

Two black women who work at Fox News Channel have charged in a lawsuit that they were subjected to "yearslong relentless racial" hostility at the hands of a top financial executive at the network who has since been fired.

Tichaona Brown and Tabrese Wright, who sued this week in Bronx Supreme Court, said their boss talked about her physical fear of black people, humiliated them by making them repeat words she believes blacks pronounce incorrectly and mocked the "Black Lives Matter" movement.

Judith Slater, the executive involved, asked Wright, a mother of three, whether all of her children had the same father, the lawsuit alleges.

Fox said it fired Slater on Feb. 28. She was the network's controller and senior vice president of accounting.

"There is no place for inappropriate verbal remarks like this at Fox News," the network said in a statement. "We are disappointed that this needless litigation has been filed."

Fox offered no contact information for Slater, and it was not immediately clear if she had hired a lawyer.

The allegations of racial insensitivity come on the same week that Fox's most popular personality, Bill O'Reilly, apologized for an on-air comment that he couldn't concentrate on a speech by California Rep. Maxine Waters, who is black, because he was distracted by her "James Brown wig."

Fox is also dealing with the legal fallout from last summer's forced departure of former CEO Roger Ailes because of sexual harassment charges, which he denied.

Brown and Wright's lawsuit alleges that Fox "intentionally turned a blind eye" to the climate of racial hostility until it was clear that it couldn't keep the matter in-house.

Fox said it takes these matters very seriously and that it took action against Slater before the lawsuit was filed.