

DECLARATION OF KEVIN COPITHORNE

1. My name is Kevin Copithorne. I am a Canadian resident. In January 2018, my wife and I stayed in Miami Beach for three days before a scheduled cruise. I have visited Miami before on work trips, but this was my first time staying in Miami Beach for vacation. We stayed north of Ocean Drive.

2. One afternoon my wife and I were walking along Ocean Drive. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon which we figured was happy hour. We decided to stop for a drink at the Colony Hotel located at 736 Ocean Drive because we saw a sign outside advertising a "two-for-one" deal and we were invited in by the host standing outside. We thought it sounded nice and the host showed us to a table.

3. We ordered two sangrias, which we figured would be a reasonable deal given the "two-for-one" special that was advertised. There were no prices listed on the menu. Given that it was sangria and did not contain a lot of alcohol, I did not think it would be too expensive.

4. When we got our bill, the two sangrias totaled \$75. This would mean that if this was truly a "two-for-one" deal, each sangria would have cost \$75 and our total would have been \$150. I thought this was ridiculous.

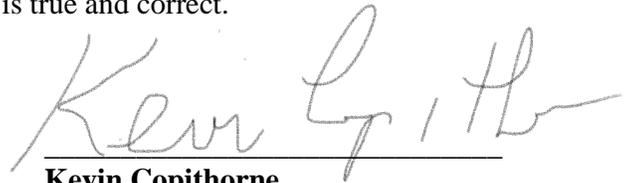
5. I vigorously complained to the waiter, the supervisor, and finally the owner. I did not yell, but it was an audible interaction. After about 30 minutes of arguing with them, I was told by the owner that "it is what it is." Rather than get the police involved, I decided to let it be and follow up with my complaint afterward. We paid and left.

6. After this awful experience, I followed up with the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce. The City of Miami Beach got back to me about this incident and I was told that they investigated the price gouging and found that the Colony Hotel was in violation of the code. I felt vindicated by this and thought the city reacted positively.

7. This experience soured my stay in Miami Beach, which was otherwise pleasant. I have traveled around the world and know that certain countries have reputations for scamming visitors. Never would I imagine that this would happen in the United States.

I verify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on June 28, 2019.


Kevin Copithorne