

December 28th, 2017

Letter of Recommendation for Mike Tevelonis and The Botanics Wholesale Team in South FL
(www.botanics.com)

We have been interacting with Mike and his team since 2015, and wanted to go on record with a “high five” to thank him for his excellent customer service in our plant and tree related needs since we first came in contact.

In late 2015, I sent out a request for quote for a container load of plants I needed to be prepared and shipped to the British Virgin Islands. At that time, I solicited six different wholesale tree companies and Mike was so far outstanding above the rest in pricing, responsiveness, continuous communications versus any of the other bidders, I proceeded with Botanics for our purchase without a second thought. We elected to have Mike provide a complete container of plants to ship from Fort Lauderdale destined for Virgin Gorda, and his service was outstanding. Mike provided a detailed quote along with photos of the plants he would propose to provide and height measurements specified as minimum height a key part of our need. They shipped all plants precisely as described with all the prep work required to get them into the container, loaded them and provided all the spray/treatment required for entry into the BVI. They also coordinated our shipment with our freight forwarder, all a part of their service at no additional cost. All documentation was included and we didn't lose a single plant from Mike's shipment; every plant healthy and happy upon arrival and clearance of customs in the BVI. Mike and his staff followed up continuously and took all the work out of the buying and shipping process for us. I have vowed now to have our large palms and plants including bouganvilla, smaller palm varieties purchased through Botanics Wholesale as we now find ourselves in the post hurricane IRMA period, where we will require many new plants on the property. We anticipate ordering these during 2018. Our neighbors here in the BVI have elected to follow my lead for the containers of plants we'll be purchasing through Botanics Wholesale.

During the period immediately following IRMA, our gardening staff on Virgin Gorda had an immediate need for banding supplies and tools to tie up and stabilize palms. I knew of no one with whom I could address this need and knowledgeable of these supplies, and I reached out to Mike, only to get an immediate reply; he stepped right up and suggested he knew exactly what was needed, and volunteered to get me pricing for the equipment, and proceed on his own to purchase all of it, package it, and ship it to my freight forwarder at his cost, simply to help.

Lastly throughout all my communications with Mike and his staff, I have gotten replies from him when I was on the west coast in the evening hours, knowing the time difference, and knowing the guy is constantly in touch with his customers or prospective customers.

I cannot say enough about what a pleasure it is to have come in contact with Mike and to have the opportunity to use Botanics Wholesale as the resource for plants and trees in South Florida.

We will look no further than to Mike when we are ready to pull the trigger on our next shipment of plants and trees from South Florida.

Sincerely,
Barry D Bakner
Whale Bay, Virgin Gorda