

# Gay ex-Goldman Sachs veep sues firm for discrimination

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By Michael Gartland

A former Goldman Sachs vice president is suing the behemoth investment banking firm over allegations it discriminated against him because he's gay.

William Littleton, who served with the firm for eight years, claims his complaints to management about harassment not only went unheeded, but led to him being fired.

In the complaint, filed Wednesday in Manhattan Supreme Court, Littleton alleges he was excluded from a call with a client because "he sounded too gay" and was once asked by a colleague: "What's wrong with you? Do you act this way because you're gay?"

It all happened against a backdrop of what he and his attorneys describe as a corporate culture that has long left gay people "hesitant to openly express their sexual orientation for fear of backlash."

"It stands to reason that a company with such poor LGBTQ diversity at senior levels would acquiesce to institutional discrimination, a lax response to LGBTQ discrimination complaints and retaliation against those who raise complaints," the complaint states.