

Statement of Summer Zervos

I met Mr. Trump when I was a candidate on the Apprentice in Season 5. I had the utmost admiration for Mr. Trump and even after I was “fired” by him I continued to see him as a possible mentor and potential employer.

In 2007 I was going to be in New York for a social obligation. I contacted Mr. Trump’s office to see if he was available for lunch. I was informed that he could not have lunch, but that he would make time to meet with me at his office. When I arrived he kissed me on the lips. I was surprised, but felt that perhaps that was just his form of greeting.

We sat and spoke. He was extremely complimentary. He said that he was very impressed with how I handled myself on the Apprentice. He said that he had never met anyone with my combination of being smart, attractive and with as large a set of “balls” as I had. He said that he would love to have me work for him. Mr. Trump said that he would be coming to Los Angeles soon and that he would contact me. I felt as though I was reaching for the brass ring. I was very excited. I felt as though my dream of working for Mr. Trump might come true.

As I was about to leave he again kissed me on the lips. This made me feel very nervous and embarrassed. This is not what I wanted or expected. He asked me for my phone number and I scrawled it down with a marker. I left hurriedly and called a friend who lived in New York because I was upset by the kiss. I also called my parents to tell them what had happened.

I spoke at length to my loved ones and we came to the conclusion that this was undoubtedly some form of greeting and that I should not take it as anything other than that.

Mr. Trump called me early on the morning of the day that I returned home. He referred to me as his OC (Orange County) Angel. He wanted to know who was with me at that hour. He scolded me about my penmanship because it was difficult for him to read my telephone number as I had written it for him. Even though he had called me he concluded the call by asking me for my phone number.

Then he called again days later to let me know that he was coming to Los Angeles.

He again called me after he had just landed in Los Angeles. He asked me to meet him that evening at the Beverly Hills Hotel and asked where I would like to have dinner

When I arrived his security guard greeted me at the hotel. He walked with me to greet Mr. Trump. I assumed we were going to the restaurant in the hotel. Instead I was taken to a bungalow. The security guard opened the door and I went in.

I was standing in the entryway. To my left was a bedroom and I saw Mr. Trump's clothes on the bed. I did not see him but he greeted me with "hello" in a sing song voice. I thought a mistake had been made and Mr. Trump thought he was speaking to someone he was more familiar with. I walked further into the living room away from the bedroom and sat down. I waited for about 15 minutes until Mr. Trump emerged. He had his suit on. I stood up and he came to me and started kissing me open mouthed as he was pulling me towards him. I walked away and I sat down on a chair. He was on a love seat across from me and I made an attempt at conversation. He then asked me to sit next to him. I complied. He then grabbed my shoulder and began kissing me again very aggressively and placed his hand on my breast. I pulled back and walked to another part of the room. He then walked up, he grabbed my hand and walked me into the bedroom.

I walked out. He then turned me around and said, "Let's lay down and watch some telly telly." He put me in an embrace and I tried to push him away. I pushed his chest to put space between us and I said come on man, "get real." He repeated my words back to me, "get real" as he began thrusting his genitals. He tried to kiss me again and with my hand still on his chest I said "dude your trippin right now" attempting to make it clear that I was not interested. He said, what do you want? I said I came to have dinner. He said "okay, we will have dinner." He paced around the room. He acted like he was a bit angry. He pointed out that someone had delivered a fruit basket. I felt it was to show me how important he was.

As we were waiting for dinner I sat across the room from him as far away as possible. He started saying that he did not think that I had ever known love or had been in love. I did not want to discuss my personal life with him.

Then just before dinner arrived he transformed into it being all about business and began questioning me as though I was on a job interview. Dinner was delivered to the bungalow.

When dinner arrived he asked me to wait in a small room. I felt that he did not want the waiter to see me. After the table was set up he beckoned me to come out. We shared a club sandwich.

The conversation then focused on the fact that I had a mortgage on my home which I told him was in good standing. He spoke about how he was able to maneuver to get out of debt. He told me that I needed to let my house go into default and then tell the bank that they could take it back. He advised that then the bank would take anything to rid themselves of a problem loan. He told me to call the bank and tell them that I was leaving the keys on the table for them to pick up. He said that would be a mini version of what he does. He urged me not to make another payment on my home loan.

He then abruptly said that he was tired and that he needed to go to bed and ended the conversation. He told me to meet him the next morning at his golf course in Palos Verdes.

I was very conflicted as to what occurred. I wondered if the sexual behavior was some kind of test and whether or not I had passed. Obviously, he still wanted to talk to me about a job even though I had turned his sexual advances down.

From the hotel I drove straight to our family business to speak to my father and get his advice.

I decided to go to the golf course the next day. Mr. Trump introduced me to the General Manager and asked him to give me a tour. When we got back from the tour Mr. Trump was not there. I never saw him again.

Mr. Trump called a few days later to ask if I had called the Bank as he had instructed. I told him that it was Christmas Eve and that I had not done so as of yet.

The General Manager called me later that week and offered me a job at the golf course for half of what I had told Mr. Trump I was seeking in terms of salary.

I called Mr. Trump and told him that I was upset and that I felt that I was being penalized for not sleeping with him. Mr. Trump said that he was golfing and could not discuss this at that time.

In a subsequent conversation about a job Mr. Trump told me that I should never again use his private number and that if I wanted to reach him I should contact him through his office.

Even though Mr. Trump had sexually harassed me. I still wanted to get a job within the Trump organization. I felt that since I had made it clear to him that I was not interested in having a sexual relationship with him that if he gave me a job it would be based solely on merit and we would be able to work together. When I contacted Mr. Trump he asked me to send him a letter setting forth the jobs within his organization that I felt that I was well suited for, which I did. When I subsequently spoke with him he gave me the run around. He told me that he had not received the letter that I sent him and then told me that he could not afford to hire me as he was laying off thousands of employees. I was disappointed, but harbored no ill will towards Mr. Trump whatsoever and felt that there was no point in any further attempts to get a job with Mr. Trump.

During Mr. Trump's fight for the Republican nomination, I saw and heard Mr. Trump nonstop on television and in the news. Customers at my restaurant asked me about him as they knew that I was a contestant on the Apprentice. I always complimented him and never said anything about what he had done to me at the Beverly Hills Hotel. However, this caused me a great deal of pain and anguish and I felt the need to confront Mr. Trump and ask him to apologize to me for his behavior. I also thought that he might have been embarrassed by his behavior and that this would provide him with an opportunity to clear the air. I had no idea about his behavior with other women at that time. Therefore, I contacted his secretary in April, 2016 and asked if I could reconnect with Mr. Trump. I did not tell her why I wanted to speak with him. She responded that perhaps his campaign team would follow up with me. I then wrote his assistant an email on April 21, 2016 asking her to send my e-mail directly to Mr. Trump.

In that e-mail I stated "your interest in me as a potential employee meant the world to me. Your interest in me as anything more blew my mind and I lost my footing." I further stated "I have been incredibly hurt by our previous interaction." I ended by stating that "I hope to hear from you and wish you continued success." Mr. Trump did not reply.

Mr. Trump, when I met you I was so impressed with your talents that I wanted to be like you. I wanted a job with your organization. Instead you treated me as though I was an object to be hit upon. I was incredibly embarrassed by your sexual advances and shared this information with a select few people close to me.

Mr. Trump, today I feel that you were interested in me only because you wanted to have a sexual relationship with me and for no other reason.

However, after hearing the released audio tapes and your denials during the debate I felt that I had to speak out about your behavior. You do not have the right to treat women as sexual objects just because you are a star.

Summer Zervos
Represented by Attorney Gloria Allred
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