Uber is being sued by Delhi rape survivor for accessing her medical records

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The women passenger has filed a case against Uber, CEO Travis Kalanick and now-former Uber executives Emil Michael and Eric Alexander who had obtained her medical records and reportedly carried them around for months. | Updated: June 16, 2017, 00:00 IST





Uber is being sued by the women passenger who was raped by an Uber driver in New Delhi in 2014 for intrusion of privacy, public disclosure of private affairs and defamation among other claims.

The women passenger has filed a case against Uber, CEO Travis Kalanick and now-former Uber executives Emil Michael and Eric Alexander who had obtained her medical records and reportedly carried them around for months.

Eric Alexander, former president of Business for Asia Pacific region at the ride-hailing firm, was fired last week over handling of the Delhi rape incident.

Emil Michael, Uber's senior vice president for business also left the company earlier this week while CEO Travis Kalanick is taking a leave of absence for an unspecified period.

"It is shocking that Travis Kalanick could publicly say that Uber would do everything to support our client and her family in her recovery when he and other executives were reviewing illegally obtained medical records and engaging in offensive and spurious conspiracy theories about the brutal rape she so tragically suffered," Douglas Wigdor, the lawyer representing the women passenger told Recode.

"Rape denial is just another form of the toxic gender discrimination that is endemic at Uber and ingrained in its culture. Hopefully, this lawsuit coupled with the changes recommended by the independent counsel will create real change and reform at Uber and elsewhere." Wigdor added.

"No one should have to go through a horrific experience like this, and we're truly sorry that she's had to relive it over

the last few weeks." an Uber spokesperson has said in a statement to The New York Times.

The woman passenger had previously filed a separate lawsuit against Uber to maintain basic safety procedures in January 2015 but later withdrew it after agreeing to participate in private mediation. The driver was later convicted and sentenced for life in November 2015.

This lawsuit comes just days after Uber revealed results of a probe conducted by Eric Holder, the former U.S. attorney general who Uber had hired to look into allegations of harassment, discrimination and an aggressive culture along with recommendations to improve Uber's workplace culture. The company said its board had unanimously adopted these recommendations.

