

December 30, 1959

P. O. Box 481
Houston 1, Texas

Mr. Ronald K. DeFord
Geology Department
University of Texas
Austin, Texas

Dear Ronald:

Mr. Joe Scates wrote me recently that he has applied for admission as a graduate student at the University of Texas. I have known Joe since the fall of 1956, when he entered the University of Houston as a graduate student and assistant, and have kept up with his progress since then.

Joe has always been a diligent person of good working habits and so has made good progress during his student days and is apparently doing very well with the Humble Oil and Refining Company. His understanding of the problems in geology and of the methods used was very good. He has a good mind. His field work in southern Brazos County on the Jackson Group that was intended as a Master's thesis was very well done and showed he was capable of doing independent research. Comparing him with the many other graduate students I have supervised, he would rank above the average. I believe his grades at the University of Houston in no way reflect his capabilities or performance. Joe is one of the innocent victims of a deplorable situation at that university.

Joe has demonstrated good ethics and a reliable, decent character, even under rather difficult conditions. He is a thoroughly good person and I believe he will reflect credit on your institution.

My best wishes for a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

H. B. Stenzel

HBS:nro