

Interview

What's your name and what is your current occupation?

Hello, my name is Bautista Negro and I work a job taking out dogs for walks.

How long have you done this for? How did you start?

I started working this job... around 2019, mid 2019 maybe July. I needed a source of income and I really like dogs so I thought it would be fun. It all started one day as I previously said, I needed some cash and my neighbor actually told me to start this business. I did a little bit of marketing around the... neighborhood and I got my first 3 customers. A golden retriever who's name was Pancho I think and the two others were dalmatians I recall.

How many customers have you got now? Can you give any information about your payment history?

Right now I have around thirty-ish customers, I can't remember the exact number, most of which live in my neighborhood, only 3 live away and only around 4 minutes by car. From the economic standpoint, I charge 20 dollars per hour and the average amount of hours each customer buys is around 3 per week. So around a thousand, maybe two thousand dollars per week. Pretty good money taking out dogs eh?

That's a lot, what do you spend that on?

Well I mostly keep a lot of it into a savings account by Itau but around 20 percent of all the savings go to the dogs. This is used in case of a medical emergency and to buy snacks for all the dogs. But yeah, mostly savings.

Where do you take all these dogs? You have a lot of dogs to take care of at once!

Not really, the 30 dogs are spread out throughout the week. The only time I take multiple dogs at once is on Wednesdays where I take 5 dogs at once.

Responding to your earlier question, I mainly walked them around the neighborhood. There's this park outside the main gate where I can let them run off wherever they want since it's fenced. The 3 that I have to walk outside the neighborhood I just walk along the beach with them for an hour.

That's nice. So about where you store all this information, where do you store it?

I store this mainly on notebooks. I have various columns for every part of the information I need for example: name, race, and.... Cell Phone number. There's more information but that's what I remember right now. This is because when I started I wanted to use excel but business came so fast I just used a notebook. And that's what I've been using for the last 2 years.

What problems does this bring?

Well for the first year it didn't bring any to be honest. Since I only used two pages it was easy, but now that I have two notebooks full to the brim with info most of which is crossed out it has begun to be a bother, especially if the customer I'm looking for is one of the first ones since it could be anywhere. Plus there's a lot of information you know? I try to look at a line of text and I faint metaphorically of course, since there's so much black ink. This all has lost me money especially in quarantine where I lost customers since many people began to take dogs out themselves and I had to make prices higher. I don't want to go into detail but it was a mess.

Ok, thank you, that's all the questions I needed you to answer.

No problem, always here if you need anything.

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