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**scams** (<http://www.scam.com/index.php>)

- CuriousinDallas

11-30-2006 05:32 PM

**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

Quote:

Originally Posted by **buffalobob**

*Appears to be wealth education.*

*Attending Millionaire Conferences to learn about wealth, buisness ownership, entrepreneurship, etc.*

*I'm not aware of retail sales in the general public, only inside of the organization.*

BB, Skeptic AI et al, guys, correct me if I'm wrong here. If there are NO sales to the public, regardless of AC's claims to the contrary, they must be a pyramid even if they are an Aussie 2 up NM company and not MLM. They swear they do not have multiple levels of earnings but if the only way to make money is to sell conferences (after the first three at \$30,000) to prospective reps, won't the AG shut them down for a flagrant abuse of direct selling laws?

It's not so much the percentage of reps who make money as the percentage of sales to the public in AC's case, that in my opinion is to be their downfall.

## Soapboxmom

11-30-2006 08:56 PM

**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

<http://www.mlmlaw.com/library/guides/Primer.htm>

Quote:

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## 2. Sales to "Ultimate Users"

Many multilevel marketing companies want to develop compensation programs under which distributors receive commissions based on the purchase and consumption of products by downline distributors rather than retail sales to third persons. This is a logical approach since one of the greatest deterrents to enrolling in a multilevel program stems from the general public reluctance to engage in sales. Indeed, the entire industry has been built almost entirely upon the personal consumption of products by distributors. Under a literal interpretation of the Koscot definition of a pyramid, personal consumption satisfies the second element of the test because distributors can be classified as "ultimate users" if they personally consume the products they purchase.

Despite the literal language of the Koscot test, courts have interpreted and state **Attorneys General are increasingly interpreting the term "ultimate users" to mean persons who are not participants in the program, that is to say persons who are not distributors.** The most recent federal decision on this issue was rendered by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals on March 4, 1996. In *Webster v. Omnitrition International, Inc.*(6) the court found that personal consumption by a distributor's downline does not satisfy the Koscot requirement that sales be to the "ultimate user." Therefore, when designing a multilevel marketing plan, the approach presenting the least risk is to institute and enforce a rule that at least 70% of a distributor's purchases result in true retail sales to persons who do not participate in the compensation program.

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PREPARED STATEMENT OF

DEBRA A. VALENTINE, GENERAL COUNSEL FOR

THE U.S. FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

on

"PYRAMID SCHEMES"

Quote:

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What is a Pyramid Scheme and What is Legitimate Marketing?

Pyramid schemes now come in so many forms that they may be difficult to recognize immediately. However, they all share one overriding characteristic. **They promise**

**consumers or investors large profits based primarily on recruiting others to join their program, not based on profits from any real investment or real sale of goods to the public. Some schemes may purport to sell a product, but they often simply use the product to hide their pyramid structure.** There are two tell-tale signs that a product is simply being used to disguise a pyramid scheme: inventory loading and a lack of retail sales. Inventory loading occurs when a company's incentive program forces recruits to buy more products than they could ever sell, often at inflated prices. If this occurs throughout the company's distribution system, **the people at the top of the pyramid reap substantial profits, even though little or no product moves to market.** The people at the bottom make excessive payments for inventory that simply accumulates in their basements. A lack of retail sales is also a red flag that a pyramid exists. **Many pyramid schemes will claim that their product is selling like hot cakes. However, on closer examination, the sales occur only between people inside the pyramid structure or to new recruits joining the structure, not to consumers out in the general public.....**

**3. If a plan purports to sell a product or service, check to see whether its price is inflated, or whether members make most "sales" to other members rather than the general public. If any of these conditions exist, the purported "sale" of the product or service may just mask a pyramid scheme that promotes an endless chain of recruiting...**

**1. Beware of any plan that makes exaggerated earnings claims, especially when there seems to be no real underlying product sales...Eventually this program will collapse, causing substantial injury to most participants.**

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CuriousinDallas,

Glad you dropped in with an inciteful question. I see 2 issues here. Is the conference a legitimate product? Or, is the repship and/or purchase of a partial or full conference at 10 grand just buying a spot in what functions like a pyramid. Are folks really buying a spot so they can join the maney making scheme?

The second issue is the matter of sales outside the organization, which again is a pyramid for all practical purposes. With approximately 5 reps for every 3 sales there are literally no sales outside of the pyramid. This and the misleading ads telling folks to expect to make at least 100 grand or the interest form that ask if you are serious about making 100-500 grand will get them in trouble.

Ignite recently released an Income Disclosure and I am sure the Attorney General's office inquiries will force AC to make the same honest disclosure, which will be its undoing!

Soapboxmom

KathyPerry

12-01-2006 07:17 AM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

Quote:

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Originally Posted by **buffalobob**

*Appears to be wealth education.*

*Attending Millionaire Conferences to learn about wealth, buisness ownership, entrepreneurship, etc.*

*I'm not aware of retail sales in the general public, only inside of the organization.*

---

Yet the focus of business ownership and entrepreneurship is based on the 3 step program that AC promotes which comes back to selling to future reps. Certainly, I do not see anything wrong with sharing wealth within the organization. But if value and wealth is cannibalized within the the organization, someone is eventually going to get the short end of the stick.

When I think of profiting from education on wealth, business ownership and entrepreneurship, I think of picking up pointers from the masters to use in my business. If thank happens at Millionaire Conference (and it may very well be what goes on there), that doesn't seem to be the focus of how AC reps can make the big money. It always seem to go back to the 3 step process of selling to other reps.

KP

RQ Cash

12-01-2006 07:53 AM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

Quote:

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Originally Posted by **KathyPerry**

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KP

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Hey Kathy.. I tend to agree this does seem to get back to the 3 step process to make money... basically you just find folks and share the info... the challenge is the start-up cost or the cost of the education... and yes once someone gets the education then what? The value stream does tend to end and then one needs to keep recruiting to make more money.. what one needs is a true consumable opportunity that truly benefits them... that's why I like nutritional MLM's but that's just me :-)

humbled-by-grace

12-03-2006 02:43 AM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

Quote:

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Originally Posted by **KathyPerry**

...

*When I think of profiting from education on wealth, business ownership and entrepreneurship, I think of picking up pointers from the masters to use in my business. If that happens at Millionaire Conference (and it may very well be what goes on there), that doesn't seem to be the focus of how AC reps can make the big money. It always seem to go back to the 3 step process of selling to other reps.*

KP

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I think your observations are correct. However, there is the "appearance of a product" that attracts some reps to the program. It is the selling of the Christian Gospel. AC promotes itself as a "Christian business opportunity". Tim Darnell promotes the "Cover-to-Cover Campaign" program and the "Footsteps of Faith Messenger" journal as part of Advantage Conferences.

