

## **VANESSA BRYANT'S MOTHER, SOFIA URBIETA, RESPONDS TO FALSE ACCUSATIONS**

For starters, I would like to state that I do not enjoy airing our family grievances in the public. Although I filed a lawsuit, I did not make any public comments and was hoping for the court process to run its course without the publicity, as hurtful as it is. I did not want this and do not want this. However, I did not have a choice as it is Vanessa's own doing that has resulted in this now public quarrel. All I wanted is what I worked for. Vanessa, despite everything that I have been promised and done for her and the family, has attempted to sever all ties and renege on all obligations and agreements. Why would she do this to her own mother? I am so disappointed, hurt, and wronged to the point that I had no choice but to file a lawsuit. I am nearly 70 years old, my health is deteriorating, and my own daughter is doing this to me?

When Vanessa was young, her biological father walked out on the family. To make ends meet for her and her sister, I worked two jobs. As the sole provider, I was still able to pay for Vanessa's private school education. Kobe respected me for the way I raised Vanessa and that is one of the reasons he fell in love with her.

I simply cannot believe this is happening and not only am I disappointed, but heartbroken. It is unfortunate that Vanessa is making such false statements, especially in the public. I understand she is trying to preserve her reputation, but it does not excuse her behavior. Vanessa knows very well that I was the family nanny for almost two decades. She even drafted and enforced an extremely strict schedule for the round the clock care of my grandchildren. It is simply ridiculous that she would deny this. She knows the truth and she knows I was their nanny. She knows very well that she failed to pay me what I was owed. She also knows what it would have cost to hire a nanny for a high-profile family and the trust that would be involved in such employment. Now she denies it. Again, this is hurtful.

Vanessa publicly claims that I am trying to extort her. This cannot be further from the truth. Again, all I want is what I worked for and nothing more. Promises were made, work was done, and, in the end, Vanessa cancelled and voided everything that I was entitled to. What Vanessa did to me in private was hurtful. Now, she is hurting me even more in public and it is exceedingly difficult for me to go forward but I am strong, and I will persevere, even though she has a very large and expensive public relations team. I have nothing to hide.

As for the \$96.00 hourly wage that I am seeking, it was actually Vanessa that set this wage and not me. When Vanessa moved me out of my home and into an apartment, she completed a rental application in my name, without my knowledge, and wrote that I was being paid \$200,000 annually, which equates to a \$96.00 per hour wage.

I hope that my daughter changes course and will do what is right and give me what was promised to me. I also hope that Vanessa will stop preventing me from seeing and spending time with my grandchildren. She is using my grandchildren to punish me for exercising my rights.

Although I had no choice to sue Vanessa, after this is all said and done, hopefully we can go back to having an amicable mother-daughter relationship.

In the end, the truth will prevail.

Sofia Urbieto