

March 15, 2004

Diversified Monitoring Services
23193 LaCadena Drive
Laguna Hills, CA. 92653

Ms. Verwiel,

I enrolled in your program August of 2003, on the recommendation of my attorney, Gil May. Having been represented by him in the past, trusting him and holding him in high esteem, I will forever remember his words, "I will represent you to the best of my ability and give you the support you need, but the keys to your freedom are in your hands." I grudgingly accepted his recommendation, thinking, "Oh, Well just another useless drunk driving program". Mr. May made a phone call to Pat at Diversified Monitoring Services, who made time in her busy schedule to see me that very day. Speaking with Pat, I was extremely impressed by her professional demeanor, knowledge and forthrightness. She was very direct, honest and detailed with the program of self awareness and a tool to help me achieve my goals, called the SCRAM unit, an ankle bracelet device which would monitor the ethanol in my body. I immediately went with Pat's recommendation and got on the SCRAM device. Steve Mohr of DMS went over the operation and once again explained in more detail the workings of the device. I was set up to meet with Michael McCord for a psychological intake interview, which once again made me feel that DMS program was just another Drunk program. But a very legitimate, caring and compassionate tool to actually help me with my drinking problem.

I have currently been active in the program for 7 months. My initial cynicism was completely unjustified and has given way to admiration for both the program and the people involved. Not only do I feel that this program has given me a new lease on life in terms of controlling my alcohol abuse, but the counseling has redirected my thinking, helping me to get my life back on track. The counselors at Diversified are well-trained in personal and group therapy. The sessions are productive. Much to my surprise, I look forward to meeting in group each Wednesday evening. In AA, we learn that drunkenness is only a drink away. The help I have been afforded at Diversified has gone a long way in keeping me from taking that "one more drink." I am now also aware that my abuse of alcohol was not only personally destructive, but affected everyone else around me. I never want that to happen again. While I realize that I can never guarantee a life of sobriety, I do feel much more secure in my ability to handle everyday frustrations and was made aware through the counseling of what triggers my alcohol use.

I can only hope that many more people have the opportunity to use the SCRAM device as the wonderful tool it is on the road to sobriety. I respectfully ask the State of California, Courts and Department of Motor Vehicles to take a close look at Diversified Monitoring Systems SCRAM device and counseling program, as a model for the basis of any drug and/or alcohol treatment program.

Thomas I.