My objections to AC all along have been in how the company "uses" the power of the Gospel to "sell" its program. The Gospel is not for sale. It is freely available to all searching for a better way to live and for "abundance" in their lives. The Hope offered by the Christian message is wrongfully appropriated by the AC philosophy to hide the fact that here is no retail product to sell and that sales are a never ending chain of rep to rep money transfers.

"What then is my reward? Just this: that in preaching the gospel I may offer it free of charge, and so not make use of my rights in preaching it."

1 Corinthians 9:18

CuriousinDallas

12-03-2006 04:37 AM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

Good post HBG. Here's a great biblical reference that supports your premise:

**Buy (actually acquire is a more accurate translation, not physically purchase) truth and do not sell it, also wisdom and instruction and understanding.**

**Proverbs 23:23**

That is one of the three main reasons AC should head into the sunset. The other two:

1. Having to buy the product, (not stated to avoid legal ramifications, but implied by virtue of reason - if you have not experienced a product how in Sam Hill can you sell it!!!! )
2. Ratio of the number of sales to reps and number of sales to non-reps. At present from what I've been told there are 0 non-rep sales.

Wow!! I thought you could only find these landmarks in Egypt, Mexico and a few Far Eastern countries.

Nope!! Got 'em here in the USA as well. LOL!!

Eat your heart out Rameses II of Egypt (actually someone probably did - literally, LOL!!). We've got **Timeses** I of Dallas! LOL!

humbled-by-grace

12-03-2006 06:57 AM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

Exactly!!!!

I have never receive a straightforward answer from anyone at AC as to what benefit the Millionaire Mindset Conferences has for those who attend. How do the reps that attend use the knowledge gained from the conferences to make money other than to sell the conferences to other reps.

Yes, I know there is more to AC than just the MMC Conferences. There are lead generation

programs, web site development and advertising (all at a cost). But the target sale is always another future AC rep.

KatrinaC

12-05-2006 04:24 AM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

Quote:

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Originally Posted by **CuriousinDallas**

*BB, Skeptic Al et al, guys, correct me if I'm wrong here. If there are NO sales to the public, regardless of AC's claims to the contrary, they must be a pyramid even if they are an Aussie 2 up NM company and not MLM. They swear they do not have multiple levels of earnings but if the only way to make money is to sell conferences (after the first three at \$30,000) to prospective reps, won't the AG shut them down for a flagrant abuse of direct selling laws?*

...

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How does this organization get away with this? Can't they be shut down?

CuriousinDallas

12-06-2006 06:16 AM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

It's real simple Katrina. **If** AC and TD are guilty, no one has had the cohonos to stand up to them. No one who has been victimized by this apparent scam has the spherical objects to take these people to court. Noone has the gonads to put these people where they belong.

If TD and AC are guilty of a scam, then one or more of the people who have been hurt by them should stand up and be counted. I am sick to death of scammers, but I am even more sick to death of people who moan, groan, bleat, create, fuss, whine, you name it - about the 'fact' that AC or Tim Darnell did this to me or that to me, yada, yada, yada, wha! wha! wha!..... AND THEN THEY DONT DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT!!!!!!

You have a problem with this charecter and his company, then dang well do something about it!!! Quit coming on here and just moaning, support your critisisms get some meat on 'em and let the sharks (lawyers to the uninitiated) have it so they can crucify this guy if he's guilty. Note: If Tim Darnell is reading this, using the word crucify is not mean't to be a reference to Christ, - I know Christ, Christ **is** a friend of mine and **you** are no Christ - with apologies to Dan Quayle..LOL!!)

Just incase the thought crossed anyone's mind, I'm no Christ either!! But I do have a point!

billdfw

12-06-2006 09:08 AM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

Tim Darnell is a scam artist and has been involved in many scams like this. Don't put your money in anything he is involved with. His success rate is a big ZERO!

HumbledByGrace2

12-06-2006 05:19 PM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

I  
Quote:

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am sick to death of scammers, but I am even more sick to death of people who moan, groan, bleat, create, fuss, whine, you name it - about the 'fact' that AC or Tim Darnell did this to me or that to me, yada, yada, yada, wha! wha! wha!..... AND THEN THEY DONT DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT!!!!!!

---

Gee, wasn't that said about 8 zillion times.

That's been my point all along. I just returned from another hiatus on the coast with my family. I enjoy this lifestyle because of the price I paid, not because of relying on other people to fight my battles for me.

People who bi\*ch & moan and blame others for their losses make me sick.

Stand up and take this guy to court or shut up!

How have entities like big tobacco or junk bond companies been brought down?

Was Enron on scam.com?

Hell no.

You wimps need to take action.

I've been off this forum of victims for a few days and I'm sick to my stomach being in here for five minutes.

Winners are not found here, they're out making a difference.

Go make a difference & quit complaining (fat chance I know).

aboveandbeyond

12-07-2006 02:09 AM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

I wanted to respond to this post to warn others (as many as I can) about Advantage Conferences. My eyes were opened to the fact that this has to be a ponzi scheme as others have mentioned. I didn't know about that and I only wish I did before I joined. That's why I'm writing this.



The company didn't honor their 100% money back guarantee for the conference and revealed the true nature of things. The conference is not worth it--they hardly talk about business at all and nothing extraordinary, as they promised, was said. It is cleverly disguised by weaving in Christian sentiment and big fan-fare (that is low too to use religion). It wasn't even professional or organized. The Reps are supposed to sell the "product" -- the conference-- and how can someone sell that if it isn't worth it? It isn't ethical or moral.

When I advised the president that I wanted my money back, he nastily told me that wouldn't happen. He refused to honor his promise and continued to ignore my messages. I then found out that he had removed the 100% guarantee from the site and that's fraudulent misrepresentation.

So I urge others to avoid Advantage Conferences and not join!

CuriousinDallas

12-07-2006 05:38 AM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

Good, a new poster who's 'gotten a raw deal' by AC. OKAY HBG2 lets see if we can persuade this poor soul to act on his/her complaint. AandB, you say that TD refused to honor your request for a refund. You say he no longer offers a refund. Simple questions:

If you were dissatisfied with the conference you attended and the refund policy was in effect when you joined, then I believe by law he is bound to honor that refund. Any legal buffs on here set me straight on that?

**I**f he is bound to honor his comittment to you then you get your lawyer onto him and tell him to send you a certified check or you will run his sorry rear-end through the courts. Failing that, be creative but legal!!

