

Background

Nygard telephoned Girlfriend #1 and invited her to his birthday party at Nygard Cay. He arranged for all her transportation, including her flights. The birthday party in the Bahamas lasted for 3 or 4 days. There were volleyball competitions which offered money prizes to the winners. Girlfriend #1 told the investigators that she is highly competitive and won 4 of the competitions.

Nygard arranged poker games after dinner and Girlfriend #1 competed well there too. During the poker games, which went until approximately 1 am, Nygard told Girlfriend #1 that he was impressed with her and her competitive nature.

After she returned to NYC, Nygard called her every day. He said she would be a perfect model for his clothing, and asked her to do a test shoot for his fashion line. She agreed, and later was hired to do a fashion tour in Canada for the Dillard's Department Store chain. Girlfriend #1 soon became one of Nygard's favorite models.

She told Nygard about her circumstances and her intention to move from NYC to California to advance her modelling career. Nygard told Girlfriend #1 that he had a place in California and suggested that she live there until she got settled.

Girlfriend #1 described her relationship with Nygard as "complicated and unusual" and conceded it was "not normal." She learned about Nygard's life story and observed his work ethic. He inspired her and helped her to become a fashion designer. She described Nygard as a "friend," "father figure," "boss," "mentor" and later as someone "she fell in love with." She and Nygard could spend hours just talking about life and still do. Their relationship did become romantic, and he would

introduce her as his “girlfriend.” She played various roles in Nygard’s company, including modelling, fashion tours, catalogue campaigns, shopping for clothes she liked which Nygard would then recreate for his brand, and going to factories with him where his clothing was manufactured. She also attended special events with him, such as the Oscars After Party. She was given a schedule of such events and would prioritize attending them with Nygard.

Girlfriend #1 said she received \$5,000 per month on a Nygard International company card and also received cash from Nygard. She received this amount beginning in the first year that she met Nygard and it continued until she moved out of the MDR property and stopped modelling for Nygard in July 2011. In addition to the \$5,000 per month, Girlfriend #1 may have received supplemental compensation for the “catalogue campaigns” and always kept her poker winnings.

Nygard’s Plane

Girlfriend #1 has travelled extensively with Nygard on his plane. She estimated she accompanied him “hundreds of times.” She said a flight attendant would always collect the passports of the passengers for Customs. She remembered filling out Customs forms and hearing Nygard lecture his guests about the importance of not carrying anything illegal on the plane.

Allegations

Girlfriend #1 does not believe that it is plausible that Nygard has ever drugged women for sex. She has never seen him ask another person to help him drug women. She said that was not the Nygard she knew, “100 percent, no.” She further stated she does not believe Nygard has been with underaged girls or forced sex with

women. If she learned that these allegations were true, she would be tremendously surprised. She believes she knows him so well and does not think he would do anything like that. It does not match the person she knew. She added that she would feel horrible if anyone were truly hurt and she does not want to be seen as someone who is covering up for someone. Since hearing the allegations against Nygard she has thought about whether there was anything she had missed. She does not believe Nygard would do anything to harm anyone. She has never seen or heard about him using force against or abducting women. She also was unaware of Nygard paying any bribes to Bahamian officials.