



Sidewinders Causes Unnecessary Harm to Its Workers

Former employees and concerned citizens think you should care because:

1. Sidewinders management lied to numerous workers about their starting wages and what others were making, despite it being their legal right to inquire about discrepancies. Sidewinders even "gave" one worker a completely false promotion and raise merely to get that worker to work longer and harder hours.
2. Sidewinders consistently expected its employees to work many hours over what they were scheduled, to make Sidewinders their only priority, and to take food breaks that were only as long as smoke breaks. These shortened breaks happened in the context of an eight-hour work day that Sidewinders did not honor. Rather, the owner told workers that they "make too much money to complain" about such issues. See the above point about not making this promised money.
3. The owner and head manager of Sidewinders used public embarrassment to prove a point to other workers who ever dared to raise legitimate concerns about the business. They yelled at a professional and kind pizza chef - military style - in front of an entire dining room of patrons to move faster during a lunch rush despite the fact that he could not make pizzas any faster without lowering the food quality. Management held a meeting of the full kitchen staff merely to tell one employee, who was in attendance, that they were essentially being frozen out for having one complaint about the owner's practices. Management also often "slut-shamed" servers in front of customers for wearing clothing considered too revealing. However, the servers were actually wearing shirts that the restaurant had given them to wear! Sidewinders also threatened several employees in text messages when they believed that those employees may have been speaking negatively about the restaurant.
4. While Sidewinders often shunned and denigrated free-thinking employees, other problematic employees often were drunk and disorderly on the job. In many cases, they were on the management's good side and would receive only praise. Those employees had been witnessed dropping burgers on the ground and yet still serving them to customers, mixing up inedible objects in salads - such as paper towels - serving grilled cheese sandwiches without the cheese being melted, and completely ruining entire batches of prepped food.

Finally, if none of that convinces you, consider this:

5. At a company party, one Sidewinders employee raped a fellow co-worker. Not only did the entire management team and employee roster side with the rapist over the survivor, a member of management also assisted the rapist in getting a restraining order reversed against the victim so that it was the survivor who could no longer come to work! We believe this point alone should be enough to make you discontinue your support of this restaurant.

There are no completely ethical businesses and certainly no shortage of things to boycott. However, we believe that all harm done to workers is community violence, and we have first-hand knowledge of what has happened at Sidewinders. We have risked the wrath of its deep-pocketed owner (who owns many other businesses) to give you this information, and so we ask that you consider choosing a different restaurant to spend your money. It is a small but meaningful choice to us and to the workers in your town whom you don't often see but are toiling for you.