



moving.business.forward.

August 1, 2005

Re: Commendation for Andy Weyrauch and Blake Shippee

Greetings:

At the Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce, we are committed to providing the resources and encouragement that young people need to develop professionally in the city of Duluth. As evidence of this commitment, the Chamber recently developed the Duluth Young Professionals (DYP), a group designed to connect young professionals with each other and to bridge the gap between this group and our community's more established professionals.

Recently, I have been impressed by two DYP members: Andy Weyrauch and Blake Shippee, co-owners of ShipRock Investments LLC. Over the last few years, these two young professionals have been busy in the real estate industry, acquiring over 15 units in Duluth and Superior. Their ambition has led to expansion, as they are presently moving into the residential management market with the formation of a new entity, ShipRock Management LLC.

Furthermore, Andy and Blake have demonstrated their commitment to our local community. Andy led a team in the Duluth Adventure Race, which raised money for Duluth Public Schools. Blake organized an event called Beacon to the Bayou, a benefit concert which raised over \$13,000 for Hurricane Katrina victims.

For the above reasons, I am confident in endorsing Andy and Blake. I believe that they are evolving into community leaders. It is refreshing to see them flourish.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David Ross".

David Ross
President & CEO
Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce
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