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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6275

KOLAN L. DAVIS, *Chief Counsel and Staff Director*
KRISTINE J. LUCIUS, *Democratic Chief Counsel and Staff Director*

June 28, 2016

VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

The Honorable Jeh Johnson
Secretary
Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

The Honorable John Kerry
Secretary
Department of State
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretaries Johnson and Kerry:

I am writing to express my concerns about the use of employment-based visa categories by the adult entertainment industry and exploitation of such workers by human traffickers.

The ease with which the J-1 Summer Work-Travel (SWT) program has been exploited by human traffickers and criminal elements within the adult entertainment industry is well known. Despite the Department of State's change to its regulations in April 2011 prohibiting the employment of J-1 SWT workers in the adult entertainment industry, the practice apparently continues.¹ In a notorious case from November 2011, for example, the Department of Justice indicted multiple organized crime figures, including members or associates of the Gambino and Bonanno crime families, for visa fraud conspiracy relating to employment of J-1 visa holders at strip clubs:

The named defendants are charged with participating in a scheme that recruited Russian and other Eastern European women and assisted them in fraudulently obtaining summer work and travel visas. The defendants procured and sent these women false job offers for waitressing and other positions they would then include on their visa applications. However, once the women arrived in the U.S., they worked as exotic dancers at [strip

¹ Exchange Visitor Program – Summer Work-Travel, Interim Final Rule, U.S. Department of State, 76 Fed. Reg. 23,177 (Apr. 26, 2011).

clubs], in violation of visa rules prohibiting employment in the adult entertainment industry.²

More recently, in May 2016, Florida resident Jeffrey Jason Cooper was indicted for “recruit[ing] foreign students from Kazakhstan through the State Department’s Summer Work Travel Program, using false and fraudulent promises of clerical jobs in a fictitious yoga studio in order to bring the students into the United States and advertise them to customers of his prostitution and erotic massage enterprise.”³

Just as troubling, though, are companies that openly recruit young women to work as “exotic dancers” at night clubs and casinos around the world, including in the United States. One company, Busama Entertainment, claims on its website and recruitment video to be able to place women as dancers or strippers at clubs in Los Angeles, New York, Las Vegas, and even Washington, D.C.⁴ Busama appears to be claiming on its website that it is able to bring dancers and strippers to the United States on H-2B temporary/seasonal worker visas.⁵ See Attachment 1. Another company recruiting women to work as strippers in the United States is ZM Studios. In 2010 an Associated Press investigation of abuses of J-1 Summer Work-Travel students highlighted ZM Studio’s recruitment of women for such jobs:

"If you wish to dance in USA as a J-1 exchange visitor, contact us," ZM Studios, a broker for topless dancers, advertised on its website this year. The ad said ZM Studios is "affiliated with designated visa sponsors" and can get women J-1 visas and jobs at topless clubs in cities like Las Vegas and Los Angeles.

ZM Studios president Julian Andreev denied employing J-1 students in an e-mail to the AP, but the company's site on Friday still guaranteed help getting visas for prospective dancers, noting that they need a J-1 or one of two other types of visas to work legally.⁶

ZM Studios appears to continue to recruit women to work as strippers in the United States, though its Russian-language recruitment materials emphasize that women must have work authorization in the United States.⁷ See Attachment 2.

All of this is extremely disturbing, not only because of the potential for sexual trafficking of these women, which I know your Departments vigorously combat, but also because of the

² “Manhattan U.S. Attorney Charges 20 Individuals for Participating in a Scheme to Recruit Illegal Immigrants to Work in Adult Entertainment Clubs Controlled by La Cosa Nostra,” Federal Bureau of Investigation, New York Field Office (Nov. 30, 2011), available at <https://www.fbi.gov/newyork/press-releases/2011/manhattan-u.s.-attorney-charges-20-individuals-for-participating-in-a-scheme-to-recruit-illegal-immigrants-to-work-in-adult-entertainment-clubs-controlled-by-la-cosa-nostra>.

³ “Florida Man Indicted for Operating Sex Trafficking Enterprise,” U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Public Affairs (May 11, 2016), available at <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/florida-man-indicted-operating-sex-trafficking-enterprise>.

⁴ www.busama.com; see also <http://s1140.photobucket.com/user/BusamaGroup/media/1302889119364-357929-BusamaREDUCED.mp4.html> (Busama recruiting video).

⁵ <http://www.busama.com/faq/take-a-look-here-for-who-can-apply-for-h2b-usa-visas>.

