## Fox News settles a slew of discrimination lawsuits for around \$10 million

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- Fox News reportedly reached a \$10 million settlement for several discrimination lawsuits filed by 18 current and former employees.
- The ranged from claims of racial, gender, and pregnancy discrimination.
- The settlement would force the plaintiffs to drop their claims and find employment elsewhere, never to return to Fox News's parent company, 21st Century Fox.

Fox News reportedly reached a \$10 million settlement for several discrimination lawsuits filed by 18 current and former employees, according to <u>The New York Times</u>.

The lawsuits ranged from claims of mistreatment based on racial, gender, and pregnancy, including one that alleged no action was taken <u>after repeated complaints</u> about what was described as "abhorrent, intolerable, unlawful and hostile racial discrimination."

"When it comes to racial discrimination, 21st Century Fox has been operating as if it should be called 18th Century Fox," Douglas Wigdor and Jeanne Christensen, representatives of the plaintiffs, previously said in a statement cited by <u>BuzzFeed News</u>.

Fox News denied the allegations.

"We believe these latest claims are without legal basis and look forward to proving that Fox News at all times has acted appropriately, and lawfully," a spokesperson <u>said</u> regarding a pregnancy discrimination allegation in 2017. "[Fox] is committed to a diverse workplace that is free from all forms of discrimination."

The plaintiffs included Fox News reporters who appear on radio and television, including Kelly Wright, a black employee of the network since 2003.

Wright claimed in his filing that he was marginalized by the network's so-called "plantationstyle management."

The settlement would bind the plaintiffs to drop their claims and find employment elsewhere, never to return to Fox News's parent company, 21st Century Fox, according to The Times. The parties would be barred from disclosing their respective settlement amounts, but will not prevent them from discussing their allegations.

The settlement marks the end of another chapter in the network's history of scandals. A string of sexual-harassment allegations have ratteled the network previously — which led to the ouster of several influential figures in 2017, most notably <u>Bill O'Reilly</u>, and then-chairman and CEO <u>Roger Ailes</u>.