Fox News Faces Three New Employee Discrimination Lawsuits

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by

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• New York firm represents 23 current and former Fox employees

More Fox News employees are coming forward with claims of discrimination, adding to the list of allegations that has forced out some of the cable news network's highest-rated talent and executives.

The lawsuits could also increase pressure on Fox as its corporate parent, 21st Century Fox Inc., is trying to convince U.K. regulators of its fitness as a broadcaster and to win approval for its planned \$15 billion takeover of Sky Plc.

Kathleen Lee, a shift editor at Fox News Radio, Naima Farrow, a former accounts payable coordinator, and Vidya Mann, a former accounts receivables specialist, sued Fox on Monday, claiming they faced discrimination at the network. The three are among 23 current and former Fox employees represented by Wigdor LLP, a New York employment law firm, who complained of discrimination and retaliation.

Lee claims she faced retaliation for reporting sexist and harassing conduct. Farrow claims she encountered a racially hostile work environment and was fired less than three days after telling her supervisor she was pregnant. Mann, who wasn't classified as a permanent employee, said she was also subjected to racial discrimination and was fired after giving birth.

Earlier this month, Douglas Wigdor met with Ofcom, the U.K. regulator considering whether to approve Fox's acquisition of Sky.

Civil-rights activists have already pressed Ofcom to consider how Fox executives dealt with harassment complaints from employees against Bill O'Reilly and ex-Fox News President Roger Ailes, both of whom resigned over the scandal. Ailes died last week. Bill Shine, the network's co-president, has also stepped down.