

# Anger at treatment by my veterinary employer

Dear editor,

I would like to give some advice to employees of corporate joint-venture partnerships. It is not only the joint-venture partners who potentially suffer with this business arrangement, but also employees.

My experience has been that I have been summarily dismissed after raising complaints with the corporate headquarters. I have been employed for 10 to 11 months, which means that, in law, I can be dismissed on the spot, with no warning and nothing in writing. This is devastating; my professional future is at risk and I am very angry that my employers acted as if they were above the law. As a whistleblower, you do have rights that are independent of the length of employment. I intend to pursue these rights.

So, my advice for any potential employee (especially new graduates) is to join a union – for example, the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers (USDAW).

Unfortunately, the BVA can give legal advice about employment matters, but it is not entitled to accompany you to any disciplinary hearings. My opinion is that you should think carefully before joining a corporate practice, and if you do, seek good legal protection.

Yours faithfully,

NAME AND ADDRESS WITHHELD.

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