New Yorker severs ties with Ryan Lizza over alleged 'improper sexual conduct': Report

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By Bradford Richardson

The <u>New Yorker</u> has reportedly severed ties with prominent political reporter <u>Ryan Lizza</u> for allegedly engaging in "improper sexual conduct."

"The <u>New Yorker</u> recently learned that <u>Ryan Lizza</u> engaged in what we believe was improper sexual conduct," the magazine said in a statement, reported <u>Politico</u>'s Michael Calderone. "We have reviewed the matter and, as a result, we have severed ties with Lizza."

The New Yorker did not elaborate on what the allegations against Mr. Lizza are.

In a statement, <u>Mr. Lizza</u> said he is "dismayed that The <u>New Yorker</u> has decided to characterize a respectful relationship with a woman I dated as somehow inappropriate."

"The <u>New Yorker</u> 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 <u>New Yorker</u>, 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."

Mr. Lizza joined the New Yorker as a Washington correspondent in 2007. He has penned numerous profiles on leading political figures, including Mitt Romney, Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama. He is an on-air contributor for CNN.

In July, he published controversial comments made by then-White House Communications Director Anthony Scaramucci in a phone call. Mr. Scaramucci resigned four days after the comments were published, lamenting that he made the mistake of "trusting in a reporter."

<u>Mr. Lizza</u> is just the latest member of the media to be accused of improper workplace conduct in the wake of the allegations against Hollywood movie producer Harvey Weinstein.