



August 10, 2008

RE: Ms. Jodie Smith-Bennett, EventFull Strategies

To Whom It May Concern:

The annual keynote event for the Harvard Black Men's Forum is the Celebration of Black Women. Started over a decade ago by members of the forum, the event has grown from a small gathering in a campus dining hall into a gala event attended by students, alumni, and local citizens befitting the radiance, brilliance, and accomplishment of the black women we honor every spring. Our guest list of honorees, including Morgan Stanley Managing Director Carla Harris and US Congresswoman Maxine Waters, further increased the public profile of our formerly cozy event.

But as any event organizer knows, however, attempting to expand an event of such importance to your organization and the community it serves is a nerve-wracking process full of potential pitfalls. I cannot imagine a person better at easing the stress, overcoming unforeseen obstacles, and making an important event turn out as amazing as possible than Jodie Smith-Bennett. She is an extraordinary communicator, brilliant task manager, and perhaps most importantly, an utter joy to work with. Without Jodie's mastery of detail and impeccable organizational skills, the scale of the two Celebrations of Black Women that Jodie oversaw would have likely overwhelmed us. As far as the members of the Harvard Black Men's Forum are concerned, Jodie Smith-Bennett of EventFull Strategies is supremely talented and worthy of the highest possible praise.

Sincerely,

Brandon M. Terry
Harvard Black Men's Forum President, 2003-2004
bterry@post.harvard.edu

Corpus Christi College
University of Oxford
Lidell Building 60 Iffley Road
Oxford, OX4 1EQ UK

Home: +44 8702760747
Mobile: +44 796263486

