RACHAEL HOWE,	§	IN THE COUNTY COURT AUG 27 (A 1: 25
Plaintiff,	§	
vs.	8 8 e	AT LAW NO. 2 CARLAGEOURTY
YELLOWBOOK USA AND MAX ANDREWS	8 8 8	SCANNED
Defendants.	8 §	DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS

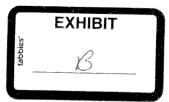
# PLAINTIFF, RACHAEL HOWE'S, ORIGINAL PETITION

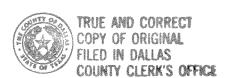
# TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

NOW COMES Rachael Howe, hereinafter called Plaintiff, complaining of and about Yellowbook USA and Max Andrews, hereinafter called Defendants, and for cause of action shows unto the Court the following:

## PARTIES AND SERVICE

- Plaintiff, is a citizen of the United States and the State of Kentucky and resides in 1. Kentucky.
- 2. Defendant Max Andrews is a citizen of the State of Texas. Said Defendant may be personally served with process at the following address: 253 Meadow Creek Lane, Burleson, Texas 76028. Service may be effected by certified mail, return receipt requested.
- 3. Defendant YellowBook USA may be served by serving Joe Walsh, its CEO and agent (in lieu of naming a specific agent, as required by the Secretary of State), authorized to accept service at 398 RXR Plaza, Uniondale, NY 11556. Service may be effected by certified mail, return receipt requested.





# JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 4. The action arises under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, as hereinafter more fully appears.
  - 5. The action also arises under the Texas Commission on Human Rights Act.
- 6. Venue is proper in Dallas County, Texas as Defendant YellowBook USA does business in this county.

# NATURE OF ACTION

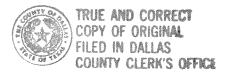
7. This is an action under Title 42 U.S.C. Section 2000e et. seq. as amended by the Civil Rights Act of 1991, , and the Texas Commission on Human Rights Act, to correct unlawful employment practices on the basis of sex, fraudulent representations, intentional infliction of emotional distress, and battery.

# **CONDITIONS PRECEDENT**

8. All conditions precedent to jurisdiction have occurred or been complied with.

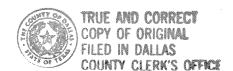
# **FACTS**

- 9. Ms. Howe had been employed by YellowBook USA and its predecessors for fifteen years. In fact, Ms. Howe was the co-founder in 1993 of her own Yellow Page company, Western Kentucky Publishing. Due to Ms. Howe's success, that company was sold to TransWestern Publishing, where in 1999, Ms. Howe received TransWestern's highest award, the "Grandmaster" of the President's Club. Ms. Howe continued to work at TransWestern until 2005, when that company was sold to Yellowbook USA. During Ms. Howe's employment at Yellowbook USA, Ms. Howe received many accolades and ranked highly among her peers.
  - 10. In November, 2009, Ms. Howe reached an agreement with YellowBook USA



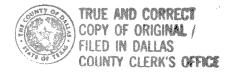
whereby she would move from Kentucky to Waco, Texas so that she might be positioned to become an Area Manager. Ms. Howe transferred to Waco as a District Sales Manager with the understanding and promise, including those promises and representations made by Defendant Max Andrews that she would be promoted to the Area Manager position.

- Regional Sales Manager. Beforehand, Ms. Howe had conversations with Max Andrews (GSM) and Don White (RSM) where Ms. Howe only agreed to accept and uproot her family if she was to be promoted to the AM position. Ms. Howe was assured during many conversations, which included Mr. Andrews, that she would, in fact, be promoted within a very short time, to the AM position.
- 12. Ms. Howe had a meeting with Defendant Andrews on January 13, 2010. After the brief meeting, Mr. Andrews advised Ms. Howe that he would travel to Waco, Texas for the first 50% canvas rep reviews. Mr. Andrews, at that meeting, assured Ms. Howe that she had made the correct career move and she would be happy in Texas. In subsequent emails, text messages and phone calls, Mr. Andrews was always extremely complimentary regarding Ms. Howe's performance.
- Ms. Howe's team presented exceptionally well, as they were actually at 60% to pace. Mr. Andrews insisted that Ms. Howe accompany him to dinner. Mr. Andrews advised Ms. Howe it was traditional and part of the culture of the company that managers have dinner meetings that were followed by drinks afterwards. Mr. Andrews drove Ms. Howe to a restaurant where they had dinner and talked about the reviews, the reps and his overall assessment of Ms. Howe's job



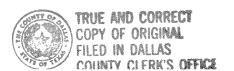
performance to date. Mr. Andrews told Ms. Howe she was doing a great job, that she was a breath of fresh air and he was very proud to have her in his region. Mr. Andrews was still flattering and praising Ms. Howe when the restaurant closed after 10:00 PM.

