

Hello Julie,

I'm not sure what you need from me on my nomination of Modesta for Para of the Year. This is a Co nomination from both myself and Dr. John Bonsett-Veal. Modesta worked for him for around 15 years starting around the age of 17 and rose to the title of office manager. If she does get the award, we would both like to say a few words if that is alright.

I initially was introduced to Modesta by her boss Dr. Bonsett Veal decades ago at a WOA convention and was immediately impressed. On occasion, I would visit Dr. John at his office and was always greeted with a hello and a smile by Modesta. My office manager, Lori, knew her quite well through Para activities and other WOA functions. Lori would also be a roommate with Modesta at several Vision Source conventions since they had so much in common. I think Lori could probably speak of her abilities more than I. They would share ideas after these conventions as they both felt ownership in their respective practices.

Approx. 7 years ago, Modesta decided to take a leave of absence from Dr. Bonsett- Veal's office. I told Lori that if she ever decided to return to the optometric field that we needed to hire her. Lori would touch base with her on occasion and maybe with a little prodding, Modesta was wanting to return to the field that made her a star. I told Lori that we did not need a resume or anything else, HIRE HER NOW. She agreed and fit in perfectly because she understood the philosophy of May Vision Center and how to take care of patients.

Modesta has been a team player since day one and is one of our strongest voices at staff meetings. She is constantly bringing new ideas to my attention that will benefit our practice but most importantly our patients. She never complains about staying late or coming in early. NEVER. I can't tell you how many times she would leave the office after her scheduled day to pick up her kids only to return after an hour. The first couple times this happened, I was curious and asked her why she needed to come back. Her response was the same.... I didn't get all my work completed and this has to get done. I don't ask anymore. I can tell you that most employers don't have many employees like this. That is called dedication to her profession, May Vision Center and her patients.

I know my patients have trusted her because she knows her trade. There have been several times in the past where she has approached me after I made a recommendation to a patient with a different idea. Not many employees will do that and the reason why is because she is one of the most knowledgeable opticians that I have ever met and she knows her stuff. She is never pushy and patients respect that. She is always eager to learn about new products and introduce them into the practice. Modesta has also taken on several projects and always completed them on time and with a smile.

In her spare time, she spends time with her family including her husband and 2 daughters, Emily and Jessica. She is active in her church, volunteering at her daughters school's, Special Olympics, Optometry Giving Sight, Indian folk dance and currently serves as treasurer of the WPA

I hope you seriously consider Modesta for this award as it's hard to imagine many people more deserving than her. She is the epitome of what this award is all about. I'm proud to have her as one of my employees and as a friend.

Dr. David
May
May Vision
Center