

“Long Live Jungle Law”, by Todd King, written from the Jungle as commentary to Associated Press article dated 12/10/19, [“World trade without rules? US shuts down WTO appeals court”](#).

Long Live Jungle Law

A Young Professional joined a foreign company bringing them to the U.S. market for the first time. They used the exact business plan and playbook brought to the foreign company by the Young Professional profiting handsomely for many years. The plan was so successful, the foreign company asked the Young Professional to open new markets; China, Republic of China, Hong Kong, Korea, Singapore, Philippines, Viet Nam and India. The Young Professional stood 5’10”, intelligent, blue eyed, blonde. This was the person the foreign company first saw. Then, not believing their luck, a present arrived from the Young Professional via international carrier written in English, showing The Plan worth hundreds of USD\$Millions to the foreign company, changing all their lives forever. The foreign company with profitable growth on their minds offered a lucrative contract to the Young Professional, they became friends, opened the world making a lot of people very happy. The Young Professional achieved his boyhood dream and it felt good. This is where “Long Live Jungle Law” starts its’ story.

Perhaps, if growth was 200% not 1000%, things might have turned out differently. That did not happen. What happened is a tale of \$6M to \$60M and a 1,000% hockey stick growth rocket. That is what the public foreign company and Young Professional did together, under a contract. A contract, Not governed by 168 members and their negotiated statues. Not governed by treaty or trade rules. Not governed by Arbitration/Mediation and benign agreement. Not governed by one legal jurisdiction for all others; governed by the Law of the Jungle, each jurisdiction aligning with all jurisdictions.

The foreign company and Young Professional/Naïve One needed to agree to a legal jurisdiction for their profitable relationship and contract. The Naïve One suggested the laws of the State of California govern their relationship and the foreign company agreed. That was too easy thought the Naïve One, excited and thrilled to live a personal childhood dream, from California to China, Asia and beyond. California is a gorgeous, abundant, terrifying jungle of opportunity with its’ own customs, legal jurisdiction and laws. The California State Jurisdiction, then, would be the living breathing “Jungle” legal jurisdiction decried by WTO advocates in the AP article referenced above.

Amidst all this success, one day the foreign company called the Young Professional to their big foreign company headquarters in a faraway place. The Young Professional, jet lagged and numb, looking over a breakfast of wet eggs, soft toast, instant coffee and tap water leaned in quietly, face to face to hear the announcement, that they, the public foreign company now worth hundreds of millions of dollars would not make the Big Pay Day to the Young Professional as agreed under contract. The Young Professional was not good enough, would not be paid under contract as a result and only fit for demotion four levels down. The Young Professional/Sick One was indeed sick sitting there far away, a childhood dream made, a childhood dream slayed; \$6M to \$60M by an overnight thunderbolt thrown across the Pacific with stunning precision and result. It had worked famously for everyone. Out? Just like that? In the far away Jungle sat the stunned Sick One who had only one thought. Jungle Law is on my side and that is enough.

Now, with cold wet eggs, soggy toast, dank coffee and warm water, the Young Professional/Empowered Dragon said to the public foreign company worth hundreds of millions, “if you are refusing to pay me the Big Pay Day, then you leave me no choice but to sue you in California State Court for Breach of

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Contract Labor Law. And, I will start a competing company, today”. This is how the Young Professional transformed from the Young Professional into the Empowered Dragon. This is the Rule of the Jungle.

California State Law is unique in the United States and world when it comes to labor laws. California is a “fire at will” and a “right to work state”. Any boss can fire anyone at any time for any reason, so long as they do not discriminate, this is the “fire at will” law of the California Jungle. The Fired have a right to work in their professional field of endeavor so long as it is fair competition. Non-compete clauses are illegal. Someone can be fired, hired, re-fired and start a competitor in the same day. Under The Law of the Jungle, the Young Professional was well protected.

The Young Professional and California lawyer team argued under California Jungle Law in a California Jungle Court to a California Jungle Judge and, a Jungle Jury if there ever was one. Twelve California Jurors who didn’t seem to know, or care, much about the Young Professional or foreign company. But truth is truth and people with a mind for fairness care about that in the Jury box. The evidence showed it, Jungle Law exposed it, Jungle Lawyers proved it, the Jungle Judge ruled fair and Jungle Jurors made the call. Common people of the Jungle know what truth looks like, with all evidence in plain sight. And that’s the point. Fair is Fair as viewed from the Jungle and its’ laws not, the mountain top and its’ edicts watered down to please. The public foreign company with hundreds of millions, that was six million before the Young Professional cold called them from many thousand kilometers away, many Moon Cakes ago, made a New Competitor that day.

The public foreign company with no gratitude and no grace knew from the beginning they would throw the Young Professional out; according to digital evidence required by Jungle Law. But, thanks to Jungle Law, the Empowered Dragon forged a New Competitor to the public company yielding an even more remarkable result and, a new story for another time.

In the Jungle we all need our local Jungle Laws. It’s the safest most sustainable way. The Law of the Jungle means that a person, company, organization can retain their local legal rights when contracting across legal judiciary boundaries. Can any international body made up of 168 countries agree on global standards flexible and voracious enough to meet the interests of everyone, locally and globally simultaneously? Under negotiated rules of engagement in an Arbitration/Mediation, or civil court inquiries, would the public foreign company with no gratitude no grace no sense and no integrity surrender damning evidence against themselves?

Local jurisdictions are the backbone of successful domestic societies and economies. The same is true at the International level. If Governments can talk to each other, businesses can do business together, people can travel to and fro, educating themselves almost anywhere, working where they please, Judiciaries can align bilateral legal standards reinforcing The Principle of Reciprocity and Comity across the Jungle. Judges and Judiciaries can align the Principle of Reciprocity across borders; just like the all of us. Long Live Comity. Long live Jungle Judiciaries. Long Live Jungle Law.