- Andrews began ordering shots. In fact, Mr. Andrews ordered at least five rounds of shots. Ms. Howe left the table and told the bartender that if Mr. Andrews ordered any more drinks for her, to make sure hers were water only. She told the bartender that Mr. Andrews was her boss and asked he please be discrete regarding pouring her water instead of liquor. At approximately 2:00 AM, March 2, 2010, Mr. Andrews drove Ms. Howe to her hotel. Ms. Howe took her dog for a walk and when she returned to her room, Mr. Andrews was in her room. Mr. Andrews then undressed and attempted to force himself upon Ms. Howe. Mr. Andrews touched Mr. Howe and attempted to force Ms. Howe into having sex. Ms. Howe refused the advances and attempted to push him out of her room. Mr. Andrews told Ms. Howe he was going to finish what he had started. Ms. Howe forced him out of her room and immediately called her supervisor, Don White. Ms. Howe told Mr. White that Mr. Andrews had just taken advantage of her and used his power over her career to force himself upon her.
- 15. After the incident, Mr. White, on several occasions, apologized for Max's behavior and said he wished he had been in Waco that evening so that Ms. Howe would not have been placed in the terrible situation she found herself in.
- 16. At 8:00 AM on Tuesday morning, Mr. Andrews texted Ms. Howe on the pretext of conducting business. Ms. Howe reported that pretext to Mr. White and Ms. Howe advised Mr. White that she could not work for Mr. Andrews as he would be making decisions regarding her



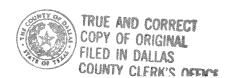
career. Ms. Howe expressed her concern that she would be retaliated against for reporting this incident, as appropriate, to her supervisor. Very shortly thereafter, Mr. Andrews called Ms. Howe to ask how Ms. Howe was feeling, that his actions in forcing himself on her were stupid, that he was sorry and that he apologized.

- 17. After receiving several more emails from Mr. Andrews and reporting those to Mr. White, Mr. White directed Ms. Howe to call Karen Maier (HR Director for YellowBook USA). Ms. Howe called Ms. Maier and advised Ms. Maier that she was mentally, emotionally and physically damaged and distraught by her supervisor's sexual harassment and inappropriate and illegal actions. Ms. Maier suggested that my client call Mr. Andrews and "try to work this out." Ms. Howe told Ms. Maier that she absolutely would not make that phone call to the sexual harasser that controlled her career. Ms. Maier then said she would have to call and talk to Mr. Andrews and get his version of the evening.
- 18. On March 3, 2010, Ms. Howe was told by Don White that Mr. White had talked to Mr. Andrews, and that Mr. Andrews was very sorry. In fact, in Mr. White's conversation with him, Mr. Andrews confirmed that the advances were unwelcomed, inappropriate, illegal and egregious. Shortly thereafter, Mr. Andrews texted Ms. Howe yet again "spoke to Don...Would really like to talk to you if at all possible." Mr. Andrews then texted Ms. Howe "the Temple review was one of the best prepared reviews I have ever seen!...You have been nothing short of spectacular and your efforts and hard work are definitely being noticed! You are an awesome manager and greatly appreciated by all of us! Thanks again for what you are doing, and let me know if I can help in any way!"
  - 19. On Wednesday, March 3, 2010, Ms. Maier called Ms. Howe and told her that Mr.



Andrews had confirmed the same story Ms. Howe had told Ms. Maier, and Mr. Andrews was sincerely sorry and was accepting the full responsibility for his actions. Ms. Maier then told Ms. Howe that she had informed Mr. Andrews not to contact Ms. Howe again.

