NORTHER OBSTRACT OF TEXAS THE IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS AUG 3 0 2001 **DALLAS DIVISION** CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT **EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY** Deputy) COMMISSION,)) CIVIL ACTION NO. Plaintiff, v. **COMPLAINT** 8 = 0 1 CV1712-

MINORITY OPPORTUNITY NEWS, INC.

Defendant.

JURY TRIAL DEMAND

NATURE OF THE ACTION

This is an action under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, and Title I of the Civil Rights Act of 1991 to correct unlawful employment practices on the basis of sex and to provide relief to Charging Party Jamila Thomas. The Commission alleges that Defendant Minority Opportunity News, Inc. (hereafter "Defendant"), violated Title VII when it demoted and discharged Jamila Thomas based upon her sex, female, and because of her pregnancy.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. Jurisdiction of this Court is invoked pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §451, 1331, 1337, 1343, 1345. This action is authorized and instituted pursuant to Section 706(1)(f) and (3) of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, ("Title VII"), 42 U.S.C §2000e-5(f) (1) and (3), and Section 102 of the Civil Rights Act of 1991, 42 U.S.C. § 1981A.

2. The employment practices alleged to be unlawful were and are now being committed within the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas.

PARTIES

- 3. Plaintiff, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, (the "Commission"), is an agency of the United States of America charged with the administration, interpretation and enforcement of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended and is expressly authorized to bring this action by Sections 706(f)(1) and (3) of Title VII, 42 U.S.C. §2000e-5(f)(1) and (3).
- 4. At all relevant times, Defendant has continuously been and is now doing business in the State of Texas and the City of Dallas, and has continuously had at least fifteen employees.
- 5. At all relevant times, Defendant has continuously been an employer engaged in an industry affecting commerce under Sections 701(b), (g) and (h) of Title VII, 42 U.S.C. §2000e-(b), (g) and (h).

STATEMENTS OF CLAIMS

- 6. More than thirty days prior to the institution of this lawsuit, Jamila Thomas filed a charge with the Commission alleging violations of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, by the Defendant. All conditions precedent to the institution of this lawsuit have been fulfilled.
- 7. Since at least June 26, 2000, the Defendant has engaged in unlawful employment practices in violation of Section 703(a) (1) of Title VII, 42 U.S.C. §2000e-2(a)(1) by demoting and discharging Jamila Thomas because she was pregnant.
 - 8. The result of the foregoing practices has been to deprive Jamila Thomas of equal

employment opportunities because of her sex and pregnancy.

- 9. The unlawful employment practices complained of in paragraph 7 above were intentional.
- 10. The unlawful employment practices complained of in paragraph 7 above were done with malice or with reckless indifference to the federally protected rights of Jamila Thomas.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Wherefore, the Commission respectfully requests that this Court:

- A. Grant a permanent injunction enjoining the Defendant, its officers, successors, assigns, and all person in active concert or participation with it, from engaging in any employment practice which discriminates on the basis of pregnancy.
- B. Order the Defendant to institute and carry out policies, practices, and programs which provide equal employment opportunities for Jamila Thomas and eradicate the effects of its past and present unlawful unemployment practices.
- C. Order the Defendant to make whole Jamila Thomas by providing appropriate back pay with prejudgment interest in amounts to be determined at trial, front pay and pecuniary damages, including out-of-pocket expenses, and other affirmative relief necessary to eradicate the effects of the Defendant's unlawful employment practices, including but not limited to rightful place reinstatement under terms and conditions which will permit Ms. Thomas to work free from discrimination.
- D. Order the Defendant to make Jamila Thomas whole by providing compensation for past and future non-pecuniary losses resulting from the unlawful employment practices described in paragraph 7 above, including but not limited to, emotional pain, suffering,

inconvenience, mental anguish, and loss of enjoyment of life, in amounts to be determined at trial.

- E. Order the Defendant to pay Jamila Thomas punitive damages for its malicious conduct or reckless indifference described in paragraphs 7 and 10 above, in an amount to be determined at trial.
- F. Grant such further relief as the Court deems necessary and proper in the public interest.
 - G. Award the Commission its costs in this action.

JURY TRIAL DEMAND

The Commission requests a jury trial on all questions of fact raised by its Complaint.

Respectfully submitted,

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