That way you're doing something about it. But for goodness sake, as Ty Pennington would say on Extreme Makeover - Home Edition:

[b]**JUST DO IT!!!**[b]

For you anal retentive types out there, I know he says 'let's do it', but I'm making a point here, k?

jaalonso

12-07-2006 09:02 AM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

Quote:

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Originally Posted by **aboveandbeyond**

...

*The conference is not worth it--they hardly talk about business at all and nothing extraordinary, as they promised, was said. It is cleverly disguised by weaving in Christian sentiment and big fan-fare (that is low too to use religion). It wasn't even professional or organized. The Reps are supposed to sell the "product" -- the conference-- and how can someone sell that if it isn't worth it? It isn't ethical or moral.*

....

*So I urge others to avoid Advantage Conferences and not join!*

---

I had the same impression. I expected to hear about the Millionaire Mindset and I heard was a bunch of cheerleading. Not as many people at the conference I attended as I expected to see.

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TheMagnetMan

12-07-2006 09:15 AM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

If you're a network marketer, you MUST LEARN the art of "Magnetic Sponsoring" right now,

...Because Only Suckers Think They  
Have To Buy Leads And Cold Call  
To Succeed In MLM.

Give Me Just 10 Days, and I Guarantee The FREE,  
100% Generic 10-Day "Magnetic Sponsoring Boot Camp"  
Will Turn You into a MLM Lead & Cash Generating  
Wiz - Even if You're the One Guy Still Stuck in Advantage Conferences!

<http://proven.magneticsponsoringonline.com/>

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spanky

12-07-2006 09:12 PM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

Clean up on post #1975

P.S. i recommend that everyone on this forum inform magnetic sponsoring of this persons spamming. This spammer deserves to earn his lesson!

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aboveandbeyond

12-08-2006 05:27 AM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

CuriousinDallas:

I am/have been pursuing legal counsel. I'm getting all the advice I can and will be submitting my complaint ASAP. He has played "dead" to any communication what so ever. I realize now that he's had much experience with legal matters. ;)

I'm trying to catch up on all the posts here about AC. I had no idea all of this went on! I know it has to be true because I just shook my head in agreement at so many things that just fit together and "clicked." Before I left, I remember Mr. Darnell telling people on one of the calls to ignore scams.com because they were people who just liked to cause trouble and didn't have anything else to do. He also mentioned at the end of September about going to court for something he said had nothing to do with AC. I believed him too. It is wonderful to know I'm not alone and that something can be done about Mr. Darnell!

Quote:

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Originally Posted by **CuriousinDallas**

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*That way you're doing something about it. But for goodness sake, as Ty Pennington would say on Extreme Makeover - Home Edition:*

*[b]**JUST DO IT!!!**[b]*

*For you anal retentive types out there, I know he says 'let's do it', but I'm making a point here, k?*

---

aboveandbeyond

12-08-2006 08:54 AM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

TheMagnetMan:

Not at the one I went to either. There were supposed to be about 150, but I would say there had to be only 35-45. I guess that was part of the charade also...??

CuriousinDallas

12-08-2006 05:44 PM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

Look folks, lets try and nail this down to a simple question regarding the mindset of Tim Darnell. In his past history of network marketing involvement he has apparantly, never made an ongoing success of any of his ventures. AC appears from the mounting evidence to be no exception. From what I can gather, there are some very able and talented people who have been pulled into the gravity of this guy's sphere. It is going to be really sad to see them fall because of one mans con or stupidity.

There lies the question: is Darnell a scam artist or a complete, if charasmatic fool? (I assume he has to be charasmatic and also a brilliant marketer in order to press the right buttons of the likes of the few stars he has had in the business)

I am prepared to grudgingly admit there are some successful NM companies. (I still don't like the business model.) But there is noone out there that can convince me that AC is one of those. I'm sorry that SBD is not on here anymore. While I would not labor the point about NMs in general and agree with him, to a degree, about the whining and moaning on here, I would absolutely take him to task on the specifics about AC that I have brought out in previous posts.

Going back to your dilemma on the refund issue, AandB, your lawyer can tell you the situation rgarding the 'grandfather' clause relating to promised refunds in the event of dissatisfaction with a product. If you buy a car in Texas, when you take possession of that car on signing the sale documents, you have a 72 hours buyers remorse clause to cancel the sale. Does anyone out know what the law says if you pay for a product in January but do not get that product until October. Does the law relate to the payment or does it relate to the 'receipt' of the product.

I'm suggesting here that there are two possible ways to get your money back (if he has any left after he apparantly lost the summary judgement on the Dr Taylor and BBB lawsuits, LOL!!)

**1. Buyers Remorse**

If the law relates to the receipt of product and not prepayment. If you asked for your money back within 3 days of attending the conference, if the product receipt is the relevant part of the law and not the payment of it.

**2. A promise to refund your money**

If you were promised a refund when you purchased the conference if you were dissatisfied after attending the conference. A subsequent cancelation of that clause may or may not entitle you to continue legal pursuit of a refund.

Unfortunately, ACs contract may contain a clause that gives them the right to change contract content at any time without notice.

However, if there are enough dissatisfied voices out there that want retribution and a few of you step up to the plate then it might give the others the courage to do the same and a class action can be formed. That of course will depend on the numbers. I have no idea what those numbers are.

Wishyouknew

12-08-2006 05:44 PM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

Quote:

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Originally Posted by **aboveandbeyond**  
*CuriousinDallas:*

*I am/have been pursuing legal counsel. I'm getting all the advice I can and will be submitting my complaint ASAP. He has played "dead" to any communication what so ever. I realize now that he's had much experience with legal matters. ;)*

*I'm trying to catch up on all the posts here about AC. I had no idea all of this went on! I know it has to be true because I just shook my head in agreement at so many things that just fit together and "clicked." Before I left, I remember Mr. Darnell telling people on one of the calls to ignore scams.com because they were people who just liked to cause trouble and didn't have anything else to do. He also mentioned at the end of September about going to court for something he said had nothing to do with AC. I believed him too. It is wonderful to know I'm not alone and that something can be done about Mr. Darnell!*

---

Aboveandbeyond,

I would file a complaint with the Attorney General in Texas and the BBB.  
I would also have your lawyer subpoena the records from the previous lawsuit with the BBB.  
Tim Darnell lost in summary judgement and the courts did not seem to want to waste their time with Darnells stupidity.  
Darnell tried to sue the BBB and Dr. Taylor into taking their information down that reported negatively on Advantage Conference.  
If you noticed the BBB's information is still up just like it was before.

