## Ex-lover of orthopedic surgeon files lawsuit against the doctor for 'having her followed by PI

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- Susanne Schafmeister, 43, filed a lawsuit against Dr John Kennedy on Friday
- Schafmeister dated Kennedy for 12 years before ending relationship in 2018
- She also worked as his office manager even after she broke up with the doctor
- Schafmeister claims when she told the orthopedic surgeon that she was seeing someone else, he started harassing her and had a private investigator follow her
- On November 18, Schafmeister was arrested and charged with grand larceny
- According to her suit, Kennedy allegedly accused her of embezzling money from his private practice and writing herself a \$12,000 check

The ex-lover of a prominent New York orthopedic surgeon has filed a lawsuit against the doctor for 'having her followed by a private investigator' and accusing her of embezzling money from his private practice after she broke up with him.

Susanne Schafmeister, 43, said she started dating Dr John Kennedy shortly after she moved to New York from her native <u>Germany</u> in 2005.

In 2006, Kennedy, who leads the foot and ankle division at New York University Langone Health, offered her a position as his office manager.

According to <u>NBC News</u>, Schafmeister ended their relationship late last year after she discovered Kennedy had been cheating on her.

Despite breaking things off with him, he invited her to continue her office manager position in his new location at NYU Langone earlier this year.

It was when she disclosed to Kennedy that she was seeing someone else that he began harassing her, according to her lawsuit that was filed on Friday.

Schafmeister accused Kennedy of 'outrageous discriminatory, harassing and threatening behavior' in her lawsuit.

She claims that he demanded she return all the gifts that he'd bought for her over their 12-year relationship.

When she refused, he allegedly told her that if she wanted to 'continue to be adversarial I can behave that way also'.

It wasn't until October that she found out Kennedy had a private investigator following her,

according to the suit.

The situation took a turn for the worst when Kennedy allegedly accused Schafmeister of embezzling money from his private practice.

According to the lawsuit, Kennedy told Schafmeister that he would report her to the 'feds'.

In the lawsuit, Schafmeister claimed that Kennedy instructed her to cover the amount of a proposed bonus with a \$12,000 check from his private practice.

But on November 18, Schafmeister was arrested and charged with grand larceny because she wrote the check.

In the suit, Schafmeister alleges that Kennedy pretended that she had written the check without his consent.

Regarding that incident, another complaint alleges that Schafmeister did not have permission to write herself the \$12,000 check that was dated for Jul 17, 2019.

That complaint also claims that she embezzled more than \$100,000 through more than a dozen other checks.

Schafmeister has denied those claims against her.

A DailyMail.com request for comment to NYU Langone was not immediately returned but the healthcare facility told NBC in a statement: 'We take seriously all internal allegations of inappropriate behavior and they have been and continue to be investigated.

'Likewise, we will defend the federal complaint in court at the appropriate time.'

Schafmeister still works at NYU Langone Health, but she has been removed from the department where Kennedy still works.