

# Top New Yorker political reporter fired for 'improper sexual conduct'

**BI** [businessinsider.com/ryan-lizza-fired-for-sexual-misconduct-at-new-yorker-2017-12](https://www.businessinsider.com/ryan-lizza-fired-for-sexual-misconduct-at-new-yorker-2017-12)

- **The New Yorker cut ties with Ryan Lizza over sexual misconduct.**
- **Lizza was one of the magazine's most prominent journalists.**
- **He said he was "dismayed" at The New Yorker's decision.**

The New Yorker on Monday announced that it had cut ties with the high-profile political reporter Ryan Lizza because of what it characterized as "improper sexual conduct."

"The New Yorker recently learned that Ryan Lizza engaged in what we believe was improper sexual conduct," [the magazine said in a statement](#). "We have reviewed the matter and, as a result, have severed ties with Lizza. Due to a request for privacy, we are not commenting further."

CNN, where Lizza is a political analyst, also said on Monday that he would not appear on the network while it investigates.

"We have just learned of the New Yorker's decision," a CNN representative said. "Ryan Lizza will not appear on CNN while we look into this matter."

In a statement, Lizza said he was "dismayed that The New Yorker has decided to characterize a respectful relationship with a woman I dated as somehow inappropriate."

"The New Yorker was unable to cite any company policy that was violated," he said. "I am sorry to my friends, workplace colleagues, and loved ones for any embarrassment this episode may cause. I love The New Yorker, my home for the last decade, and I have the highest regard for the people who work there. But this decision, which was made hastily and without a full investigation of the relevant facts, was a terrible mistake."

But the lawyer representing an alleged victim of Lizza's misconduct pushed back on his statement.

"Although she desires to remain confidential and requests that her privacy be respected, in no way did Mr. Lizza's misconduct constitute a 'respectful relationship' as he has now tried to characterize it," Douglas Wingdor said in a statement. "Our client reported Mr. Lizza's actions to ensure that he would be held accountable and in the hope that by coming forward she would help other potential victims."

Lizza has for years been one of the most high-profile political journalists in America, writing lengthy profiles about former President Barack Obama and others.

Earlier this year, Lizza reported on an expletive-filled conversation he had with Anthony Scaramucci, President Donald Trump's communications director. Days after the report, Scaramucci departed the White House; he had been in the position for one week.