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To the Gigantic Playground Hiring Team,

I've known Jeffery Ferguson — "Phoenix" — for close to two decades, going back to some of our earliest work reverse-engineering Microsoft Flight Simulator internals and legacy DOS-era software together, long before either of us did this professionally. That early hobbyist work turned into a real professional pattern: Jeffery brings me in on the technical reverse-engineering, and he handles the client relationship and project management.

Two concrete examples. In 2023, through his company Phoenix Tech LLC, Jeffery brought me on for a contracted engagement reverse-engineering legacy software at the bootloader level — a genuinely technical piece of work he scoped and managed from the client side. More recently, in 2025 and 2026, he brokered and project-managed a relationship with a flight-simulator add-on developer where I did the actual engineering — rewriting broken licensing-activation code in their helicopter add-ons — while he ran point on the client side.

We also crossed paths professionally at El Toro, the adtech company where I've been Principal Engineer for over a decade — Jeffery did business-development work with our platform and materials on his own client side for several years. A mutual client of ours once described the two of us as "my programmers for the last fourteen years," which is about right.

Jeffery is technically fluent enough to scope real engineering work accurately, and he's good at the part a lot of technical people aren't — explaining it to a client and keeping the relationship on track. I recommend him without reservation.

Nicholas Jacobsen · Principal Engineer, El Toro

Draft prepared for Nicholas Jacobsen's review, editing, and signature. Please adjust anything that doesn't reflect your own words before signing, and add your preferred contact details in the header.