⁶ Associated Press, “AP Impact: US Fails to Tackle Student Visa Abuses,” Fox News (Dec. 6, 2010), available at <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2010/12/06/ap-impact-fails-tackle-student-visa-abuses.html>.

⁷ See http://www.zmstudios.com/la_ru.html.

undermining of the integrity of our immigration laws caused by knowing admission of such workers in visa classifications almost certainly inappropriate for this type of work. Significantly, in 2012, the Canadian government terminated a program that authorized visas to women coming to work in strip clubs.⁸ The Canadian immigration minister reportedly pointed to law enforcement concerns that the sorts of businesses employing the strippers are often connected to human trafficking and sexual exploitation: "The government cannot in good conscience continue to admit temporary foreign workers to work in businesses in sectors where there are reasonable grounds to suspect a risk of sexual exploitation."⁹

In light of the foregoing, please answer the following questions by July 25, 2016:

1. Have Busama Entertainment or ZM Studios ever filed a petition for H-2B workers? Has any such petition been approved?
2. Has an H-2B visa ever been knowingly approved for an adult entertainer (e.g. exotic dancer or stripper)?
3. Has an adult entertainer ever been knowingly admitted to the United States in H-2B status?
4. May adult entertainers qualify for H-2B, H-1B, O-1, P-1, or any other employment-based nonimmigrant visa or status? If so, how many such workers have been admitted in each of the past five fiscal years?
5. Aside from the J-1 Summer Work-Travel Program, are there any nonimmigrant or employment-based immigrant visa categories in which adult entertainers are prohibited from obtaining visas or admission to the United States?
6. If adult entertainers are being granted visas and admitted to the United States to work in the United States, what, if any, steps are being taken to detect and interdict potential sexual trafficking of such workers?

Sincerely,



Charles E. Grassley
Chairman

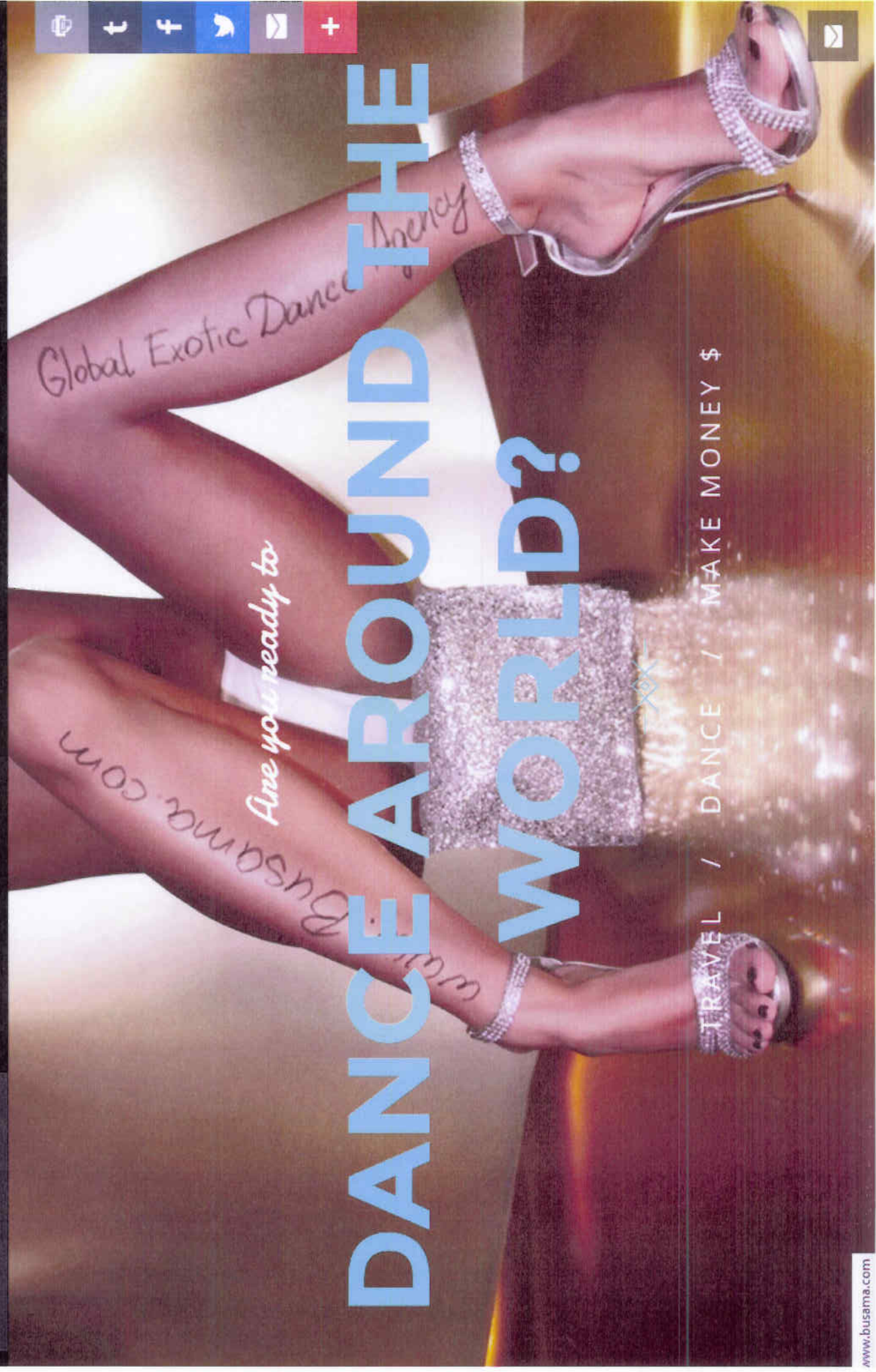
Attachments:

