

Donald Trump's female employees



Louise Sunshine with Donald Trump, left, and President Jimmy Carter. Sunshine worked for Donald Trump for 15 years starting in the 1970s and rose to become a senior vice president.
(Photo Courtesy of Louise Sunshine)

Today, Louise Sunshine wants to Make America Great again. Sunshine is now on the campaign trail with Donald Trump, launching Women for Trump in Florida.(1)

Donald Trump a bigot? A misogynist? Don't tell that to Lynne Patton

by Ronald Kessler for DAILYMAIL.COM 26 May 2016



Watch Lynne Patton's YouTube video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IxaKUo5naoY>
Or search YouTube for 'Lynn Patton'

Donald Trump a bigot? A misogynist? Don't tell that to Lynne Patton - the African-American Trump executive who oversees MILLIONS in charitable donations and has battled addiction with the family's support.

In her first interview since posting the video supporting 'her family,' the 43-year-old African American woman explains why she did it.

On the evening of March 17 Eric's wife Lara opened a letter in the kitchen of the couple's apartment on Central Park South in New York. To her horror, white powder - feared to be Anthrax - spilled from the envelope onto the kitchen table. 'I can no longer remain silent about the reprehensible attempts to align my boss and his family with racist hate-mongering groups, campaigns, and messaging,' she says.

Patton has been a Trump employee for six years and says they welcome her to family gatherings and trust her 'with every aspect of their lives'

A viral video by Trump executive Lynne Patton that refutes the notion that Donald Trump is a bigot and a misogynist began with dramatic events on the evening of March 17.

That is when Lara Trump, the wife of Donald Trump's son Eric, opened a letter just before 7pm in the kitchen of the couple's apartment on Central Park South in New York. To her horror, white powder spilled from the envelope onto the kitchen table. Fearing for her life, Lara grabbed her keys and Charlie, the couple's miniature Beagle, Lynne Patton tells Daily Mail Online in an exclusive interview, and ran the three blocks to Eric's office on the 25th floor of Trump Tower. By 7.15pm, New York City police and Emergency Services teams were swarming Eric's office. They seized Lara's clothing and sent a team to their apartment to confiscate the envelope for testing. A note inside warned, 'If your father does not drop out of the race, the next envelope won't be a fake.'

Trying to develop leads, Secret Service agents joined the detectives as they interviewed Lara, a CBS producer; Eric, who is executive vice president of the Trump Organization; and Patton. The effort stretched to midnight. Patton is not a member of the family, but she is treated as such. The 43-year-old is vice president of the Eric Trump Foundation and senior assistant to the Trump family. It may surprise Trump naysayers that Patton is black.

One of the most trusted members of the Trump Organization, Patton is involved in identifying entities worthy of receiving millions of dollars of Trump money and is privy to Trump family members' personal lives and confidential information. On a daily basis, she helps coordinate Eric's, Don Jr's, and Ivanka's initiatives with their CEO father and his team.

After the harrowing evening at the office, Patton returned to her apartment, which she shares with longtime boyfriend Andrew Hayduk III, who owns a New York-based construction company. It was close to 1am. Unable to sleep and incensed by the attack, she began writing a 795-word letter: 'As a black female executive at The Trump Organization, I can no longer remain silent about the repeated and reprehensible attempts to align my boss and his family with racist hate-mongering groups, campaigns, and messaging,' she says.

On May 2, Patton released a five-minute YouTube video entitled 'The Trump Family That I Know'. So far, the video has gotten more than three million views. It is difficult to watch without tearing up.

If the powerful video demonstrates that claims that Donald Trump is a racist who hates women are mythology, you would never know it from the response of the mainstream media. Nearly all newspapers and networks have ignored it. 'Why would they promote something like that when it undercuts the narrative that Donald Trump is a demon?' Patton poses to Daily Mail Online.

Sitting at Trump Grill, an upscale restaurant in the lower lobby of Trump Tower on Fifth Avenue, Patton is a dynamo, fresh-faced with minimal makeup, a bit of lipstick. Designer sunglasses perched on top of her head add a little height and help organize her hair, long brown cascades with blond highlights. She's confident but not off-putting, a good storyteller with a gift for mimicking the people she is quoting. Her father, a doctor and retired School of Medicine professor and her mother a retired prep school foreign language teacher, Patton grew up an only child in New Haven, Connecticut, she tells Daily Mail Online. She attended Tabor Academy, a private school on Cape Cod.

After graduating from the University of Miami with a bachelor's degree in English literature, she attended Quinnipiac University School of Law for two years. Following stints as a paralegal in Connecticut and an aspiring actress in Los Angeles, she began working for event planning and marketing organizations. A mutual friend introduced her to Eric Trump, and Patton began working for the Trump Organization in 2009, planning events and acting as an assistant to Eric, Don Jr, and Ivanka.

She quickly picked up on one of the secrets to Trump's success: 'You don't ever not do what Mr Trump wants,' she notes. Patton rose to become senior assistant to the Trump offspring who are Trump executives and to help oversee Eric's foundation, which primarily donates money to St Jude's Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee.

In the video, the six-year Trump executive decries the vile threats and increasing violence from protesters targeting Trump. Some excerpts:

'Only up until now, it's all just been opposing campaign rhetoric and paid protesters,' Patton says in the video. 'But then a letter came.... And I thought to myself: Who does this person think he is to threaten to kill someone else's family...any family. This family. My family. All because of a political race? A campaign?'

'But to compare my boss to Adolf Hitler simply to spin your own political agenda or social media punch line is a personal affront to the extermination of over six million Jews and trivializes one of the worst acts of human genocide this world has ever seen.'

In fact, 'The Trump family that I know is, without question, one of the most generous, compassionate and philanthropic families I've ever had the privilege of knowing and the honor to call friends,' Patton says. 'They have been incredibly loyal to me and to the countless dedicated people they employ around the world - hiring more minority and female executives than any other company for which I've ever worked.'

Choking up, she says in the video, 'Like many Americans, I have struggled with substance abuse and addiction. The Trump family has stood by me through immensely difficult times without hesitation, nor concern for their own reputation by association. They continue to trust me with every aspect of their lives and the lives of their families. They invite me into their homes and welcome me at their family gatherings.'

Patton's defense and support of Trump are not linked to her employment but rather to the facts surrounding the presidential race, she says.

Patton deliberately chose not to seek approval from the Trump family before going public. She feared that they would be more concerned for her safety than for their own reputations. Indeed, the presidential candidate did not know about the video until Sean Hannity played it for him on his Fox News Channel show on May 3.

'That was so beautiful from Lynne... She is so amazing,' Trump said with emotion.

The growing body of Trump mythology extends to Trump's business acumen with the claim that when he started his company, he was already wealthy from an inheritance from his father. In fact, while Trump's father gave him a \$1 million loan that he repaid with interest, by the time Fred Trump died in 1999, Trump was already worth \$1.6 billion, according to Forbes.

'Donald Trump is a bigot and a racist,' Dana Milbank of the Washington Post wrote.

'Donald Trump has one core belief...misogyny,' according to Slate.
Tell that to Patton.

As expected, Patton has been the subject of some nasty notes and an attack by a black publication that accused her of being a traitor to her race. But Patton says she has been overwhelmed by the positive and often emotional response to her video from all over the world.

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<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3605597/Donald-Trump-bigot-misogynist-Don-t-tell-Lynne-Patton-African-American-Trump-executive-oversees-MILLIONS-charitable-donations-battled-addiction-family-s-support.html>

1. <http://therealdeal.com/2016/06/05/louise-sunshine-launches-women-for-trump-in-florida/>