Wishyouknew

12-08-2006 08:19 PM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

Aboveandbeyond,

If there is any time to go after Darnell legally it would be now. There has already been judgement against him and that would strengthen your case.

Also Tim probably is trying to recover financially from his waste of money in legal fees.

In "Slay you Giant" terms, the Giant (Tim Darnell) has been weakened and someone needs to go for the Knock out Blow!

Glad to hear that our efforts on scam.com are not going unnoticed by Mr. Darnell.

Skeptic Al

12-08-2006 11:27 PM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

I'm going to steal a page from the proMLMers handbook and really not add anything to the discussion and just post some links. These links aren't to promote MLMs but provide some information to consider when looking at getting involved in an MLM.

The tactics used by the proMLMers on these sites is to state that we are all whining unsuccessful business people. If they throw up enough crap they hope it will stick. You remember "flip flop", "WMD", "Axis of Evil", "Mission Accomplished". It's the same old misdirection game, some people buy it, some don't.

I by the way have never and will never be involved in an MLM business. I am just a voice opposing what I believe are fraudulent "business opportunities".

<http://www.pyramidschemealert.org/>  
<http://mlm-thetruth.com/>  
<http://www.vandruff.com/mlm.html>  
<http://www.sec.gov/answers/pyramid.htm>

You will notice the DSA has set up a website (pyramidshemealert.com) to confuse consumers. That should give you all you need to know about that organization.

humbled-by-grace

12-09-2006 09:13 AM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

Quote:

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Originally Posted by **CuriousinDallas**

....

*There lies the question: is Darnell a scam artist or a complete, if charasmatic fool? (I assume he has to be charasmatic and also a brilliant marketer in order to press the right buttons of the likes of the few stars he has had in the business)*

...

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Much of this attraction can be attributed to Mr. Darnell's use (misuse) of Scripture and the lure of the Christian message that he weaves throughout his program. He knows enough of the Christian message to "catch" the attention of persons looking for an ethical business venture. AC unabashedly promotes itself as a "Christian Business Opportunity". Statistically, Christians are a "motivated" market and ripe for the kind of promotion offered by Mr. Darnell. They are also the least likely (as a group) to take legal action against someone like Mr. Darnell. No doubt Mr. Darnell and his "millionaire makers" know what they are doing. For any Christian who has attempted to hold AC reps accountable for their promotion soon finds out: the typical AC response is anything but "Christ-like".

humbled-by-grace

Addie3

12-09-2006 09:23 AM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

I never understood why and how Advantage Conferences was considered a Christian business opportunity. I would see the internet ads and links to AC as a Christian Home Business. But when I visited the main AC website, I never really saw the connection. However, I have never attended an AC conference. I just never understood what it (product) was that was being "sold".

Soapboxmom

12-13-2006 04:30 AM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

<http://www.advantageconferences.com/vip/>

Quote:

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Upcoming Millionaire Mindset Conferences

April 2007 - Dallas, TX

The spring Millionaire Mindset Conference will be held April 2007 in **Dallas**, TX. Check back soon for more details on the exact date and location.

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Wow!!! Another conference down the street from Tim's converted bathroom office. The conferences were supposed to be quarterly. Maui was scheduled for spring 2006 and promptly cancelled. Obviously, it is becoming difficult to pull off 2 a year. We are once again having a conference in Timmy's hometown, the tourist mecca of the southwest-----Dallas! This is so pathetic it is hilarious!

Soapboxmom

CuriousinDallas

12-13-2006 07:17 AM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

SBM, ease up girl. Give the guy a break. I don't know where you got the information that the next conference is in Dallas. Apparently it is actually in Saigon, Vietnam. They are using local millionaires in Saigon. But they all have to buy their own conference tickets. Thats a shame because the wealthiest of them (Sno Job Agin, net worth 160,210,000) had to spend all but 80,000 of his wealth just on the ticket.LOL!!! The others couldn't afford it. Oh well!!

Yes you guessed it, there are literally 16021 'dongs' to the dollar at todays rate. What a great name for a currency. I tried to find a country with a currency called dufus but couldn't. LOL!!

txfan

12-14-2006 07:58 AM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

Looks like timmy boy got an early lump of coal from Santa :p

Enjoy!! :D

[http://www.houstonpress.com/issues/2...feature\\_1.html](http://www.houstonpress.com/issues/2...feature_1.html)

Soapboxmom

12-14-2006 09:08 AM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

txfan,

Thank you for sharing that. What a great Christmas gift! I can't wait to quote and discuss that tremendous article. What an honor that we here at Scam.com were a part of the research for that



incredible tribute to Timmy boy and Wacko Jacko. Craig M. my kudos and heartfelt thanks to you for such a great article!

Soapboxmom

spanky

12-14-2006 06:48 PM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

Quote:

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Originally Posted by **txfan**

*Looks like timmy boy got an early lump of coal from Santa :p*

*Enjoy!! :D*

[http://www.houstonpress.com/issues/2...feature\\_1.html](http://www.houstonpress.com/issues/2...feature_1.html)

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TxFan

Thanks so much for that article... if y'all don't mind im going to copy and paste it here just in case something ever happens to it then us scambusters will have it readily available on scam.com

Thanxs :)

**[b]Everyone in this room wants to be a millionaire. What sets them apart from the rest of the schlubs who want the Big M is they're attending the Millionaire Mindset Conference in the downtown Dallas Hyatt Regency. They have shelled out between \$995 and \$9,995 for the privilege of hearing bona fide millionaires -- Christian millionaires -- tell their Horatio Algiers.**

**In order to be a millionaire, you've got to think like a millionaire. And the Mindset Conference can offer that to you. Because once you buy into the conference, you're part of an elite Christian wealth-building force called Advantage Conferences. It's run by a guy from Allen, Texas, named Tim Darnell. Never heard of him? Your loss. Because he's got the tools to make you rich. All you need is a check and what he calls SUB: Sustained Unwavering Belief. It's like the Advantage Conferences web site says: "Doubters, skeptics, low self-image individuals need not apply." It's how AC weeds out people who doubt they can get rich. Since all those low-self-image individuals have been bused back to Loserville, you can be assured that everyone here is a go-getter.**

**And, as with all things, this is all made possible by the grace of Christ. Today's portion of the conference kicks off with a sermon by Darnell's dad, holder of a Duke doctorate of**

divinity.

David Darnell starts by recapping yesterday's exploration of Numbers 12. That's where God says he speaks to Moses not in riddles or dreams, but face-to-face and clearly.

