

general

April 15, 1966

Selective Service
Local Board 33
250 Livingston Street
Brooklyn, New York 11201

Gentlemen:

I am writing this letter concerning [REDACTED] of [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] is to appear before you on April 18, requesting that his 1A classification be changed to 4D.

For purposes which will become apparent in the course of this letter, I request that it be kept confidential.

[REDACTED] was my student at Yeshiva University several years ago. I have, since then, kept up my acquaintance with him and his family, and have counseled him in the course of a number of difficulties which he has encountered.

During this time I have found him to be a young man of integrity, strongly devoted to his religious principles and inclined towards the calling of the rabbinate. He is descended from a long line of distinguished rabbis.

In the normal course of events, [REDACTED] would have continued his rabbinical studies without interruption, and would have by now received his ordination. I have never known him to entertain any other professional ambition. However, his development has been hampered by a number of personal crises which have unfortunately caused him to change from one school to another and have impeded his progress. The problems I refer to are psychological in nature. He has, at my suggestion, been under treatment by a psycho-therapist with whom I have been in contact. As you will know, psychiatric treatment rarely produces immediate results but must take its time. That is why his course has been so erratic. Nevertheless, it is my hope and belief that he is now beginning to find himself. His background and training are such that if he is to function normally it will

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be in the rabbinate. I feel that he is now undertaking his education with a view to ordination, and that he is therefore legitimately entitled to a 4D classification.

I hope that these facts will be of value to you in determining his status, and I thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

RABBI NORMAN LAMM

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