

A 'Statement of Fact' by employee Carlida Finch given as part of a submission to the Labor Board for employment insurance after being fired by cult leader Devra Patton West AKA the Ascended Master 'Surya Ma.'

Office administration, liaison with employment agencies, established office protocols and procedures, created weekly schedule, acted as personal assistant, making sure that all creature comforts were handled while Dr. West was in the office and executive secretary to Dr. Devra Patton West screening and highlighting salient information from all correspondence received by post or my electronic mail. Physically organized office. Did all secretarial duties for Dr. West and Dr. Patricia Cole. Answered all phone calls. Edited and formatted Dr. West's spiritual communications with the "Ascended Masters". Assisted in projects like e-mail or mail out promotion to Dr. West's former church members and disciples to help continue her self promotion as an individual who had gained "enlightenment" in the east spiritual sense. It was her "mandate" to help the "Ascended Masters" ie. Jesus Christ, Buddha etc. to become flesh again on Earth as the "time has come for celestial intervention".

Location of your last job: **Lakeside. MT**
My wages were: **\$ 15.00**

Please describe the reason for your separation from

On April 27th, my co-workers and I had completed an assigned 500 person mail out that had a deadline of April 30th. At the Friday morning meeting, Devra acknowledged that the mailer had gone out before deadline but stated that she was clairvoyant and could see that negative thought forms were present, she therefore used her pendulum to divine the "energy" under which the mailer had gone out and the pendulum indicated that it was achieved under negative energy. She stated that her work, the "Teachings of Wisdom" were sacred and that the staff had been overheard making fun of them. She said that all of her employees must be engaged in her "philosophy". She had in the past been the central figure in her own church, Divine Unity" she made the decision to become a commercial enterprise at which time she used the Job Service to obtain employees. Friday she stated that employees must believe & follow her spiritual mandate. I resigned.

What steps did you take to remedy the situation prior to your separation?

At this point, I did nothing. I had already been the subject of Dr. West's anger and had overheard her striking her "disciple" Dr. Patricia Cole, witnessed the continual denegration of Dr. Cole by Devra. Per Devra and Dr. Cole Devra was destroying Dr. Cole's ego in Dr. Cole's quest for "enlightenment" I have documentation re an assault made on Dr Cole by Devra, though I did not see the assault, I did see the bruises. I could not see any way to remedy this situation.

Left Employment Due to Dissatisfaction with Working Conditions

What working conditions were you not satisfied with?

Dr West was verbally abusive daily with Dr. Cole her "disciple" she attributed it to the "Law of Severity" required for spiritual enlightenment. Some time between Jan and Mar 2006 I overheard Devra tell Pat the she would "take a hammer and break every bone in her hands" Devra later told me that she did not care if she killed Pat because she, as an enlightened being had no ego so could spend her life in prison as easily as in a 6 million dollar home. On April 17th Dr. Cole came to work with bruises on her hands and wrists. I asked her about them and she said that she had whacked them. On April 22 I found a document written by Devra, it was an account of her asking the Masters about the "altercation" with Dr. Cole. According to Devra the Masters are the Shamballa Council, a group of enlightened beings that she meets with regularly in her meditations.

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Were the conditions temporary or permanent? **Permanent**

Please explain how the working conditions affected you:

Dr. West believes that the rest of the world operates out of the "lesser" mind, as opposed to the "Christ conscious" enlightened mind.

Unless willing to submit to Dr. West destroying the lesser mind through her techniques of Transpersonal psychology and eastern traditions she felt her employees had no value. It is disconcerting to be forced to adopt your employer's philosophy as modus operandi for your own life and discouraging to have 35 years of experience in the work place denegated for the same reason. Devra recently stated, after hiring Ray Solanki as her business manager that she would only hire disciples as execs for the corp, leaving those who don't join her with no chance for advancement. Mr. Solanki introduced himself as "from another planet" at the first staff meeting at which he was present. Devra was unhappy with the way employees treated her, we did not stand each time she entered or left the room. In the past she had rose petals spread at her feet by disciples

Are these conditions common to the job you worked in? **Yes**
Did you advise the employer the conditions were unsafe or unreasonable? **No**

Why didn't you talk to the employer about your dissatisfaction with the working conditions?

Dr West was subtly abusive, she constantly extolled her "genius and brilliance" while denigrating anyone else's abilities. There was no such thing as conversation, she did all the talking even talking over everyone else. I tried to just humor her and keep my job as it paid well. How does one talk to one's employer about their abusive behavior?

Did you file a complaint with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration? **No**

What date did you file the complaint:

Were the conditions a result of a change in job duties? **No**

How long did you work under conditions you thought were unsatisfactory? **Since February**

Were there any written or stated rules and/or agreements regarding working conditions when you were hired? **No**

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