best interests of those around him and I have seen firsthand how much better our community is when he is involved. His unwavering commitment to advocating for others and working towards making a positive difference is something I deeply admire.

I hope this letter serves as a testament to Jesse Nevel's strong moral character and his positive influence on those around him. I respectfully request that he is able to continue to have the freedom to carry out his important work in the community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Len Demmer



## **Sample #5**

### **Character Letter Example for Penny Hess:**

September 22nd, 2024

To: Judge William F. Jung  
United States District Court  
Middle District of Florida

From: Alison Hoehne  
Street Address  
City, State Zip

To Honorable Judge William F. Jung,

My name is Alison Hoehne. I recently moved to St. Louis, MO and I volunteer with the black community-led nonprofit the African People's Education & Defense Fund, (APEDF). I worked in Philadelphia for 33 years as the manager of the nonprofit's furniture store and participated in building a moving company to benefit APEDF's programs for economic development and justice for the black community.

I have known Penny Hess for 45 years, for a large part of my adult life. I met Penny because in 1979 I joined the African People's Solidarity Committee, which Penny leads. We worked together in San Francisco, in Oakland CA and many other cities in the past four and a half decades.

I can honestly say that Penny is one of the most positive, principled and courageous people I've ever met. She provides such inspiring leadership to me and so many other people who want to make positive changes to the world we live in.

Penny has shown me through her own example that we can have the courage to go against the status quo, and as white people take a positive stand to work under the leadership of the Uhuru Movement so we can be part of humanity's future without any people exploiting or oppressing others. She has a deep commitment to working for economic and political justice for the black community, and has inspired me year after year to live up to her example.

In the late '80s we worked together to open and run a natural foods restaurant and bakery of the Uhuru Movement in Oakland, CA.. Penny is a Cordon Bleu trained chef and we spent so many early morning and late evening hours together cooking and catering to bring healthy food to the community and raise resources for the Uhuru Movement's black community programs. She taught me so much about cooking!



Penny is a very talented speaker and writer. I have traveled with her throughout the US and also to London for speaking engagements, and one year she stayed at my mother's home in London. It was such an exciting time because Penny's father was a pediatrician and my mother was a psychoanalyst and they had met each other and had a lot in common about their ideas of child development.

My mother had a deep respect and love for Penny, seeing how she works tirelessly to win others to understand the truth about our history and work to bring reparations to the African community for the injustices our community has committed against them.

Penny has been such an amazing friend and colleague to me for decades and I owe her so much!

I urge the court to do the right thing by giving Penny the most lenient sentence possible so she can continue her incredibly important work benefitting so many of us in the white community, and participating in bringing about genuine justice for all humanity.

Yours Sincerely,

Alison Hoehne



## **Sample #6**

### **Character Letter Example for Chairman Omali Yeshitela:**

To: Judge William F. Jung  
United States District Court  
Middle District of Florida

From: Mary Jones  
Street Address  
City, State Zip

To The Honorable Judge William F. Jung,

My name is Mary Jones, and I am a high school math teacher. I have known and been inspired by the work of Chairman Omali Yeshitela for many years and can attest to his integrity. I know Chairman Yeshitela to be deeply involved with community service with the aims of building a harmonious society through social justice.

That is why I am writing this letter to defend Chairman Yeshtiela, because he has always been a respected person in the community, sincere to everyone he has come in contact with.

He coordinated building an African community garden, basketball court, Farmers Market, Doula program in North St. Louis and has developed countless other black community programs and projects over the years.

To give you a personal example, Chairman Yeshitela has always helped out friends and family and the community at large, often putting aside personal needs in order to work for the benefit of all. He has always been an inspiration to me and helped me out in a time of need.

He often participates in community events and fundraisers in search of ways to end disparities and injustice.

It is obvious to me that the Chairman will do all that he can to resolve this situation in the best way for his family, his community and his work.

I hope that this letter can help to convince the court to give the most lenient sentence possible. I know that the Chairman is a good person, his work is critical to the well-being of his community and request that he would be able to continue to move freely to carry out his work,

Yours truly,  
Mary Jones