1. Busama Entertainment website pages
2. ZM Studios website pages and Facebook job postings

⁸ Bill Curry, "Ottawa brings down curtain on foreign strippers," The Globe and Mail (July 4, 2012), available at <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/ottawa-brings-down-curtain-on-foreign-strippers/article4388100/>; Tim Newcomb, "Canada Stripping Visas For Foreign Strippers," Time (July 8, 2012), available at <http://newsfeed.time.com/2012/07/08/canada-stripping-visas-for-foreign-strippers/>.

⁹ Curry, *supra* note 6.

ATTACHMENT 1



Are you ready to

DANCE AROUND THE WORLD?



TRAVEL / DANCE / MAKE MONEY \$

OUR INTERNATIONAL CLUBS ARE ALWAYS HIRING DANCERS



Club dancers wanted in all of our local and international strip clubs. We book, and need dancers all year round so join our agency and start your next money making adventure. As you may know Busama Entertainment is a global exotic dancer jobs travel agency. Our list of partner clubs is growing all the time and we are happy to offer our dancers a wide variety of clubs and locations to choose from. There is so much work available and although we have a large number of dancers applying all the time, we can never fill the number of club dancers wanted by the strip clubs that have requested our international strip club agency to recruit for them. We specialize in nude dancer/ dancing jobs, hostess jobs, gogo dancer/dancing jobs, strip tease/ stripper jobs, we have an amazing selection of classy clubs all over the world, just contact us and ask us some questions, we are only too happy to suggest the best places that you can go to work.

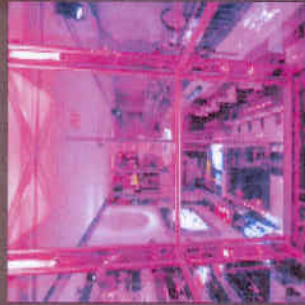
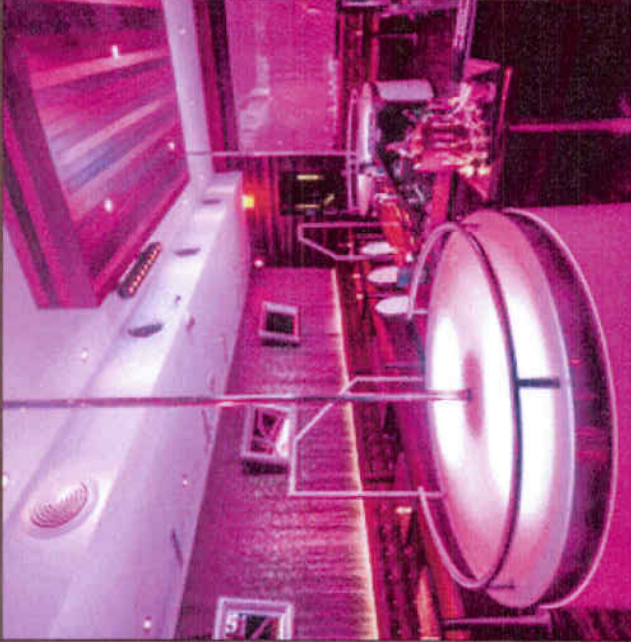
There are a lot of strip clubs to watch out for coming into 2016, in particular countries such as Australia and New Zealand who are seeing some growth in the industry in a big way which can be seen from the plans to open many new clubs in 2016, but don't forget about all of our other clubs in Brisbane, Adelaide in Australia, Auckland, Christchurch & Wellington In New Zealand, and then we have Poland, Malta, Hong Kong, as well as Paris, Cape Town South Africa, plus all of our great clubs in Los Angeles, Louisiana, Long island New York City, Washington DC USA. Don't miss out join Busama Entertainment now and start planning your next trip. Don't be afraid to travel overseas, thousands of dancers do the international circuit each year, so grab a friend or two and book with us now! We are here to help you, so ask us questions, let us be your agent, that's what we do!

