

Former model files new lawsuit against Harvey Weinstein alleging assault when she was 16

 [usatoday.com/story/entertainment/celebrities/2019/12/19/harvey-weinstein-kaja-sokola-former-teen-model-](https://www.usatoday.com/story/entertainment/celebrities/2019/12/19/harvey-weinstein-kaja-sokola-former-teen-model-)

Former teen model Kaja Sokola has filed a new suit against Harvey Weinstein, claiming the media mogul assaulted her when she was 16.

Sokola's lawyers filed a civil complaint in the New York State Supreme Court on Thursday against Harvey Weinstein, Robert Weinstein, Disney, and Miramax. The complaint alleges Sokola was sexually assaulted by Weinstein in 2002.

The suit says Weinstein met Sokola at an event associated with her modeling agency, and told Sokola he was interested in helping her with her acting career. However, when Weinstein picked up the young model for lunch, he took her to his apartment without her consent and would not let her leave "until after he terrified and sexually abused her," the suit alleges.

Sokola, now 33 years old, was originally an anonymous "Jane Doe" in a class action suit against Weinstein, but has now come forward with a suit using her real name under [New York's Child Victims Act](#), which beginning in August provided a one-year window for victims to file old civil claims for child sexual abuse.

She filed suit after rejecting the [\\$25 million proposed settlement deal reached by Weinstein and a number of his accusers](#).

"I cannot accept the proposed 'global settlement' as fair or just," Sokola said in a statement. "There is no accountability for the perpetrators, insufficient compensation for all of the victims, and millions of dollars going to people that I believe enabled Weinstein."

Sokola said she has "long since moved on from modeling and, because of Harvey Weinstein, gave up on my dreams of acting. I am grateful to do important work as a clinical psychologist and psychotherapist. As part of my professional education and experience, I have learned that some wounds never fully heal."

She continued: "Memories of sexual abuse are like a scar after a burn, but because the injury is to the psyche, it is invisible to everyone except the victim. By revealing my own scar, I hope to encourage others to speak up about their own experiences."

"I know that this lawsuit cannot erase the pain that I have been living with for 17 years. But I do hope to achieve at least some measure of justice that has still been denied to Harvey Weinstein's many victims."

USA TODAY has reached out to Weinstein's current lawyer Donna Rotunno for comment.

"While others may have decided to settle, albeit under some of the most offensive and one-sided terms, we hope that the filing of this complaint encourages other victims and the New York Attorney General to join us as we continue our efforts at holding Harvey Weinstein and his enablers accountable," Sokola's lawyers, Douglas H. Wigdor and Kevin Mintzer, said in a statement. "Kaja Sokola, who was sexually abused by Harvey Weinstein when she was only 16 years old, is entitled to justice, and we intend to see that she gets it."