

MTA attorney alleges in lawsuit she was assaulted by supervisor

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By David Meyer

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A black MTA staff attorney alleges she was physically assaulted by her white male supervisor — but the agency allowed him to keep working and has inflicted “constant retaliation” against her ever since, according to a new lawsuit.

Bridges and Tunnels attorney Kellie Walker, 50, claims in her suit filed Tuesday in Manhattan federal court that the MTA discriminated against her on the basis of her race and gender following the Feb. 3 incident.

That’s when she alleges her boss Victor Muallem “hurled back his arm and physically hit” her during an arbitration meeting, according to court documents.

“Unbelievably, Ms. Walker was in the middle of cross-examining a witness when Muallem hit her,” the complaint alleges.

“Multiple people at the hearing saw the assault and battery including witnesses, other attorneys and the arbitrator. Stunned, shocked, humiliated and in pain, Ms. Walker ran out of the hearing as soon as she was finished.”

MTA management did not respond to the incident in the immediate aftermath — and the transit agency continued to “expect Ms. Walker to show up at work and report to Muallem,” the suit alleges.

Walker, who claims the attack left her bruised and emotionally distressed, reported the assault to Muallem’s supervisor on Feb. 4 and to police on Feb. 5, the suit said. The NYPD confirmed to The Post that it received the report.

“Every time Ms. Walker would enter the MTA office building or walk through the building’s hallway, her heart would race as she remembered Muallem striking her and considered whether she would run into him,” the filing said.

But after Walker retained legal counsel later that month, the alleged retaliation began in the form of excessive micromanagement, the suit charges.

In October, the MTA informed Walker that its investigation into her complaint produced “insufficient evidence to substantiate Ms. Walker’s allegations,” according to the suit.

“Almost a year later, Muallem continues to work at the MTA in a supervisory attorney position and Ms. Walker is expected to work as if nothing ever happened,” the suit charges.

The suit seeks unspecified damages.

In a statement, MTA spokesman Tim Minton said: “We will vigorously contest these claims but will not litigate lawsuits in the press.”

Muallem could not be reached for comment Tuesday.