

## Two black women sue Fox News executive, network for racial harassment - Times of India

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By Brendan O'Brien and Daniel Wiessner

March 29 (Reuters) - Two black employees of [Fox News](#) have accused a white executive of racial harassment and the cable network of ignoring their claims of discrimination in a lawsuit filed in [New York City](#).

[Fox](#) payroll employees [Tichaona Brown](#) and Tabrese [Wright](#) claimed that Judith [Slater](#), the former senior vice president of accounting and comptroller, ridiculed and mocked them based on their race on several occasions, according to the lawsuit filed in New York state court in the [Bronx](#) on Tuesday.

The women said they "and other dark-skinned employees suffered years-long relentless racial animus" working under Slater. The network fired [Brown](#) and demoted Wright after learning they would not settle the complaint, according to the lawsuit.

A Fox News spokeswoman said Slater was fired last month in response to the complaints, and that Brown is still employed by the network. Wright was transferred to a different department this week, she said, but not demoted.

"We take complaints of this nature very seriously and took prompt and effective remedial action before Ms. Brown and Ms. Wright sued in court and even before Ms. Wright complained through her lawyer," the spokeswoman said.

"There is no place for inappropriate verbal remarks like this at Fox News," the spokeswoman added. "We are disappointed that this needless litigation has been filed."

The suit came six months after Fox News, a unit of [Twenty-First Century Fox Inc](#), settled a sexual harassment suit by former anchor [Gretchen Carlson](#) for \$20 million. Carlson's allegations led to the resignation of network chief [Roger Ailes](#), who abruptly ended his 20-year rein over the profitable and powerful cable news channel.

Brown and Wright said Slater made various racist statements, including mocking stereotypically black speech, claimed black men are "women beaters" and regularly expressed her fear of black people.

On one occasion, Slater asked Wright, a mother of three, if her children "were fathered by the same man," according to the lawsuit.

They also said executives at Fox News and Twenty-First Century Fox ignored repeated complaints against Slater.

In addition to creating a racially hostile work environment, the women accused the network of unequal pay and opportunities for advancement because of their race, in violation of New York state law. They are seeking unspecified damages. (Reporting by Brendan O'Brien in [Milwaukee](#) and Daniel Wiessner in Albany, New York; Editing by Jeffrey Benkoe)