

Pam McDaniel
Compliance Specialist
Dept of Labor & Industry
Employment Relations Division
PO Box 6518
Helena, MT 59604-6518

October 9th 2003

Dear Madam,

Re: Joseph Costantino – SS Number 081-725339

Mr. Costantino passed me a copy of the letter you sent him on October 7th 2003.

I am writing in respect of the statement given by Jack West of The Circle of Divine Unity but before I comment I want to identify myself and my connection to Mr Costantino, Jack West and the charity known as The Circle of Divine Unity.

I was for a brief period between January 2002 and August 2002 Ms West's Business Manager. During this period Devra West, the charities principal, asked me to 'oversee' her charity with a view to offering managerial and financial training to the staff which included Mr. Costantino.

I terminated my association with Ms West and her organizations in August last year, I did so because Ms West (and her close associates) lacked integrity both in her 'business' dealings and in the way she treated people. Like the Costantino's and others I left being owed pay and expenses. Unlike the Costantino's I had the financial resources to pursue my claims through the courts. After getting lawyers involved I got paid my back-pay and expenses for my work at the charity. Ms West will soon be appearing in court to answer my claims for pay and compensation in respect of my work in setting up one of her private companies.

I can tell you from first hand knowledge that there is a 'policy' of offering employees high wages and conditions as an inducement to get them to give up their employment elsewhere and in some cases move from different parts of the country to come and work for the charity. Once there, often within days the wages are reduced and or offers of health insurance (there never has been health insurance) withdrawn.

With regard to Jack West's statement - most of what he said is untrue! No one repeat no one not even Jack West has any discretion to make any decisions in that organization. The only person making decisions in that organization is Ms West herself. No one is allowed the least discretion to make even the smallest of decisions.

The hiring and firing is all done by Ms West who 'micro manages' every aspect of daily life like a medieval baron overseeing her serfs. New employees quickly realize that their role in the organization is to do exactly what they are told. Initiative is not rewarded indeed it is frowned upon. The idea that Mr. Costantino was some kind of executive or had executive authority is laughable!

It is a general consensus amongst the employees who have come and gone (and there are many) that Ms West and her inner circle are running a cult. Employees are pressured into attending 'meditation' in their own time before work starts and at the same time 'made' to sign a piece of paper acknowledging that it is done 'voluntarily!'

There are many reports of mental and physical abuse amongst students and employees alike but many have been afraid to report these abuses to the authorities for fear of being intimidated. Those who leave are cut off from their friends as there is a strict policy of avoiding contact with ex employees and students. Those who break this rule are 'interrogated by Ms West and her cohorts namely Jack West & Anandra (Allison) George.

You do not have to take my word for any of this as over the past few months many ex employees (including two who have departed in the last ten days) have come forward and given lengthy statements to my lawyers in connection with my impending court case against Ms West. These statements confirm in harrowing detail that there is and have been systematic abuse of employees and their rights.

Any dispassionate look at the number of employees that have been through that place in the last two years will tell you that there is something dreadfully wrong. I have names of approximately a dozen that you should interview. However to assist you with your investigations several that have given statements to my lawyer have agreed to make their statements available to The Dept of Labor in order that you might ascertain what is really happening.

I suggest that you call my lawyer, Ms Jennifer Lint, on 406-375-1385, she will provide you with whatever information that you may require in order to establish the truth around this matter and in a way that will not compromise my own case against Ms West.

Yours truly,

John Watson

PO Box 386, Victor, Montana 59875 USA.
Tel: 406-642-3874
Fax: 406-642-9052