



Fifty States, Fifty Jobs all in Fifty Weeks

Employment Adventurer Comes to Delaware

Contact:

Alison Kochie
302-830-4842

Daniel Seddiqui
847-275-3638

Wilmington, Del. ~ Daniel Seddiqui, a 2005 graduate from the University of Southern California, was ready to take on the world armed with a brand new degree in Economics but, “no one hired me in three years of trying.” Seddiqui, 27, decided to make his own break and came up with the idea of working 50 jobs in 50 states over 50 weeks and his dream of “Living the Map” was born (www.livingthemap.com).

Seddiqui, a native of Los Altos in Northern California, loaded his 1997 Jeep Cherokee with the bare necessities and headed out to work his first job—with the Mormon Church in Salt Lake City, Utah. That was August, now 39 weeks later Seddiqui finds himself in the First State working with CorpCo, a Brandywine Hundred-based firm that simplifies the incorporating process for national and international firms looking to do business in the United States.

“I have always loved geography and would stare at maps as a kid so this was a way to see the country, learn some things and have fun.” Last week Seddiqui found himself in Baltimore making crab cakes for Phillips Restaurants, next week will take him to Lancaster County, Pennsylvania making furniture with an Amish family.

Seddiqui selects jobs that are synonymous with the state his is visiting. In Arizona it was border patrol agent. In Louisiana it was bartending during Mardi Gras. “The border patrol was incredible, we would gather 2,500 people a day trying to cross illegally.” In Florida he worked as a stilt-walker at Universal Studios.

In Michigan, Seddiqui found himself in Detroit working at an auto repair shop. “That may have been the worst job so far, we had a guy rob the shop at gunpoint,” Seddiqui says. “We called the cops and they came the next day and said, “call back if somebody gets shot.”” By contrast Chicago may be his favorite and may be where he eventually settles. He has decided only to return to California to work his 50th and final job. “Chicago has great food, culture, people, there is even a beach right downtown.” Birmingham, Alabama was a pleasant surprise.

Seddiqui is happy in Delaware. “It feels like one big small town. Delaware is in the middle of everything, the benefits to living here are very good.” He was treated to an evening of tennis by his current employer at the DuPont Country Club. “It was great to play on clay, there are no clay courts in the West.”

CorpCo is only Seddiqui’s third office job. He is finding the work a bit hard to grasp at this point. “There is a lot of paperwork, a tricky software program, and follow-through,” says CorpCo’s marketing manager Alison Kochie, “but he is making good progress.”

Seddiqui is chronicling his work and travels on his website LivingTheMap.com. The site receives about 1 million hits each day. He has appeared on Good Morning America and on a variety of local and national news programs. He is writing a book about his adventures.

Seddiqui may take a week off soon before he heads to New Jersey, New Hampshire, Maine and then finally Alaska and Hawaii before returning to California. When his adventure is complete, Seddiqui will auction off his trusty Jeep, now with 25,000 miles, with a few of those miles and memories made in Delaware.

CorpCo
910 Foulk Road
Suite 201
Wilmington, DE
19803

www.corpco.com

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