

Cancer survivor: I was fired for refusing to tame Afro

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Photo: Wayne Carrington

Would they fire Dante de Blasio?

A former Barclays Center security guard is suing the Brooklyn arena's security team for \$900,000, saying they canned her after she refused to "tame" her natural Afro hairstyle.

Tiffany Bryan, 27, of Queens, alleges in her Brooklyn federal court lawsuit that her bosses at AEG Worldwide, the company that polices the arena, relentlessly ridiculed her mane until finally giving her the ax for not reining it in.

“It was ridiculous,” Bryan, now a mail carrier, told The Post. “I couldn’t understand what they had a problem with. I would get compliments all the time from people at events at Barclays.”

Bryan said she had chosen to keep her scalp chemical free in 2008 after her hair grew back following successful chemotherapy to battle bone-marrow cancer.

“I just didn’t want to put any chemicals in it after that,” she told The Post. “After you lose it, you don’t want to do anything that might cause a problem again.”

Bryan said she was first hired by AEG Worldwide in September 2013 and didn’t receive any hair-related reprimands until security supervisor Denise Brown told her last March that she “looked like she stuck her finger in a socket and was electrocuted.”

“At the time, I just took it as a joke,” Bryan recalled. “It was rude, but I just laughed it off. But it didn’t stop there.”

A few days later, security manager LaNiece Tyree told Bryan that she “needed to do something with her hair” and that she needed to “tame it,” according to the suit.

Bryan said that Tyree told her to wear a headband, but she explained it’d have to be worn uncomfortably tight for it to have any effect.

She finally agreed to the measure but said her bosses crossed the line when they demanded that she somehow fashion her hair into a ponytail.

“I told them my hair won’t do that,” Bryan said. “It’s sad that it even had to come to that. I didn’t feel like it was appropriate.”

“Plaintiff Tiffany Bryan is a black woman who was ridiculed, discriminated against and effectively terminated for the way she wears her hair,” the suit says.

An AEG rep did not return a call for comment. Barclays Center was not named in the suit.

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