

February 5, 2018

FBI Headquarters
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20535-0001

Miss Buitter
2/5/2018
1st Hour

Dear Director Joshua D. Skule:

Have you ever had the pleasure of reading the novel *The Hound of the Baskervilles* by the legendary Sir Arthur Conan Doyle? If so, you are well-acquainted with my recent history and background. My name is Sherlock Holmes, and I make it my business to know what other people do not know. If you google my name you will see many articles by my good friend Dr. John Watson, highlighting several of the cases I have solved, and you will also see that I have recently obtained my U.S. citizenship. Although I love London and enjoy assisting Scotland Yard detectives, I am most interested in applying for the position of intelligence analyst at the FBI. I think you will find that my flexibility, intelligence, and tenacity will make me an ideal fit for your department.

Flexibility is a quality that you demand, and one I have definitely acquired while solving mysteries and experiencing adventures all over the world. I recently spent several weeks living in a hut on the moor in the Devonshire region of England, while I was attempting to catch a notorious criminal named Jack Stapleton. As you may have heard, I was successful, but I relied on a young boy to deliver my simple, tasteless food each day, worked with my colleague Dr. Watson from a distance, and organized all the details of the case while living in very primitive conditions. During the course of my latest adventure, I also traveled a lot by foot, by cab, and by train. I am very comfortable

going and coming at odd hours, and I would be willing to work in whatever conditions you deem necessary to get vital information and resolve important cases.

Intelligence is your business, and it is both my business and my singular passion. I love a mental challenge, and my mind stagnates without a difficult puzzle to ponder. It all comes down to noticing the details, and on my last case I was able to solve the crime due to careful analysis of a letter which revealed a woman's hand in the crime, examination of a boot which proved the presence of a real hound in the case, and consideration of a painting which unmasked the infamous Jack Stapleton. Further discovery of some official public records revealed this man was actually a Baskerville descendant intent on killing his unsuspecting relatives and taking the family wealth for himself. I firmly believe "The world is full of obvious things which nobody by any chance ever observes." Nobody that is—except me.

While tenacity may not sound as impressive as intelligence, I believe it is the quality that helps me successfully complete any job or mission. As I told my friend Watson on my last adventure, "There is nothing more stimulating than a case where everything goes against you." I have never before encountered so many broken leads, or "threads" as I call them, like I did while trying to solve *The Hound of the Baskervilles* case. For instance, I performed thorough research, dispatched my messenger boy Cartwright to 23 hotels to track down the newspaper used to write a mysterious letter, sent a telegram to Baskerville Hall to determine if a mysterious butler named Barrymore was there, followed a cabman to track down a villain—and all to no avail. Every single effort at the beginning of the case proved futile. However, I never gave up, and I outwitted, outlasted, and outplayed my opponent. I believed I would solve the case and

confidently told Watson, "I shall soon be in the position of being able to put into a single connected narrative one of the most singular and sensational crimes of modern times." I sent him to be my eyes at Baskerville Hall, watched surreptitiously from the moor and kept in daily communication with him, did my own research and interviewed the local inhabitants of Devonshire. Step by step, detail by detail, I tracked down the criminal mastermind.

While I hope this has been an interesting read, I also hope you will seriously consider my application. I would be simply delighted to fill this intelligence position, and I truly thank you for taking time to read this letter and for considering my skills. If you wish to discuss this further, you can reach me by letter at 221B Baskerville Drive, Bowie, Maryland 20721, call me at 1-800-4HOLMES, or email me at Itselementarymydearwatson@gmail.com. I am currently on a case in Moscow that President Trump assigned to me, but after I return I will be glad to discuss any job options you may have to offer. The President likes to contact me via my Twitter account at @ContactSH, so feel free to use that method as well. Cheerio!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature consisting of the letters 'S' and 'H' in a cursive, stylized font.

Mr. Sherlock Holmes