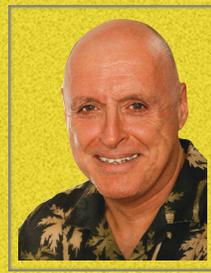


THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



33 He Came Off the Golf Course to Tell Me That?

It was an audition for a radio station and an outburst from a belligerent owner saved me from a big mistake. Maybe it'll save you from one, too. That's coming right now on The Extra Point.

I had left Guam and a good nine-year run with the JQ Fanihi Show, headed for California and hopeful of landing with a radio station there.

A former coworker from Guam was selling advertising for a small group of stations in Fresno, and she asked if I'd be interested in checking out her company as a potential employer.

She arranged a two-day on-air weekend audition for me and if it went well, I'd likely be hired.

I showed up early to get a rundown on the equipment and went on the air. I basically followed the simple music format, just tossing in a few little things I thought would add to the audience's enjoyment, but nothing like what I'd always done as Fanihi. It was very low key.

About two hours into the show the door to the studio bursts open and it's the owner, in his golfing clothes, completely out of breath, and red-faced with anger.

He proceeded to bark at me that I had taken over his radio station and changed it...How dare I do that? Who did I think I was?...he had to run off the golf course to come tell me this and save his station...he said for me to basically shut up and play the music.

While he was yammering away at me I kept my mouth shut for the benefit of my friend. I

was tempted to offer a little constructive criticism, like all the guy had to do was call and say, "Hey dude, can you play it straight during the audition? You sound good and I know you can do more...and we can talk about that later...okay?" Woulda been fine.

But he was treating me like I'd stolen something from him, so I didn't think it would help and I didn't want her to get yelled at for inviting me in the first place.

I finished the shift and left the next morning. Not interested in the second day of the audition, thank you.

I was upset that I'd wasted the time to go there, but ever so grateful that this guy had shown me who he really was — before I took a job and moved there.

Okay, the takeaway. If you're a supervisor of anyone and something goes against how you like things done, take a breath. If the person had bad intentions that's one thing, but if they meant well and went off the mark all you have to do is calmly get them back on track.

Treat people decently and in a professional manner. It will always go better for everyone.

That's The Extra Point. Get out there and make something good happen today. For 93.3, I'm Jerry Roberts.

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