

# Uber sued by India rape victim over alleged privacy violation

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By Raghav Ohri

NEW DELHI: [Uber](#) Technologies has been dragged to the court by a woman who was raped by an Uber cab driver in Delhi in 2014 for illegally accessing her medical records by Uber's executive.

Seeking a jury trial against Uber, the woman on Thursday filed a suit in a Court in [California](#) seeking damages and injunction against Uber. It has been stated in the suit that the victim is "devastated" by the acts of Uber and its executives who "who have intruded into her very personal medical records from her sexual assault and callously disregarded her privacy by sharing their contents across the company".

The suit filed by her attorney Douglas H Wigdor demands damages from Uber. "Also to compensate the victim for all physical, monetary and/or economic harm; for harm to her reputation; for all non-monetary and/or compensatory harm, including but not limited to compensation for mental anguish and physical injuries and all other monetary and non-monetary losses suffered by the victim", it reads.

Commenting on the development, Uber [India](#) spokesperson said "no one should have to go through a horrific experience like this, and we're truly sorry that she's had to relive it over the last few weeks."

They also added on a phone interaction that a settlement of "more than a million dollars" was made in September 2015.

The victim has claimed that Eric Alexander, who was fired by Uber for obtaining medical records of the victim, shared the records with the top brass of Uber.

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It states after plaintiff's sexual assault, Alexander went directly to Delhi where he managed to obtain plaintiff's confidential private medical records generated by physicians who examined her after the brutal rape.

"Alexander showed the records to Kalanich and Michael. The trio discussed the records among themselves and with other staff at Uber, speculating that plaintiff had made up the brutal rape in collusion with a rival of Uber in India in order to undermine Uber's business. Nothing was further from the truth," the suit reads.

It adds, "this flagrantly irresponsible, defamatory and offensive theory concocted by Alexander Kalanick and Michael has no rational basis".

"Uber's board of Directors has acknowledged the egregious violation of the victim's privacy, with Board member Arianna Huffington stating "our task now is to learn, rebuild and move forward together to write Uber's next chapter", it adds.

"Although it is unlawful and despicable that Alexander shared her sensitive information, it is clear that multiple individuals were informed about various details or shown the actual documents", the complaint says.

When reached out, her attorney Douglas wrote to ET "It is shocking that [Travis Kalanick](#) could publicly say that Uber would do everything to support our client and her family in her recovery when he and other executives were reviewing illegally obtained medical records and engaging in offensive and spurious conspiracy theories about the brutal rape she so tragically suffered.

Rape denial is just another form of the toxic gender discrimination that is endemic at Uber and ingrained in its culture".

Douglas added “Hopefully, this lawsuit coupled with the changes recommended by the independent counsel will create real change and reform at Uber and elsewhere”. The suit further reads that Uber has “defamed the character” of the victim.