- 20. On Thursday, March 4, 2010, Ms. Howe called Todd Pike (VP at YellowBook USA. Ms. Howe explained the entire evening of events. Mr. Pike apologized for what Ms. Howe was having to deal with. Mr. Pike said he could not call Mr. Andrews as Ms. Howe had talked to HR, and HR needed to conduct their investigation. Mr. Pike said he would call Ms. Maier and that he would be available if Ms. Howe needed anything.
- 21. On Friday, March 5, 2010, Ms. Maier called Ms. Howe regarding Ms. Howe's belief that Mr. Andrews had a history of this type of sexual harassment, and creating a hostile work environment, and that Ms. Howe was not the first employee forced upon by Mr. Andrews.
- 22. Despite uncontroverted facts and simple apologies, to this date, no action has been taken against Mr. Andrews, punitive or otherwise. Instead, Ms. Howe was placed in an untenable position. Ms. Howe could not work for Mr. Andrews, and as Mr. Andrews remains in the same position as before the incident, any advancement, as was promised and represented before Ms. Howe uprooted her family and moved to Waco, Texas, was now impossible.
- 23. As a matter of fact, as she feared, Ms. Howe was now the subject of retaliation for reporting Mr. Andrews illegal and unwelcome actions. YellowBook USA painted Ms. Howe's move to Waco, Texas as a demotion. This was far from the truth. While Ms. Howe was in Louisville, and especially the last year there, she exceeded 100% of the objectives YellowBook USA set for her. The trend continued when Ms. Howe was offered the opportunity to advance her career by moving to Waco. The records reflect while in Louisville, for the fourth quarter "Deal or

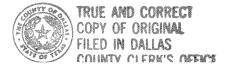


No Deal" of 2009, the office finished over 100% and the performance of the Waco office was actually near the bottom of your grid. For the first quarter of 2010, "The Main Event" Louisville was near the bottom, and Waco is closer to the top. Therefore, YellowBook USA's attempts to defame Ms. Howe's performance, yet take no action against Mr. Andrews, was flagrant retaliation.

- 24. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' actions, Ms. Howe was constructively terminated as she could no longer work in the Texas office as Mr. Andrews remained her superior, and YellowBook USA would not allow Ms. Howe to return to work at its Louisville, Kentucky offices.
- 25. Only recently, long after taking its unlawful and retaliatory actions against Ms. Howe, YellowBook USA has terminated Mr. Andrews.

# SEXUAL HARASSMENT

- 26. Defendants, Yellowbook USA and Max Andrews, by and through Defendants' agents, intentionally engaged in unlawful employment practices involving Plaintiff because she is a female.
- 27. Defendants, Yellowbook USA and Max Andrews, by and through Defendants' agents, intentionally discriminated against Plaintiff in connection with the compensation, terms, conditions and privileges of employment or limited, segregated or classified Plaintiff in a manner that would deprive or tend to deprive her of any employment opportunity or adversely affect her status because of Plaintiff's sex in violation of Title VII.
- 28. Defendants, Yellowbook USA and Max Andrews, by and through Defendants' agents, intentionally classified Plaintiff in a manner that deprived her of an equal employment



opportunity that was provided to male employees similarly situated in violation of 42 U.S.C. Section 2000e (2) (a).

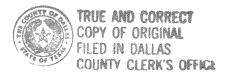
- 29. Defendants, Yellowbook USA and Max Andrews, by and through Defendants' agents, sexually harassed Plaintiff, as described above, in violation of her rights under 42 U.S.C. Section 2000e (2) (a). Defendants, Yellowbook USA and Max Andrews, knew or should have known of the harassment, yet failed to take prompt remedial action
- 30. Plaintiff alleges that Defendants, Yellowbook USA and Max Andrews, by and through Defendants' agents, sexually harassed Plaintiff on the basis of sex with malice or with reckless indifference to the federal-protected rights of Plaintiff.
  - 31. The actions complained of are *quid pro quo* sexual harassment.

### RESPONDEAT SUPERIOR AND RATIFICATION

32. Whenever in this complaint it is alleged that the Defendant, YellowBook USA, did any act or thing, it is meant that the Defendant's officers, agents, servants, employees or representatives did such act and/or that at that time such act was done, it was done with the full authorization or ratification of the Defendant or was done in the normal and routine course and scope of employment of Defendant's officers, agents, servants, employees, or representatives.

# INTENTIONAL INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS BY MAX ANDREWS

33. Defendant Max Andrews intentionally or recklessly entering Plaintiff's hotel room while she was walking her dog, undressing, touching Plaintiff and attempting to force himself on Plaintiff was extreme and outrageous and proximately caused Plaintiff severe emotional distress. Plaintiff suffered damages for which Plaintiff herein sues.



