

September 19, 2007

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RE: Letter of Support for Kauai ATV

STATE OF HAWAII
LAND USE COMMISSION

Dear Land Use Commission:

It has come to my attention that Kauai ATV and it's operations have come under scrutiny for their land use practices. I feel compelled to write to all of you and share my experiences with both Kauai ATV as a business and the Cotrim Family as outstanding members of our Kauai community.

I moved to Kauai 3 years ago from California and was eager to take advantage of many of the outdoor activities that Kauai has to offer. I met Marleny and Andre Cotrim, managers at Kauai ATV, when I joined a canoe paddling club. They stepped up to welcome me and offer support and encouragement to work through the challenges of a demanding sport because of the life lessons experienced through the Hawaii State Team Sport but mostly, because it is a positive way to participate in an important part of Hawaiian history and culture and an opportunity to both pay tribute to and learn from the people of this land. This a culture that both Marleny and Andre have expressed and shown deep respect for.

I experienced the business operations first hand when I was given the opportunity to participate as a group leader during a corporate team building exercise facilitated by Kauai ATV. Visitors to our island were challenged to a day of kayaking and hiking and the property leased by Kauai ATV while having to work together to answer questions about Hawaiian history and local facts. It was rewarding to witness a group of tourists taking interest in Kauai's background and learning about the community they were vacationing in.

Throughout 3 years of friendship, no one has done more to help me realize the awesome potential and self-accountability of both enjoying and caring for the unique land and water resources on this special island. In casual settings, I constantly hear the owners and employees of Kauai ATV discussing innovative ways to make their business environmentally conscientious. From the products they carry in their store to researching bio-diesel options for their vehicles, I know that the Kauai ATV is committed to sound land use and "lightening their footprint" on the earth. I have experienced the owners of Kauai ATV to be people of the highest integrity and the deepest sincerity. I hope that they will be allowed to continue their unique way of sharing this island with interested visitors and locals alike. It benefits many.

Thank you,

Kimberly A. Barnes