EEOC v. Blockbuster Inc.

Doc. 100 Att. 29

EXHIBIT Y5

1	IN THE UNITED STATES D	ISTRICT COURT
2	FOR THE DISTRICT OF	MARYLAND
3		_
4)
5	EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY)
6	COMMISSION,)
7	Plaintiff,)
8)
9	V.) Civil Action No.:
10) 8:07-CV-02612
11	BLOCKBUSTER INC.,)
12	Defendant.)
13		_)
14	•	
15	DEPOSITION OF LAQUA	NTA BRINSON
16	Raleigh, North Ca	arolina
17	Monday, September	8th, 2008
18	10:00 a.m.	
19		
20	Job No.: 24-136236	
21	Pages: 1 - 69	
22	Reported by: Vivian Marino, RI	PR

- 1 A. Piggly Wiggly.
- Q. Piggly Wiggly?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Is that here in North Carolina?
- 5 A. Yes, it was.
- Q. Was that during high school or between high
- 7 school and the Navy?
- 8 A. During high school.
- 9 Q. During high school. So after you graduated high
- 10 school you went to the Navy?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Have you ever been self-employed?
- 13 A. No, I have not.
- Q. When did you begin working for Express Personnel?
- A. Don't quote me, but I believe around January of
- 16 2005.
- Q. And did you fill out an application?
- 18 A. Yes.
- Q. And you said while you were working at U.S.
- 20 Security that was at the Blockbuster facility, correct?
- 21 A. Correct.
- Q. Is that the Gaithersburg facility?

- 1 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 2 Q. And how did you hear about the position?
- A. Well, just being in the same building and they
- 4 looked as though they needed help.
- 5 Q. And did you continue working at U.S. Security, or
- did you resign and then start working at Blockbuster?
- 7 A. I resigned.
- Q. Did you have an interview for Express Personnel?
- 9 Did someone interview you for the position?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Do you remember who that was?
- 12 A. I know it was a common name, but I don't remember
- 13 her name.
- Q. If I said Cynthia Brown would that jog your
- 15 memory?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And is Ms. Brown the person who made the decision
- 18 to hire you?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. What position were you hired for?
- 21 A. I don't remember the technical term.
- Q. What were your job duties?

- 1 A. Mid February.
- Q. And how did it end? Were you terminated? Were
- 3 you -- did you quit?
- 4 A. Yes, I did.
- 5 Q. You quit?
- 6 A. Uh-huh, yes.
- 7 Q. Did you ever go back to working for Express
- 8 Personnel after that?
- 9 A. No.
- 10 Q. Did you file an EEOC charge about your employment
- 11 there after you quit?
- 12 A. No.
- 13 Q. Why not?
- 14 A. I mean I felt like it was done and over.
- Q. Did anyone suggest to you that you contact the
- 16 EEOC or the Maryland Commission on Human Rights?
- A. No, ma'am.
- Q. While you were there, do you feel you were
- 19 sexually harassed?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. Who do you think sexually harassed you?
- 22 A. Taj.

- 1 O. And when he made the sexual comments to you, did
- 2 he say this in front of other people?
- 3 A. Sometimes, yes.
- 4 Q. Who were those people?
- 5 A. I apologize, but I don't remember.
- Q. And did he also say these things to you when you
- 7 were alone?
- 8 A. On a couple of occasions, yes.
- 9 Q. And where were you in the facility when he made
- 10 those comments?
- 11 A. At my station.
- 12 Q. Could you describe your station for me?
- 13 A. It was like a long table similar to this one, and
- 14 I was sitting on the far end and the next person was
- 15 sitting beside me and continue on down.
- 16 Q. And when he made comments when you were alone,
- 17 where were those made?
- 18 A. Maybe in the lunchroom or outside smoking.
- 19 Q. And you said he made gestures towards you that
- 20 you felt were sexually harassing?
- 21 A. Yes, he put his arm around me; brushed his body
- 22 up against mine.

