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Better Business Bureau 5200 Park Rd Charlotte NC 282

Mary Ann,

This letter is to help you understand the similarities in OTM, Faces, and Models Select. I first got involved in an agency in Winston Salem NC named The Model Shoppe. I opened an agency in Charlotte 7 or 8 years ago in the same office park that OTM still occupies called The Model Shoppe. That office and phone number was where I previously ran a jewelry business.

After extensive research into the industry, I realized there wasn't anyone attempting to nationally organize the industry with a national booking network. I hired Kerry Killowitz, Chad Johnson, and TJ Morton. Eight months later it was apparent to me that I was the only one interested in booking models. Killowitz, Johnson and Morton were all close friends by then. I separated myself from them by opening On Track Modeling. Kerry Killowitz opened The Model Shop in the same office park that Model Select now operates out of. This can be documented at both the office complex and the license department. TJ Morton went to Jacksonville FL and opened a Model Shoppe there. Chad Johnson went to Atlanta and opened Xtra- Model Management. Mr. Johnson at that time hired Rick Horonik, Rea Horonik's husband. (Model Select)

To make a long story short, Kerry Killowitz closed The Model Shoppe down after encounters with government agencies and fraud investigators in TX, Ohio and others. He then went to work for Extra Model Management or Xtra Model Management, both names were used to sidestep situations. Chad Johnson, from what I've been told, is still sought by Attorney Generals in several states. That is why" Faces" is in his girl friends (Jennifer) name. TJ Morton is also wanted by the attorney General in Florida, Greenville SC, and even operates a part time model scam in Charlotte NC called" Envouge". (It might be spelled Envouge.) He is the Photographer for Faces and uses fictitious names on the road because of his reputation. Rick Horonik left Extra Model Management and moved to Charlotte and started Model Select.

I do understand you grouping OTM in with Faces and Model Select at first. I waited till now for this letter because, if you are indeed checking our client list, you see that OTM is a national agency. We should no longer be categorized with Faces or Model Select. Our website, otmcharlotte.com, shows jobs go on in every city we do model searches in. We are also on our way to being the largest supplier of models to the international agencies in NY.

I've heard through the grapevine Model Select is changing their name and moving it to Iowa were Mr. Horonik already resides. Faces is going to do the same thing and register in Greensboro or Winston Salem.

I have actually been waiting for something like this to happen. Faces especially, has copied my forms, they go into cities and tell people they have the same clients as OTM does. They sign children, anyone who will give them money on the premise that they have lots of work. THIS IS NOT RIGHT!

In our meeting you stated OTM had complaints of no work. I have reviewed our complaints and cannot find complaints about work. Maybe they have been misplaced, or maybe you are mistaken. If you have written complaints about OTM not providing work, could you please forward copies to me. Also 9 of our 36 complaints should be forwarded to Knoxville BBB office. As you remember Mr. Catanzaro who owns the Knoxville office came to the meeting and explained when he moved his office, he found out members of his staff were stealing, and purposely took all the numbers and addresses from his forms. The models had no choice but to call Charlotte. Unfortunately by that time, it lead to complaints. He has been a member for over 5 years, and has told them about the situation. Please call the BBB in Knoxville and confirm this.

This takes us to 27 complaints in 3 years. I'm not saying OTM hasn't had growing pains, or made mistakes. I will say OTM now owns a printing company to control the speed and quality of OTM's comp cards. Several of our complaints have involved comp cards. OTM now has a customer service person to handle problems.

Last year OTM booked over 3,000 jobs and this year OTM will surpass that. I know people all over the country in the industry and, myself or anyone else I know in the industry knows of any other agency that books more models.

OTM will work harder to keep customer service and complaints to a minimum. But in this industry, with all the skeptics, considering all the jobs booked, is 27 complaints to a national corporate sales office all that bad?

Sincerely,

R.D. Ecksmith