"Think about that difference," he says, "between face-to-face and riddles."

And now, it's Matthew 6:5-15. That's where, Darnell says, Jesus introduces the word "hypocrite" into Biblical literature. Hypocrites are actors, showboating their religion, making a big deal of how pious they are.

Darnell puts it this way: "Don't practice your religion to be seen by people."

This is just part of the knowledge you get when you give Advantage Conferences your \$10,000. It might be worth it, since it turns out that Jesus was a pretty smart guy, what with warning about hypocrites and all. And that wasn't his only warning. David Darnell didn't discuss it, but if he would've jumped ahead one chapter in Matthew, he could've pointed out something else Jesus said: "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves."

Given the histories of Tim Darnell and his current and past business partners, it's a passage that the hundreds of people who have joined Advantage Conferences might have done well to consider.

The first thing you need to know about Timothy Spencer Darnell is that he's not a U.S. citizen. Or at least not when it suits him.

In 2001, three months after a former client sued Darnell, Darnell filed an affidavit in Dallas County Court claiming that he's not a citizen, that the Dallas County Court-at-Law #3 is "an underling corporate fiction of the State of Texas, a corporation and a fiction," and that the court has no jurisdiction over him. Darnell's renunciation of the United States of America was supplemented by supporting affidavits by other Dallas-area noncitizens who claimed that Darnell "cannot receive a fair and impartial trial by jury of his peers by law in County Court-at-Law #3." When contacted by the Houston Press, affiant Mary Lou Starnater declined to say why she filed that affidavit, then hung up. (Darnell's wife's maiden name is Starnater.)

Brett Flagg, the Dallas attorney who represented Darnell's disgruntled client, said his client invested several thousand dollars in a company Darnell ran called Tru Dynamics. Flagg said the affidavit signaled a hard row ahead for his client, who decided to just call it a loss and move on.

Darnell has an entirely different recollection. He says he did not file the affidavit in response to a suit, but as a response to an affidavit filed by someone else that included

**Darnell's name in all upper-case letters.**

**Maybe it's best to let Darnell explain in his own words:**

**"The use of my name in upper-case letters...What that does, when you use uppercase letters, it signifies that you are a state-created entity. In other words...you're not a living human being, you're a corporation. And I was disputing that fact by this affidavit."**

**Uh, okay. And that stuff about not being a U.S. citizen?**

**Darnell offers this clear, riddle-free response:**

**"There is a definition of the United States...the specific definition of that is Washington, D.C. and Guam and some of the holdings of the United States -- I think it's a 17-mile radius, if I remember correctly, around the capital: there's a definition that says that that's what the United States is, and I am clarifying that that is not the case. I do not live there."**

**Specifically, Darnell lives in Allen, Texas, which has been home base for a multitude of multilevel-marketing companies he's been part of since graduating with a degree in sociology/psychology from Texas Tech in 1980. On the shorter side, with dark-brown hair he wears long in the back, the 52-year-old Darnell has a warm, friendly drawl that no doubt helps sell Advantage Conferences.**

**And here's a good time to explain exactly what Advantage Conferences is. According to its web site, it's "a higher-learning educational products company that helps individuals on a massive scale improve their thinking as regards 'wealth.'" In the company's online flash presentation, Darnell claims that Advantage's business model is a unique, time-tested formula sculpted by brilliant marketing minds over many years.**

spanky

12-14-2006 06:50 PM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

**"We are federally protected with the official trademark on this type of compensation...so we are the players in this particular kind of compensation," he says.**

**Well, actually, they're not. There is no federally protected trademark on this business plan, which Darnell calls "reverse margin" and a bunch of other things. Others call it by other names such as "pyramid" or "Aussie 2-Up."**

**Advantage's products include business books and CDs, but the flagship is the Millionaire Mindset Conference.**

**Here's how it works: Once Bob pays \$10,000 to go to the Millionaire Mindset Conference,**

he is considered an Advantage "rep." Bob is qualified to make \$7,000 off of each person he recruits at the \$10,000 level. But that commission doesn't kick in until the third person he recruits. The commissions for the first two go to a person above Bob (hence "Aussie 2-Up").

You can join Advantage for \$60, but you don't get the conference at that level. Candidates are encouraged to join at the \$10,000 level. This allows them to make the most money by "selling" the conference.

In the flash presentation, Darnell suggests that it's a waste of time for anyone to join at any level other than \$10,000. He says that start-up cost is "a joke" when compared to the higher costs of buying a franchise restaurant. And what if a candidate balks at the entire concept?

"This is not for everybody. Most people want to stay where they're at in their mediocrity and their complacency," Darnell explains. But if you don't want to be mediocre, you will do whatever you can to pay that \$10,000, even if you have to borrow it. And what of the perceived difficulty of getting your first three recruits? In one case, Darnell suggested that new recruits imagine a gun pointed at their kids' heads, and that their lives depend on getting those recruits. Under those circumstances, anyone will come up with a plan.

But last November, Darnell ran into a problem. When he tried to hitch his remarkable business formula to the Dallas Better Business Bureau's post, the Bureau smelled a pyramid.

The Bureau asked Darnell for proof that ten Advantage reps had made at least \$7,000. Darnell provided the names of ten people and no hard financial data, which the Bureau concluded did not constitute "proof." The Bureau also criticized Darnell's advertising claims. So Darnell rejoined the ranks of U.S. citizens and sued the BBB in the very court he previously claimed had no jurisdiction over him. He accused the Bureau of defamation, business disparagement and negligence, among other things.

In October 2005 the Bureau's online report of Advantage included the following: "This company has an unsatisfactory record with the Bureau due to its failure to modify, substantiate or discontinue advertising; concerning copyright and trademark protection claims; earnings; and evidence that the company primarily engages in promoting a pyramid scheme."

In his lawsuit, Darnell accused the Bureau of defamation. In its response to the suit, the Bureau stated: "Not only did the BBB have 'evidence' that [Advantage] is primarily engaged in promoting a pyramid scheme, but that evidence is overwhelming...Any claim by [Advantage] that commissions are paid only on 'sales' of the conference is nothing more than form over substance. These sales occur only inside the pyramid."

The Bureau's response also states: "Unlike Amway, whose compensation plan stressed that retail selling was essential, [Advantage] has no requirements whatsoever that a

representative make any retail sales of the conference -- or any other product -- to non-participants...Not surprisingly, there has not been a single retail sale of the conference thus far; i.e., every attendee of the conference has been an [Advantage] representative interested in the income opportunity of large commission income."

