

Joseph M. Blevins
3505 N. 2nd St
Harrisburg PA 17110
513-491-0700
joseph.m.blevins@gmail.com

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I give Ahmad Khalid Siddiqi my highest and unqualified recommendation for special immigrant status under the Special Immigrant Visa program. Khalid's service to the U.S. resulted in serious threats to his family and his safety. To the best of my knowledge, Mr. Siddiqi has never presented a threat to the national security or safety of the United States, and I deeply endorse his application for an SIV in recognition of his record of service to the US Mission in Afghanistan.

Khalid served with me in Panjshir Province from October 2010 through July 2011. I was the commander of FOB Lion and the Panjshir Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) during that time, and Khalid was my Senior Cultural Advisor. He also served as the advisor to our State Department Representatives, the US AID representative, the US Embedded Training Team, the Security Force Assistance Team, and the Agricultural Development Team. Khalid lived and worked with us every day during my command. He was our direct link to the Provincial Governor, to every senior Afghan official in the Provincial government, and to the Afghan First Vice President's team when they hosted visitors including the ISAF Commander, the NATO Ambassador to Afghanistan, and the US Ambassador to Afghanistan.

Khalid went on missions with us on a daily basis. He risked his life every day, not only on missions, but simply by living with us on the FOB. Khalid had, and continues to have, my complete trust and confidence. I can also speak for the Commanders that preceded and followed me, and for the State Department Directors who were with us during those years. Khalid has a flawless record of faithful service to the US. He is exemplary as to why the Special Immigrant Visa program exists and is necessary.

During my 26 years in the military, including combat tours in Bosnia ('96), Iraq ('08), and Afghanistan ('10-'12), I have not served with a more intelligent, trusted, and courageous advisor than Ahmad Khalid Siddiqi. If you have questions regarding my recommendation, please contact me directly and I would be proud to offer additional information.

Sincerely,



Joseph M. Blevins
Colonel, US Air Force(ret)