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July 19, 2003

Mr. Reimo Pettai, Acting Consul General  
Ms. Celia Kuningas, Consul  
Office of the Consulate General, Republic of Estonia  
600 Third Avenue, 26th floor  
New York, NY 10016-2001 USA

Dear Consul,

As part of my application for a temporary residence permit, with legal income that will ensure my subsistence, I am writing to explain my rationale for requesting this permit.

In spring of 2002, I relocated to western Maryland to head a satellite office for my employer, Sycamore Associates, Inc. While here, I discovered a unique exchange program between the local community college, Garrett College<sup>1</sup> and colleges in Estonia. Through this program, several local officials have visited Estonia and, in addition, more than a dozen college students in Estonia have come to Maryland to study at Garrett College.

It was my pleasure to meet many of these students, and my greater pleasure to develop a close friendship with one, Ave Kikas, who was studying at Garrett College through a program at her university, the Eesti Põllumajandusülikool<sup>2</sup>. Ave has interested me in her home country, and has had opportunity to show me part during a recent visit. I was engaged by its beauty and character, and impressed, as a software engineer, by the sophistication of internet infrastructure.

Ave departs in August of this year to complete her studies at her university in Estonia. It is my sincere desire to join her in Estonia in September, experiencing Estonia as a guest of Tallinn. My employer graciously supports my planned relocation, employing me at no less than my current salary, which is entirely sufficient to guarantee my subsistence while I am abroad.

I appreciate your consideration of my request. If I may be of any assistance during your consideration, do not hesitate to contact me.

Tänan väga,

Mike Hoolehan

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<sup>1</sup><http://www.garrettcollege.edu/>

<sup>2</sup><http://www.eau.ee/>