And: "[Advantage] exerts tremendous psychological and economic pressure on a new representative to make the large initial purchase...Accordingly, AC itself describes the failure to purchase the conference as 'business suicide'...Playing upon greed and fear of losing a good deal is a common psychological tactic employed by pyramid schemes."

After suing the Bureau, Darnell gave a deposition and several affidavits explaining why Advantage was legitimate and how the Bureau did not have the facts.

Darnell stated in one affidavit: "[Advantage] is not a pyramid because no purchase of the conference or business opportunity is required to be able to sell conference tickets. To sell a conference ticket, a rep needs to pay a \$59.95 independent contractor fee...Additionally, it is important to emphasize that [Advantage] screens out individuals who are looking for a get rich quick scheme and that there are many individuals who wanted to purchase a conference ticket and sell conference tickets who were not allowed to."

Advantage begins its highly selective qualification process with an online "interest form," which begins by asking a candidate if they are "serious about earning" \$100,000, \$250,000 or \$500,000 a year. The candidate must then read a "Getting Started" overview touting Advantage's ingenious compensation plan. This overview states that many candidates fail the final selection plan, which is a personal interview with Darnell.

"We don't need 'flakes,' 'whiners' or 'projects' here," the overview states.

spanky

12-14-2006 06:53 PM

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Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)

So if you're not a whining flake, and you're serious about earning a couple hundred grand this year, there's a very good chance you're Advantage material.

According to the Bureau's response, "Although [Advantage] claims that a recruit can qualify...by paying the application fee of \$59.95 and 'selling' three conferences...no one qualifies in this fashion...[Advantage] questions a representative's commitment to building the business if the conference is not purchased."

A Dallas judge granted the Bureau's motion for summary judgment last October. Advantage was ordered to cover the Bureau's court costs.

The lawsuit, and Advantage as a whole, is fodder for discussion on watchdog web site [www.scam.com](http://www.scam.com). Since the forum also has its share of Advantage supporters, the Press

posted a query to hear from those with both positive and negative experiences with the company.

Satisfied reps flooded an e-mail inbox with testimonials of how Advantage was a life-changing decision. They praised Darnell's integrity and the efficacy of the program. The name Jesus Christ was mentioned quite a bit. They talked about values, leadership, quality and God's will. In fact, they talked about everything except how much money they actually made by selling the program, or if they even had an income stream outside the program. While many of them ran web sites with names like "earn7kathome.com," when asked point-blank what they actually earned, it suddenly became rude to talk about money.

So where did Darnell get his training? Why should you feel comfortable giving him your \$10,000? Let's take a look.

After graduating Texas Tech, Darnell toured with his gospel group, Dreamer. He was drawn into the business world of multilevel marketing. He cut his teeth at companies like Amway, and, he says, "I became fairly adept at compensation plans and actually wrote the compensation plan for a company called United Sciences of America in 1986. And that was a big program here in the Dallas area."

Carrollton-based United Sciences sold a nutritional plan that included something called the Fiber Energy Bar. By eating said bar and others in the United Sciences family, the company claimed, one could protect oneself against AIDS, cancer, heart disease, diabetes, arthritis, PMS, acne and dandruff. This was one mother\*\*\*\*\*ing candy bar.

The company relied on reps to sell the product, promising big rewards if they signed on with the United Sciences team. It hired William Shatner to narrate a promotional video. It paid New York Mets pitcher Gary Carter \$50,000 to say in the tape, "Join me and hit a financial grand slam."

In January 1987 the Texas Attorney General's office sued United Sciences for allegedly running an illegal pyramid scheme. Attorneys general in New York and California filed similar suits. At the time United Sciences filed for bankruptcy, it claimed to have 140,000 reps. (In October 1987 a permanent injunction against United was issued in a Dallas district court. Under the terms of the agreed settlement, United did not admit any wrongdoing or liability.)

In his deposition for the Dallas BBB suit, Darnell said he also worked for Global Prosperity Group and NuSkin Enterprises.

Global Prosperity reps pitched \$1,200 worth of tapes and a \$6,200 conference (in "tropical locations") designed to teach recruits how to get rich via tax loopholes. By 1999, authorities in six states filed cease-and-desist orders against Global. Quatloos.com, a fraud watchdog web site run by California attorney Jay Adkisson, states: "The slimy-est of the slimy,

**Global Prosperity marks the absolute rock-bottom low of the MLM [multi-level-marketing] programs. There simply is no MLM program which is more of a scam, or has such a disreputable background, as Global Prosperity and its many equally-sordid spin-offs...Global Prosperity's reputation is so bad that other network marketers will often add a disclaimer to the bottom of their own spams and advertisements which says 'Not Global Prosperity.'"** (Adkisson is an asset protection attorney who has testified as an expert witness before the U.S. Senate Finance Committee on matters of charity oversight and financial fraud.)

**Global later operated under different names, including the Institute of Global Prosperity, whose offices were raided by the IRS in 2001. In 2003, two former Institute administrators pled guilty in federal court for tax evasion. (Darnell was only a representative with these companies and was not part of any legal actions.)**

**As for NuSkin, the U.S. Federal Trade Commission fined the nutritional supplements company \$1.5 million in 1997 for violating an earlier order requiring the company to have "competent and reliable scientific evidence to support benefits claims for any product they sell." Under the terms of the payment, NuSkin did not admit any wrongdoing. Today, NuSkin is a thriving company, claiming 820,000 representatives. It also runs two charities which provide food and education for needy children worldwide.**

**Created by Mormons, NuSkin is based in Utah, which is ground zero for multilevel-marketing companies. Jeffrey Ressler examined Mormons' ties to nutritional supplement multilevel marketing for Time in October. "More than 100 supplement companies dot the terrain alongside I-15 snaking through Salt Lake City, Utah, generating \$4 billion in annual sales -- four times the revenue of the state's more famous ski trade," he wrote. Such companies are popular not only among mainstream Mormons, but among their polygamous fundamentalist offshoots just across the border in Arizona as well. Enter Darnell's next business partners.**

spanky

12-14-2006 06:56 PM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

**Darnell met his polygamous buds in 2000, when he was with an Arizona-based multilevel-marketing company called Tru Dynamics, which sold an "Executive Conference Experience." By 2001, Darnell and a handful of coworkers left Tru Dynamics and formed a company called Liberty League International, which sold its own conference. The head of Tru Dynamics sued the defectors in an Arizona court for conspiring to hijack Tru Dynamics' customers. The Liberty Leaguers filed a counterclaim accusing Tru Dynamics of breach of contract.**

**The suit was eventually dismissed and Liberty League went on to do huge sales. In May, the company paid \$115,000 in a settlement with the Arizona Attorney General's office, amid customer complaints. A statement issued by the AG's office indicated that "the**

majority of participants did not earn enough to cover the amount they paid to buy the products sold to them."

