

CBS producer says booze-abusing boss texted her a photo of him peeing: lawsuit



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An associate producer at CBS claims that her boss regularly drank at work and once texted her a photo of himself and friends peeing on a smoldering fire — and that she was sidelined for reporting it, according to a new lawsuit.

Cassandra Vinograd — who began working in the network’s London office in June — says that her boss, Emmy-winning senior producer of 60 Minutes Michael Gavshon frequently “drank openly in the office and out in the field in front of CBS employees” and “no one said anything about it,” according to her Manhattan Supreme Court lawsuit.

Vinograd, 35, said Gavshon, 63, sometimes got so “belligerent” that he would slur his words and need things repeated to him multiple times, according to the suit, which also claims he once passed out in Vinograd’s office.

Then Sept. 26, Gavshon texted her the picture of himself with his penis out peeing, according to the suit, which included the photo. Vinograd didn’t respond to the message, but her suit called the message “creepy and gross.”

Gavshon later texted, “I am so sorry... I thought I sent that picture to my sister who went [sic] the funeral of my school friend,” the suit says.

Vinograd reported his drinking and the text message to human resources on Sept. 30. But they found the photo was sent accidentally and they couldn’t corroborate her claims about Gavshon’s drinking, the suit says.

Vinograd hasn’t been given any assignments since, and Gavshon took her off of segments she had already worked on, replacing her with two other women, the court documents claim.

Vinograd says her case comes on the heels of other CBS scandals including the ousters of CEO Les Moonves and 60 Minutes producer Jeff Fager, who were fired for sexual misconduct allegations.

“It appears that no meaningful changes to the culture at CBS have been made,” Vinograd’s lawyer, Jeanne Christensen said adding, “CBS continues to protect senior male talent at the expense of junior women — business as usual.”

Vinograd is suing CBS for retaliation and gender discrimination.

A rep for CBS did not immediately return a request for comment. Gavshon did not immediately return a Facebook message.