WASHINGTON DC, USA

Check out this stunning club in Washington DC USA, let us book you in asap, we need 6 dancers here every 3 months on contract.

We are extremely excited to announce that we have finally got this amazing big beautiful club in Washington DC USA on board with us. Busama Entertainment is expanding quickly into the USA from 2015 and I we are happy to be able to provide jobs for strippers, exotic, table & lap dancers in Washington DC USA DC. With many restaurants and shops close in the area. Everything is metro accessible.

Neighboring communities include Logan Circle and Adams Morgan which are also filled with restaurants, many work out facilities (including cross fit gyms, VIDA fitness, Yoga studios, Soul cycling, etc). We are minutes away from Verizon center where we have many stores including Macy's, Zara, Forever 21, etc. we are close to the waterfront where there is many restaurants, water sports, and shops, and a boat dock as well. Being in DC we practically have everything around us!



Take a look here for who can apply for H2B USA visas

HOME » TAKE A LOOK HERE FOR WHO CAN APPLY FOR H2B USA VISAS



Please take a look at this information below and the list of countries of who can apply for working visas to the USA.

The USCIS has recently updated the list of Countries that are eligible to obtain H2B and H2A visas in 2011

The H2B visa is a seasonal work visa that enables US employers to hire foreign nationals for temporary jobs that are nonagricultural.

The latest list of eligible Countries for 2011 H2B applications is in place for one year from the date of publication (in 2012 the list might change again to include new Countries).

H2B Visa Information and Learning Center

H2B Jobs and Visa Sponsorship Services

Effective from January 18, 2011, Foreign Nationals who are from the countries listed below are eligible to apply for and obtain H2B visas in 2011

Argentina, Australia, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Mexico, Moldova, Nauru, The Netherlands, Nicaragua, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Samoa, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Korea, Tonga, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uruguay, and Vanuatu. Of these countries, the following were designated for the first time this year: Barbados, Estonia, Fiji, Hungary, Kiribati, Latvia, Macedonia, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

From the list above the New Countries that have been added for the first time are: Barbados, Estonia, Fiji, Hungary, Kiribati, Latvia, Macedonia, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.



ATTACHMENT 2

Агeнтствo ZM Studios, Inc.

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Агeнтствo ZM Studios, Inc.

@zmstudiosagency

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14,438 people like this

75 people have been here

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3.9 of 5 stars 42 reviews
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ABOUT



Wilshire Blvd

5455 Wilshire Blvd
Los Angeles, CA

(310) 402-4047

Ask for Агeнтствo ZM Studios, Inc.'s hours

<http://zmstudios.com/>

PHOTOS



VIDEOS

Write something on this Page



Агeнтствo ZM Studios, Inc. shared Julian Andreev's post.

June 15 at 7:03pm ·

РАБОТА ДЛЯ ТАНЦОВЩИЦ ВО ФЛОРИДЕ, США!

Приглашаем красивых девушек с модельной внешности на работу в качестве танцовщиц стриптиза во Флориде. Устроим вам в самых лучших мужских клубов. Клубы слаятся роскошным видом, ярким стилем и высокими стандартами. Для посетителей, кто не считает денег. Амбициозным девушкам мы гарантируем отличные заработки, особенно если имеется опыт работы и умеете разводить клиентов покупать приватные танцы.

Предоставляется квартира. Лучшие пляжи в Америке.

Требования: возраст 21 - 27 лет, знание английского языка, коммуникабельность. Опыт работы не обязателен. Присылайте фото и резюме на мейл: agency@zmstudios.com

#Miami #Tampa #Orlando #Florida #Майами #Тампа #Орландо #Флорида

Job for dancers in Florida, USA!