The money, according to the statement, would be used to pay for "consumer education, attorneys' fees and investigation costs, and victim restitution to be determined at a later date."

While Liberty League promised not to make "unsubstantiated income claims" and to "refrain from making any false or deceptive statements in their marketing materials," the company did not admit any wrongdoing.

Darnell was only with Liberty League for a short period; he and his fellow defectors left that company to form their own company. His partners were residents of Colorado City, Arizona, founded by the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. In 2005, church leader Warren Jeffs was charged with sexually assaulting a minor and conspiracy to commit sexual misconduct by arranging a marriage between a 16-year-old girl and a 28-year-old man. When he fled Arizona, he made the FBI's Ten Most Wanted list and was arrested in Nevada last August. [Check out former Phoenix New Times writer John Dougherty's investigation into the FLDS: [www.phoenixnewtimes.com/Issues/current/polygamy/index.html](http://www.phoenixnewtimes.com/Issues/current/polygamy/index.html); and Houston Press staff writer Keith Plocek's examination of Fundamentalists moving into West Texas: [www.houstonpress.com/Issues/2006-04-27/news/feature.html](http://www.houstonpress.com/Issues/2006-04-27/news/feature.html)].

Incest, polygamy and statutory rape -- often condoned by and participated in by local authorities who were FLDS members -- are the norm in Colorado City, where it's believed that a man must have at least three wives to enter heaven. Thanks to inbreeding in the community, the Colorado City area has a high incidence of fumarase deficiency, an enzyme disorder that causes profound mental retardation and extreme epilepsy.

Good Christian that he is, Darnell decided to go into business with Colorado City residents Claudia Cawley and Elizabeth Knudson, and form All-Star Entrepreneur. That company was the first to promote the Millionaire Mindset Conference. As proof of how good a business opportunity All-Star was, the company's site showed a picture of two All-Star reps who won a 2003 Jaguar. The car was subsequently repossessed by Ford Motor Credit, which had sued Darnell in Collin County Court for nonpayment. (Darnell accused Cawley of rigging the contest and giving the car to two of her friends who then refused to take on the payments -- even though it was supposed to be a "giveaway." Darnell said that since he had signed paperwork for the car, he was left holding the bag.)

The web site also included testimonials from satisfied reps, although it was not disclosed that most of these reps were residents of Colorado City. (Cawley and Knudson did not return multiple messages.)

Before All-Star went bankrupt in 2005, it staked its reputation on Darnell, Cawley and a guy from Houston named Glenn Green. And just who is Glenn Green?



According to an old All-Star web site, he has "30 years experience in top-level management in Corporate America. His extensive background in major motion pictures and music industry brought him to the development of patented technology."

When the Press asked Green to elaborate on this impressive résumé, he had this to say: "If you're going to print a bunch of crap in the newspaper about me, it better be right."

And this: "You better be right, pal. I ain't threatening you. You just watch."

And, still: "Let me leave you with this: You write your article, just be sure it's right, okay?...I'm not threatening you by any means...but when you write your article, just be sure that your butt's covered. Because if it's not, and you put something in it that's not the case, I'm coming. And trust me, that's no threat."

Green says he got involved with All-Star when he was running a media company. He says Cawley contacted him and asked him to "build some marketing tools." He says he was never paid, which, he says, has to do with Darnell's abrupt departure from the company.

"They told me the reason I didn't get paid was because of Tim Darnell," Green says. Darnell denies owing Green any money.

So Green did what any shrewd businessman would do when a client reneges on a contract: he accepted the company's offer to be its chief executive officer. As Green says: "They offered me a position in the company 'cause I'm a decent business guy."

And just to accent how decent a businessman he is, he advised, "If you're investigating me, then you need to be talking to my attorneys, 'cause I'm going to sue your ass, okay? 'Cause you don't have anything to investigate me about, I will assure you."

For the most part, Green was right. There was nothing in his background worth investigating.

Except the ten-year sentence for theft in 1990, according to Harris County Court records. Green was released after one year. According to an affidavit by a Texas Department of Public Safety officer, the theft worked like this: Green gave an accomplice an American Express card in Green's ex-wife's name. The accomplice charged multiple purchases of \$49.99 at a Chevron station, when "in fact, no merchandise had been bought." The accomplice then gave the cash to Green. During April and May 1990, the charges exceeded \$20,000.

spanky

12-14-2006 07:01 PM

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Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)

At the time Green was popped for that crime, he was on probation for forgery for two

earlier charges out of Brazos County, according to Texas Department of Criminal Justice spokeswoman Michelle Lyons. He was sentenced to ten years for those, which he served concurrently with the Harris County sentencing.

Also falling short of the Glenn Green Investigative Worthiness Standard was the ten years deferred adjudication in 1993 for fraudulent transfer of a motor vehicle. According to the investigating officer's notes, part of the case record in Harris County Court, Green bought and sold over a dozen cars, promising to pay off the leases, when he had no authorization from the lenders.

All but one of the 20 associated charges were dropped. He was also ordered to pay \$31,233 in restitution

Harris County court records also show that the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo sued Green and his wife, Starla, in 2002. The suit was for nonpayment of \$107,000 Glenn and Starla bid on a champion steer and a grand champion barrow pig named Cowboy in the 1999 Rodeo auction.

"I know that the money spent here goes for a great cause," Green is quoted as saying in the Rodeo's press release.

Then Starla chimes in about the 17-year-old Brownfield Future Farmer of America who spent four hours a day after school tending to Cowboy: "[He's] very deserving. We were prepared to do what it took."

Everything, that is, except actually pay what they bid. A Harris County judge ordered the Greens to pay the full amount, plus legal fees.

Rodeo Vice President Leroy Shafer says the Greens never paid the money -- the largest debt of any one entity in the show's history. He says it was the first time in the Rodeo's history that a grand champion was involved in a bad purchase, and the first bad purchase of two champions in one year. (The highest bidder's money goes to whoever shows the animal, any charities the bidder earmarked money for, and the Rodeo's scholarship fund. Shafer says the Rodeo was able to pay the \$25,000 promised to Cowboy's exhibitor, as well as the approximately \$1,000 Green had earmarked for the Houston Women's Shelter.)

Green now works for a multilevel-marketing travel package company called Your Travel Biz.

As for Darnell, All-Star described him as "a nationally known master trainer in sales and marketing" and a lifelong business owner. It also stated that Darnell "brings unblemished integrity, character and work ethic to the company."

