Daily Journal

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VERDICTS & SETTLEMENTS

EMPLOYMENT LAW

WRONGFUL TERMINATION Pregnancy Discrimination

VERDICT: \$111,764.

CASE/NUMBER: Norma Perez v. Dastmalchi Enterprises / BC307177.

COURT/DATÉ: Los Angeles Superior Central / Dec. 23, 2004.

JUDGE: Hon. George H. Wu.

ATTORNEYS: Plaintiff - Bruce Kokozian, Michael Nourmand (Kokozian & Nourmand, LLP, Los Angeles).

Defendant - James Parsa (Law Office of James Parsa, Costa Mesa).

FACTS: Plaintiff Norma Perez, an undocumented worker, was hired by defendant Dastmalchi Enterprises, a lawyer referral service operating under the name Mi Abogado. Perez worked as a driver and field representative. Upon hiring, Perez told her supervisor that she was undocumented. In July 2002, the plaintiff told her employer that she was pregnant. In November 2002, she gave her employer a doctor's note restricting her activities (including driving) during her pregnancy. On or about Dec. 5, 2002, the plaintiff was fired. The defendant claimed it was because she was an undocumented worker.

PLAINTIFF CONTENTIONS: The plaintiff contended that the defendant wrongfully terminated her because of her pregnancy and/or her pregnancy restrictions on her work.

DEFENDANT CONTENTIONS: The defendant contended that the plaintiff was terminated because her social security number was false and she was an undocumented worker.

INJURIES: Wrongful termination in violation of Government Code Section 12940 and 12945.

JURY TRIAL: Length, five days; poll, 12-