THAT OTHERS MAY RISE

Paul Miller, founder.director@thatothersmayrise.org

Interview Checklist

Before the Interview: Know the job and company you are interviewing for, research it.

I. When the Call or Email Comes for the Interview

- a. What, Where, When, Who and How? Write it down, any special instructions?
- b. How many people will sit on the board and who (positions).
- c. How will the interview be conducted?

II. **Prepping for the Interview**: Prep should be job specific.

- a. Reuse Your Resume Accomplishment List:
- b. Situation / Scene, Task, Action (yours), Result (STAR).
 - i. **Situation / Scene:** What is happening, what is the problem that needs to be fixed?
 - ii. Task: What needs to be done by you?
 - iii. Action: What did you do?
 - iv. **Results:** What was the end result?
 - v. Six to eight (6-8) different scenarios.
 - vi. Rehearse, Rehearse, Rehearse, MUST practice OUT LOUD.
 - vii. One to two (1-2) minutes answers.
- c. Location: Know the interview location, do a dry run.
 - i. **Prepare a Mini-Portfolio / Paper**: Think of it as, an abridged version of a portfolio, highlighting "why they **should hire YOU over the other candidates**."
 - 1. Introduction; Letters of Recommendation; Work Products; List Honors and Recognitions; Pictures, etc. Put it all in a folder / binder.

III. The Interview

- a. **Dress the Part:** Pressed and clean clothes and appropriate clean shoes.
- b. **Don't Over Do It:** Easy on the cologne / perfume, and jewelry. No headphones.
- c. **Be Early**: Check traffic, be early even if you have to wait in the parking lot or coffee shop.
- d. **Arrival to Room**: Fifteen (15) minutes early, be polite and ask where you can wait. **Note: If by Phone / Video**: Confirm number know how the video / media equipment operates
- e. **Materials**: Bring a clean tablet and pen for jotting down any notes.

IV. Meeting the Interviewers

- a. **Interviewers:** Introduce yourself, respectful and courteous. Eye contact not a stare down.
- b. **Mini-Portfolio / Letter**: Hand out your portfolio / letter / paper
- c. **Intro / Questions**: Listen and ask questions! No twenty (20) questions! Is it OK to jot down notes and may you refer to notes?

V. <u>Interview Questions</u>:

- i. Listen to the question, ask clarification questions.
- ii. Remember short, concise and to the point answers. Use STAR. 1-2 minutes.
- iii. Divide your eye contact equally amongst them as you answer.
- iv. Don't BS, be up front if you don't know, provide a best answer that might fit.
 - 1. In-Person: Be sharp, maintain eye contact, good posture, read their visual cues.
 - 2. Video: Delay in sound; where is the camera; body language may be hard.
 - 3. Telephone: Ensure they know when you are finished answering a question.

VI. Finally. Let the interviewers wrap it up.

- a. Ask when and how they would notify you of selection for the position.
- b. Tell them why you are the good choice for their team!

VII. Follow-up After

Send a Thank You Note, remind them why you are a good fit. No ego.