Welcome beautiful girls with a fashion model for a job as a stripper pole dancers in Florida. We'll get you on the best of men's clubs. Clubs are renowned for luxury type, flamboyant style and high standards. For visitors who did not believe the money. Ambitious girls we guarantee great earnings, especially if there is experience and know how to push the customers to buy lap dance.

The apartment is available. Best beaches in America.

Requirements: Age 21-27 years, the knowledge of the English language, communication. Experience is not required. Send Photos and a summary of the e-mail: Agency@Zmstudios.Com

#Miami #Tampa #Orlando #Florida #Miami #Tampa #Orlando #Florida

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Julian Andreev in Miami, Florida

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Totally transformed. A local Kia Retailer to be more.

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Turn on chat to see who's available



Julian Andreev shared his photo.

June 17 at 12:30am · Beverly Hills, CA ·

РАБОТА ДЛЯ ТАНЦОВЩИЦ В ЛОС-АНДЖЕЛЕСЕ!

Приглашаем красивых девушек с модельной внешности на работу в качестве танцовщиц стриптиза в Лос-Анджелесе. Устроим вам в самых лучших мужских клубов. Клубы славятся роскошным видом, ярким стилем и высокими стандартами. Для посетителей, кто не считает денег. Заработок до \$ 1000 в день, больше, если имеется опыт работы и умеете разводить клиентов покупать приватные танцы.

Требования: возраст 21 - 27 лет, знание английского языка, коммуникабельность. Опыт работы не обязателен. Предоставляется квартира. Амбициозным девушкам мы гарантируем большие заработки. С условиями работы можно ознакомиться на сайте по этой ссылке:

www.zmstudios.com/ia_ru.html

Присылайте фото и резюме на мейл: agency@zmstudios.com

Job for dancers in Los Angeles!

Welcome beautiful girls with a fashion model for a job as a stripper pole dancers in Los Angeles. We'll get you on the best of men's clubs. Clubs are renowned for luxury type, flamboyant style and high standards. For visitors who did not believe the money. Earn up to \$ 1000 a day, more if there is experience and know how to push the customers to buy lap dance.

Requirements: Age 21-27 years, the knowledge of the English language, communication. Experience is not required. The apartment is available. Ambitious girls we guarantee high earnings. With the terms and conditions of work can be found at this link:

www.zmstudios.com/ia_ru.html

Send Photos and a summary of the e-mail: Agency@Zmstudios.Com

• Rate this translation



Julian Andreev in Beverly Hills, California

June 5 at 1:09am ·

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РАБОТА ДЛЯ ТАНЦОВЩИЦ В ЛОС-АНДЖЕЛЕСЕ!

Приглашаем красивых девушек с модельной внешности на работу в качестве танцовщиц стриптиза в Лос-Анджелесе. Устроим вам в самых лучших мужских клубов. Клубы славятся роскошным видом, ярким стилем и высокими стандартами. Для посетителей, кто не считает денег. Заработок до \$ 1000 в день, больше, если имеется опыт работы и умеете разводить клиентов покупать приватные танцы.

Требования: возраст 21 - 27 лет, знание английского языка, коммуникабельность. Опыт работы не обязателен. Предоставляется квартира. Амбициозным девушкам мы гарантируем большие заработки. С условиями работы можно ознакомиться на сайте по этой ссылке: www.zmstudios.com/ia_ru.html

Присылайте фото и резюме на мейл: agency@zmstudios.com

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ЛОС-АНДЖЕЛЕС

Bare Elegance - Los Angeles

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GENTLEMEN'S CLUB

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ДРУГИЕ ПРЕДЛОЖЕНИЯ

Если у вас нет американской визы, вы можете рассмотреть другие возможности для работы. Мы предлагаем отличные контракты на Карибах, в Макао и в Кейптаун, ЮАР.

📍 РАБОТА НА КАРИБАХ

Клуб Платинум Сен Мартен, Карибы ➡



📍 РАБОТА В ЮАР

Mavericks Revue Bar, Cape Town, So... ➡



Приглашаем красивых девушек, которые являются законными жителями в США или обладают рабочими визами на работу в качестве танцовщиц в Лос-Анджелесе, США. Устроим вам в самых лучших мужских клубов в Лос-Анджелесе. Клубы славятся роскошным видом, ярким стилем и высокими стандартами. Для посетителей, кто не считает денег. Заработок до \$ 1000 в день, больше, если имеется опыт работы и умеете развлекать клиентов, покупать приватные танцы.

ВАКАНСИИ В КЛУБАХ