# INTENTIONAL INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS BY YELLOWBOOK USA

34. Defendant YellowBook USA intentionally or recklessly retaining Ms. Andrews, when it knew, or should have known, that he had exhibited this kind of conduct in the past and in light of these facts. Defendant's conduct was extreme and outrageous and proximately caused Plaintiff severe emotional distress. Plaintiff suffered damages for which Plaintiff herein sues.

# NEGLIGENT SUPERVISION AND RETENTION BY YELLOWBOOK USA

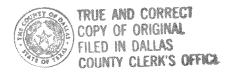
35. Plaintiff alleges that the conduct of Defendant YellowBook USA constituted negligent supervision and retention. Plaintiff alleges that Defendant YellowBook USA did not properly screen, evaluate, investigate, or take any reasonable steps regarding Mr. Andrews and judge the risk to Plaintiff. Defendant YellowBook USA's failure to exercise reasonable care in the supervision and retention of Ms. Andrews was and is the proximate cause of damages to Plaintiff for which Plaintiff hereby sues.

### RETALIATION

36. Plaintiff alleges that Defendants, Yellowbook USA and Max Andrews, instituted a campaign of retaliation against Plaintiff for complaints regarding the sexual harassment she was forced to endure. This retaliation was and is due to Plaintiff exercising her rights by opposing a discriminatory practice. Plaintiff suffered damages for which Plaintiff herein sues.

# FRAUDULENT REPRESENTATIONS

37. Plaintiff alleges that Defendants, Yellowbook USA and Max Andrews, made representations to Plaintiff regarding Defendants' promises to Plaintiff to induce Plaintiff to move from Lexington, Kentucky to Waco, Texas. These representations were made fraudulently



or with reckless disregard to their truth or falsity.

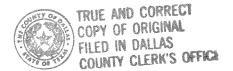
38. Plaintiff relied on these representations, moved to Waco, Texas, and as a direct and proximate result, has been damaged.

# **ASSAULT & BATTERY**

- 39. Plaintiff would show the Court that Defendant Max Andrews acted intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly, and Defendant Andrews made contact with Plaintiff's person.
- 40. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant Andrew's contact, Plaintiff suffered great injury.

# **DAMAGES**

- 41. Plaintiff sustained the following damages as a result of the actions and/or omissions of Defendants described hereinabove:
  - a. At least \$2,000,000.00;
  - b. All reasonable and necessary Attorney's fees incurred by or on behalf of Plaintiff;
  - All reasonable and necessary costs incurred in pursuit of this suit;
  - d. Emotional pain;
  - e. Expert fees as the Court deems appropriate;
  - f. Inconvenience;
  - g. Interest;
  - h. Loss of enjoyment of life;
  - i. Mental anguish in the past; and
  - j. Mental anguish in the future.



# **EXEMPLARY DAMAGES**

42. Plaintiff would further show that the acts and omissions of Defendants complained of herein were committed with malice or reckless indifference to the protected rights of the Plaintiff. In order to punish said Defendants for engaging in unlawful business practices and to deter such actions and/or omissions in the future, Plaintiff also seeks recovery from Defendants for exemplary damages.

# **PRAYER**

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Plaintiff, Rachael Howe, respectfully prays that the Defendants be cited to appear and answer herein, and that upon a final hearing of the cause, judgment be entered for the Plaintiff against Defendants, jointly and severally, for damages in an amount within the jurisdictional limits of the Court; exemplary damages, as addressed to each Defendant, together with interest as allowed by law; costs of court; and such other and further relief to which the Plaintiff may be entitled at law or in equity.

Respectfully submitted,

LAW OFFICES OF DAVID BELL, P.C.

By:

DAVID BELL

Texas Bar No. 02075500

8350 MEADOW ROAD, SUITE 186

DALLAS, TEXAS 75231

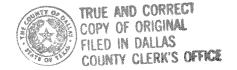
Tel. (214)368-3191

Fax. (214)987-3169

Attorney for Plaintiff

Rachael Howe

# PLAINTIFF HEREBY DEMANDS A TRIAL BY JURY



TO: filed in said Court on the 27th day of August, 2010, a copy of which accompanies this citation