Itexas is increasingly becoming a nexus for scams," says Robert FitzPatrick, founder of the

## **North Carolina-based Pyramid Scheme Alert.**

**He's part of a small network of consumer watchdogs who believe state and federal authorities too often given scammers a free ride. Because FitzPatrick is an expert witness in the Dallas BBB lawsuit, he said he could not comment directly on Advantage Conferences. But he could talk about multilevel marketing and pyramids in general. He could also talk about Texas's anti-pyramid scheme law, which he says was crafted by the MLM lobby.**

**"It's written in such a way that it would appear that as long as the money is laundered through a product of some kind or a service, it won't meet the definition of a pyramid scheme," he says. He adds, "Whether you legalize a pyramid scheme or not, it will produce exactly the same result."**

**And that result is proven mathematically, he says. In the case of an Aussie 2-Up, the model has a built-in brick wall. The people at the top of the pyramid will make the dough; the competition will increase exponentially; and the base -- the human population -- will remain the same.**

**"You can only go 32 levels and you've exceeded the population of the Earth," FitzPatrick says. "That's every man, woman, child, baby, inmate in an insane asylum...the real number is far less than that."**

**FitzPatrick is a man who understands the headache-inducing, logic-\*\*\*\*\*-slapping nature of "business opportunity" programs, because whether it's Advantage or any other "income opportunity," you wind up having the same conversation with the dogged rep. FitzPatrick has both sides down pat:**

**"What is the real business that you're selling?"/"The business."/"/"What's the real product you're selling?"/"The business opportunity."/"/"Opportunity to do what?"/"To sell the business opportunity."**

**"So," he concludes, "the real product is: I'm making money; you can, too. Doing what? Making money telling people I'm making money."**

**But Tom Kelley, a spokesman for the Texas Attorney General's office, says the Texas anti-pyramid statute is clear: if there's more emphasis and energy on recruiting people rather than selling a product or service, there's a problem.**

**According to the statute, a pyramid scheme is "a plan or operation by which a person gives consideration for the opportunity to receive compensation that is derived primarily from a person's introductions of other persons to participate in the plan..."**

**The Direct Sellers Association echoes that belief. Spokeswoman Amy Robinson says you can determine a business's legitimacy by evaluating the compensation plan.**

**"If your compensation is not based on the sale of a product or service to the ultimate**

**consumer, you're looking at something that is a fraud," she says. And, "if the money that you're paying to come into the business is really just going to your upline because they brought you into the business, that's a huge red flag."**

**But for FitzPatrick, frauds can still be perpetrated under the guise of selling products or services -- especially in Texas.**

**"You can let these predators run loose and engage in this deception of telling people this is an authentic business opportunity, when it is not. You can do that -- it won't change what happens to the consumers in Texas, though...In fact, it will probably result in more of them losing their money."**

**For FitzPatrick, "Most people don't grasp the math...it is a math trick, at the end of the day."**

**It's reminiscent of something Darnell says in his flash presentation:**

**"This is math. This is nothing more than how numbers work."**

**And then there's how the Book of Numbers works. God speaks to Moses clearly, face-to-face, without riddles. It's a pretty good book. Tim Darnell and his followers might want to give it another look. [/b]**

**That my friends is Priceless!!! Hail to the Scambusters!!**

**CuriousinDallas**

**12-14-2006 08:06 PM**

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

**Quote:**

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**In one case, Darnell suggested that new recruits imagine a gun pointed at their kids' heads, and that their lives depend on getting those recruits. Under those circumstances, anyone will come up with a plan.**

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**What a great selling technique. I'm changing our entire marketing structure for 2007. I've got a conference call today with our managers and this is my plan.**

**"You walk into a prospects place of business, meet with the decision maker, having done your homework on the guy or gal. To close the deal you don't even have to sell. You simply assume the close by telling your prospect that you have an associate who has his wife and kids at gun point and unless he buys from you, yada, yada, yada...!!!!!!**

**Priceless, I should have thought of that track before. LOFreakingL!!!**

CuriousinDallas

12-14-2006 08:08 PM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

This guy's a piece of work isn't he? Where did he get his sales and marketing training? The Mafia?

CuriousinDallas

12-14-2006 08:09 PM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

Don Corleone would be proud!! LOL!!

Wishyouknew

12-15-2006 03:10 AM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

Is Tim Darnell a complete idiot? First he attempts to join the BBB. Then he invites Mr. Craig Malisow to a conference only to let him do the most in depth investigation on him that I have ever seen, under covering a mountain of dirt on this guy! Mr. Mailisow along with the BBB will eventually put Tim Darnell in jail.

Wait until the folks at Cottonwood Creek Church get a chance to read this article. You think he will get kicked out of the church?

( p.s. Craig, your article is greatness, it made my day and is a wonderful read. It validates everything I have said for the last year. And boy I thought I did a investigation on him. I only new 1/10 of the dirt on him.)

Wishyouknew

12-15-2006 04:42 AM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

CraigM,

Let me be the first to apologize for my criticism of the Houston Press and their Parent company in regards to their advertisers.

You my friend are a great writer and the article about Advantage Conferences was well done! I am amazed as the investigation that you were able to uncover all these details and put the peices of the puzzle together as well as you have!

I was also Glad to see you had some information from the Attorney General in this. Hopefully

they AG's office will read your article and shut this guy down!

Wow, Warren Jeff's. Not a good guy to have ANY association with..

Wishyouknew

12-15-2006 04:59 AM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

I encourage everyone to e-mail Mr. John Mark Caton whom is the paster at Mr. Darnell's church at which Mr. Darnell teach's sunday school and sings on stage. I think they would want to know this info. For reasons I can't explain, I can't do this myself!

E-mail the Church staff this link to the Houston Press article-  
[http://search.houstonpress.com/Issues/2006-12-14/news/feature\\_full.html](http://search.houstonpress.com/Issues/2006-12-14/news/feature_full.html)

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aboveandbeyond

12-15-2006 08:37 AM

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**Re: Advantage Conferences BS (Merged)**

WOW! That has made my day! I want to thank TX Fan for telling us about this and Craig for doing this fantastic article--great research and information. I never knew any of this :eek: . I had actually written Craig when he first asked for information from AC reps. I told him quite honestly that I would see it all for myself at the conference. I did, unfortunately. Now the truth is coming out and it's time for the AG to take action. I've done my part and submitted my claims so I'm hopeful that something is going to happen. :)

Quote:

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Originally Posted by **txfan**

*Enjoy!! :D*

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