

July 10, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

I wish to endorse Paul Richmond for public office because I believe that he has the integrity and motivation to effectively address many issues that people are concerned about today. He has shown that he truly supports peace and social justice, not just in speeches, but by putting aside his personal interests many times, in order to do pro bono work for peace organizations such as *World Can't Wait*. He has a commitment to social justice that I can vouch for because I spent many hours with him, in his office and on the phone, as a representative of *World Can't Wait*. He stayed with us on the project, even in the face of pressure from city officials, until "freedom of speech" prevailed and we won our permit to rally and march in downtown Seattle.

When I was involved in issues around Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath, Paul Richmond assisted our campus organization pro bono, making it possible to take eighteen college students to New Orleans to volunteer to help rebuild, shortly after the hurricane and flood. This also helped open the way for our present-day work with the internally displaced hurricane survivors who are living in the Seattle area. Without Paul Richmond's pro bono service to the organization, which has now become a Seattle branch of *Common Ground Collective New Orleans*, we could not have so easily moved forward. We need people in office who not only fully understand the issues, but who also care about and serve the people.

As a professor of philosophy at Shoreline Community College, I also had the opportunity to work with Paul Richmond when he served as an adjunct instructor and as a guest speaker in my classroom. There were many positive student comments, such as, "he was an amazing speaker," and "he held my interest!" His education of the students on issues of the militarization of the police and on issues of social justice was well received and much needed on our campus.

I fully endorse Paul Richmond, and believe that we need people like him, people we can trust to work for peace and social justice unfailingly, to step forward and run for public office.

Sincerely,

Dr. Linda Warren
Professor of Philosophy
(206) 914-6288
lwarren@shoreline.edu