3 more Fox News employees are suing over alleged sexual harassment and racial discrimination

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Kelsey Sutton, Mic 13h 1,871



Kelly Wright is one of several Fox News employees accusing the network of racial discrimination. Veronika Bondarenko

(Mic) — Three current and former Fox News employees have filed legal complaints alleging discrimination at the conservative news channel. The new suits, which were filed Monday against Fox News' parent company 21st Century Fox, come amid a slew of other complaints alleging a company culture that tolerated gender discrimination, sexual harassment and race discrimination.

In the new complaints, a Fox News Radio editor alleges that management did not take immediate action when she was subjected to sexual harassment and physical threats from a Fox News Radio anchor.

Additionally, two other women employees allege they were fired soon after they disclosed their pregnancies to company management.

Those two women, both of whom worked in the company's finance department, also claim they were subjected to racial discrimination and harassment from the company's former comptroller Judith Slater.

Complaints against Slater, who Fox fired in March, make up the bulk of the complaints in a class-action lawsuit filed against the company in April that includes 13 current and former employees who are black and Hispanic.

A handful of other employees have filed separate actions alleging they too were subjected to discrimination at the company and that upper management did little to address their complaints.

Fox is also facing a number of sexual harassment lawsuits related to its late founder and former chairman and CEO,

Roger Ailes. Ailes, who died Thursday, had denied the numerous claims of sexual harassment that prompted his departure from the company in July.

The law firm that brought forth Monday's complaints is also representing a black IT employee whose complaints against liberal Fox News co-anchor Bob Beckel led to Beckel's termination on Friday.



Fox News. Drew Angerer/Getty Images

That employee has not yet taken legal action.

"Despite public relations efforts to the contrary, business at 21st Century Fox continues to operate more akin to 18th Century Fox," attorneys Douglas Wigdor and Jeanne Christensen said in a statement. "It has, and continues to be, our hope that 21st Century Fox will recognize its failures and take prompt remedial action to ensure that other employees are not discriminated against, harassed and/or retaliated. If they do not do so voluntarily, we will continue to pursue all available remedies to ensure that they are compelled to do so."

The additional legal complaints come at a fraught time for the company, which is facing intense scrutiny from the U.K.'s regulatory body Ofcom as 21st Century Fox tries to acquire the British broadcaster Sky.

Ofcom regulators have met with attorneys involved in bringing sexual and racial harassment lawsuits against Fox News, who have argued that the takeover bid should not be approved until the allegations have been resolved.