

Celeb chef Philippe Chow is leaving workers hungry for money

By [Victoria Bekiempis](#) / NEW YORK DAILY NEWS / Wednesday, January 27, 2016, 8:34PM



Philippe Chow staffers said they had to carry out the most unsavory of tasks, including “killing rodents and bugs infesting the restaurants.”

Celeb chef Philippe Chow is leaving his workers hungry for their money — again.

A new lawsuit filed in Manhattan federal court Wednesday by a group of former employees alleges that the Chow-run Philippe Restaurant, which has locations on East 60th Street and the Hamptons, pays many of its service employees less than minimum wage and steals their tips.

On top of that, Philippe staffers said they had to carry out the most unsavory of tasks, including “killing rodents and bugs infesting the restaurants” and “cleaning walls sprayed with blood from butchering animal carcasses,” the suit says.

“This is hardly the first time Mr. Chow and his restaurant group has been accused of unlawful wage practices, as he and his companies have been sued no fewer than six times in the last ten years for stiffing the service staff on their wages, and the lesson apparently has still not been learned,” the suit states.

The lawsuit also describes a cut-throat work environment in the kitchen.

[NEW YORK KICKS OFF 2016 WITH \\$9 MINIMUM WAGE, WORKPLACE PROTECTIONS FOR WOMEN](#)

A chef once tried to stab an employee with an “oversized fork.” Another time, the chef, who is not named, threw ceramic plates at an employee and tried to smash an oversized metal spoon on his head, the suit claims.

Abraham Merchant, CEO of current Philippe Restaurant owner Merchants Hospitality, said, “These are old allegations from former disgruntled employees” of the previous company.