



June 19, 2015

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This letter of recommendation is for Kate Leroux who successfully managed a very large GIS project for the Washington Poison Center as part of her UW GIS Certificate Program. The project encompassed two quarters of work that included developing a project plan to define the business requirements for mapping needs, prioritizing the requests, researching the best methods to collect and represent the data, presenting the data in a mapping format delivering and then handing over the work for the WAPC to continue using and building upon the results of their efforts.

WAPC always felt that the data we collected on drug and poison exposures could have significant value in influencing decisions on public health concerns, and thereby improving health outcomes. However as a small 501(c)3 non-profit, we lacked the resources to tackle a project of this scope. When Kate selected our project, little did we know just how significantly valuable her work would prove to be for WAPC.

Kate handled the entire project with incredible professionalism, organization, and attention to detail. She quickly came up to speed in understanding the sensitive and complex nature of our work and the importance of representing our data accurately and effectively. She kept us regularly informed on project status, adjusted deliverable priorities based on our needs, documented all of her work, and consistently reviewed concepts as she was working on them to ensure they were accurate and in line with our expectations. The quality of Kate's work was exceptional and production ready, meaning that we were immediately able to share the maps with state agencies, health care providers and others to influence legislation, funding and public health education. We also included maps in our Annual Report, in press releases on trending toxicological concerns, and in presentations with health care organizations.

Kate's project was so successful that we ended up purchasing GIS software to continue use of the maps she created. I am grateful that Kate selected the WAPC project for her certificate program. She is a solid GIS project manager and would be an asset to any organization.

Sincerely,

Carrie M. Ulvestad

Executive Director