- 1 Q. How often did he put his arms around you?
- 2 A. Probably once a day.
- Q. And did he put his arm around your shoulders,
- around your waist? Where did he put his arm?
- 5 A. Generally around my shoulder but his hand would
- 6 hang like right in front of my breast.
- 7 Q. Did he ever touch your breast?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And when he brushed up against you, where did --
- 10 how did he do that?
- 11 A. Like just would slide in front of me or behind
- 12 me.
- Q. And how often would he brush up against you?
- 14 A. Several times a week he would try.
- Q. When Taj made sexual comments to you, what would
- 16 you say to him?
- 17 A. Man, go ahead. Stop playing. It's not funny.
- 18 Q. And would he say anything back to you?
- 19 A. You know you want it; you just haven't met the
- 20 right man; things of that nature.
- Q. Do you remember any of the dates that he touched
- 22 you?

- 1 Q. Did anyone else?
- 2 A. Linc Barrett a couple of times.
- 3 Q. How often did that happen?
- 4 MR. PHILLIPS: Asked and answered.
- 5 You can answer again.
- 6 THE WITNESS: On a daily basis.
- 7 BY MS. KEILLER:
- Q. Did anyone make threats against you?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Who?
- 11 A. Taj.
- 12 Q. Did anyone else make threats towards you?
- 13 A. Not that I can think of.
- Q. And what were those threats other than the
- threats you've already told us about, about fighting you
- 16 like a man?
- MR. PHILLIPS: Objection. Assumes facts.
- 18 Answer. You can go ahead and answer.
- 19 THE WITNESS: Just he said he was going to
- beat my ass and make me want to go back to a man.
- 21 BY MS. KEILLER:
- Q. Did he say anything else?

- 1 you?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Who were those people?
- A. I don't actually recall the people's names, or I
- 5 can't even picture their face, but I'm assuming those
- 6 individuals that did give in to gestures made by Taj.
- 7 Q. Do you think the African American employees were
- 8 treated more favorably than you -- the other African
- 9 American employees?
- 10 A. Some of them, yes.
- 11 Q. Were those all female employees?
- 12 A. No.
- Q. Why do you think they were treated more favorably
- 14 than you?
- 15 A. In my opinion?
- 16 Q. Yes.
- 17 A. 'Cause they kissed ass.
- Q. Did you ever feel like the Hispanic employees
- were treated more favorably than you?
- 20 A. No.
- Q. Were you ever assigned to monitor the Hispanic
- 22 employees? Did anyone ever tell you to watch them?

- 1 A. It wasn't a specific group to watch. No, they
- 2 didn't assign me to that, no.
- Q. Do you know if anyone was ever assigned to watch?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And who was assigned to watch employees?
- 6 A. I can't recall her name, but she was an African
- 7 American female. And like I said, it didn't appear as
- 8 though it was a specific group. It was -- appeared as
- 9 though it was specific people that weren't doing their
- 10 quote unquote job.
- 11 Q. How did you know that this woman was assigned to
- monitor people who weren't doing their jobs?
- 13 A. Because I heard when it was told to her.
- Q. And where were you when you heard this?
- 15 A. Walking past.
- Q. Were you -- where were you walking past? Was it
- the lunchroom? Was it the floor?
- 18 A. The floor.
- 19 Q. And who was telling her to watch employees?
- 20 A. I honestly don't remember which group of -- which
- 21 member of management that was.
- Q. How long were your lunch breaks?

1	WITNESS'S CERTIFICATE	
2		
3	I, LaQUANTA BRINSON, do hereby certify	
4	that I have read and understand the foregoing	
5	transcript and believe it to be a true, accurate, and	
6	complete transcript of my testimony, subject to	
7	the attached list of changes, if any.	
8		
9		
10	LaQUANTA BRINSON	
11		
12	This deposition was signed in my presence by	
13	, on the day of	
14	, 2008.	
15		
16		
17		
18	Notary Public	
19		
20	My commission expires:	
21		
22		