THE STATE OF TEXAS

**UORIGIN** 

COUNTY COURT OF DALLAS COUNTY COURT AT LAW NO. 2 CAUSE NO. CC-10-05901-B

Dallas County, Texas 2818 SEP 110

253 MEADOW CREEK LANE

MAX ANDREWS

**BURLESON TX 76028** 

said County 600 Commerce Street Suite 101, Dallas, and Texas 75202. should be addressed to the clerk of County Court at Law No. 2 of Dallas County, Texas, at the Court House of after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you." Your answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a WRITTEN ANSWER

# vs. YELLOWBOOK USA, MAX ANDREWS RACHAEL HOWE Plaintiff(s),

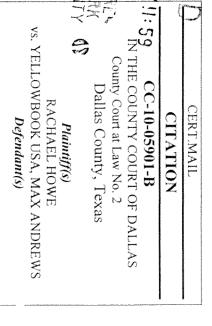
Defendant(s)

HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, at Dallas, Texas, and issued this 27th day of August, 2010 A.D WITNESS: JOHN WARREN, Clerk of the County Courts of Dallas County, Texas. GIVEN UNDER MY

JOHN WARREN, Clerk, County Court, Dallas County Court at Law No. 2, Dallas County, Texas







SERVE:

253 MEADOW CREEK LANE **BURLESON TX 76028** MAX ANDREWS

27th day of August, 2010 ISSUED THIS

BY: TONYA SEAL, Deputy John F. Warren, County Clerk

Attorney for Plaintiff

LAW OFFICES OF DAVID BELL P C 8350 MEADOW ROAD STE 186 DALLAS DAVID BELL 214-368-3191

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or on the front if space permits.

 Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, so that we can return the card to you.

Print your name and address on the reverse

Item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired.

■ Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION

If YES, enter delivery address below:

D. Is delivery address different from item 1?

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY

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OFFICER'S RETURN

# THE STATE OF TEXAS

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SERVE CEO AND AGENT JOE WALSH

YELLOWBOOK USA

398 RXR PLAZA

**UNIONDALE NY 11556** 

COUNTY COURT OF DALLAS COUNTY COURT A THIN SEP 20 AM 10: 22 CAUSE NO. CC-10-05901-B

Dallas County, Texas

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IN THE COUNTY COURT OF DALLAS

CC-10-05901-B

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County Court at Law No. 2

Dallas County, Texas

SCANINED

said County 600 Commerce Street Suite 101, Dallas, Texas 75202. should be addressed to the clerk of County Court at Law No. 2 of Dallas County, Texas, at the Court House of after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you." Your answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a WRITTEN ANSWER

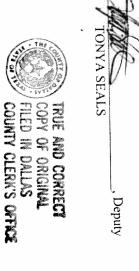
vs. YELLOWBOOK USA, MAX ANDREWS RACHAEL HOWE Defendant(s) Plaintiff(s),



filed in said Court on the 27th day of August, 2010, a copy of which accompanies this citation.

HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, at Dallas, Texas, and issued this 27th day of August, 2010 A.D. WITNESS: JOHN WARREN, Clerk of the County Courts of Dallas County, Texas. GIVEN UNDER MY

JOHN WARREN, Clerk, County Court, Dallas County Court at Law No. 2, Dallas County, Texas



vs. YELLOWBOOK USA, MAX ANDREWS

Defendant(s)

RACHAEL HOWE

Plaintiff(s)

SERVE

SERVE CEO AND AGENT JOE WALSH **UNIONDALE NY 11556** YELLOWBOOK USA 398 RXR PLAZA

27th day of August, 2010 ISSUED THIS

BY: TONYA SEALS, Deputy John F. Warren, County Clerk

Attorney for Plaintiff

LAW OFFICES OF DAVID BELL P C 8350 MEADOW ROAD STE 186 DALLAS DAVID BELL 214 368-3191 TX 75231

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Form CITATION 412 - ORIGINAL

Came to hand on the 27th day of August A.D., 2010 , at o'clock	. M. and executed by	y certified mail
to YELLOWBOOK USA, DEFENDANT BY CERTIFIED MAIL. SERVICE ACCEPTED AND SIGNED FOR BY NOMAN AHAMAD AT 398 RXR PLAZA	MAN AHAMAD AT 398 I	RXR PLAZA
UNIONDALE NY 11556 on the 7th day of August A.D., 2010, at o'clock M.	M., the within named Defendant, in person, a true copy	dant, in person, a true copy
of this Citation, together with a copy of original petition with date of service marked thereon.		
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