

Nonbinary Actor Files Discrimination Complaint Against Hamilton

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A nonbinary performer has filed a federal complaint against the hit musical *Hamilton*.

Suni Reid, a Black, trans, and nonbinary actor, claims they were discriminated against and harassed while appearing in various productions of the hit Broadway show, as *Insider* reported. Reid had been with *Hamilton* since 2017, working in productions in New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago.

Specifically, Reid claims her contract was not renewed this year following a request for a gender-neutral dressing room in a Los Angeles production. Last week, as *Insider* noted, Reid filed a federal complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC).

In the EEOC complaint, which *Insider* [published in full](#), Reid alleges that they experienced “discrimination and retaliation” from the musical *Hamilton*, the production company Adventureland LLC, and the touring company Eliza Tour LLC, collectively referred to in the complaint via the shorthand *Hamilton*.

In the complaint, Reid alleges that “certain actors physically threatened or intentionally and repeatedly mis-gendered [them],” noting that a large part of this harassment “occurred in the dressing spaces for male performers that Mx. Reid had to use as a member of the cast in New York and Chicago.”

Reid further claims that, in response to their request for a gender-neutral changing area, *Hamilton* told them to use a section of the main dressing room that could be “cordon[ed] off” with a curtain or a sheet. Reid says she told the production that a curtain or a sheet was not an adequate solution to the problem.

Soon after, the complaint alleges, Reid’s contract negotiations were “suspended.”

This led to Reid allegedly retaining lawyers in July and missing out on several performances. Reid claims in the complaint that even after a leading cast member offered their individual private dressing room as a gender-neutral space, their contract still remained unfinalized.

“Therefore, even though *Hamilton* had relented and set up a gender-neutral dressing room that could be used by at least three cast members at a time, the Company’s management continued to exclude Mx. Reid from performances and would not finalize their contract,” the complaint reads.

Reid's contract negotiations with *Hamilton* were eventually "terminated," the complaint notes, and she was not brought back.

Reid's legal representatives Lawrence M. Pearson and Lindsay M. Goldbrum issued a statement published by *BuzzFeed News* and several other media outlets.

"Publicly, *Hamilton* is a beacon of diversity and appears committed to causes seeking social justice and harmony," Pearson and Goldbrum said. "Behind the curtain, however, the Company's management will force out a Black, transgender cast member simply because they stood up for themselves and advocated for a more equitable workplace, and therefore called that public image into question."

BuzzFeed News also reports a spokesperson for *Hamilton* denied allegations of discrimination or retaliation by management and claimed they offered Reid a contract with "terms responsive to their requests."

In the statement published by *BuzzFeed News*, the spokesperson claims they treated Reid and fellow company members with equal "respect and consideration."

"Specifically, we have given Suni direct financial support, paid for their health insurance, and paid for their housing," the *Hamilton* spokesperson said, according to *BuzzFeed News*. "We wish Suni well in their future endeavors."