

New York Radio Legend Shaila Scott Sues Former Employer for Gender, Age Discrimination

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Legendary New York City radio character Shaila Scott has sued her former employer for gender and age discrimination following her dismissal from WBLS earlier this yr.

Scott — actual identify Amilee Cattouse — has spent 30 years as a radio host, together with a prolonged tenure on WBLS, a preferred city grownup modern station in NYC. Despite receiving quite a few business accolades and garnering persistently excessive scores, Scott claims in her go well with that WBLS’ present proprietor MediaCo Holding, Inc, in addition to its former proprietor, Emmis Communications Corporation, paid her lower than her male counterparts. The 59-year-old Scott additionally claims WBLS fired her and changed her with somebody 25 years youthful.

Reps for WBLS/MediaCo didn’t instantly return *Rolling Stone*’s requests for remark. A spokesperson for Emmis stated, “Emmis Communications Corporation bought WBLS and WQHT in 2019. Emmis has no touch upon this pending litigation.”

The go well with, obtained by *Rolling Stone*, states that Scott’s program was “one of many top-rated exhibits in New York City throughout her time slot” and that she even earned “comparable or higher common scores” than the male hosts on WBLS’ sister station, the storied Hot97. Nevertheless, Scott claims that MediaCo and Emmis paid her “lower than two of her male friends,” despite the fact that they “carried out the identical duties.”

Scott goes on to assert that lately she was certainly one of MediaCo's oldest "weekday, common non-syndicated on-air personalities," with nearly all of staff believed to be between the ages of 33 and 53. Scott says MediaCo's managers "ridiculed" her "due to her age": One supervisor allegedly advised her to ensure the lineup for certainly one of her music packages wasn't "too geriatric." And simply this previous January, she claimed the Digital Director of WBLS and Hot97 made a remark about "outdated Negro spirituals" being performed in the course of the Martin Luther King, Jr. vacation.

Scott additionally claims that in March, she was tasked with creating her personal podcast: "After [she] laid the groundwork and ready to file the podcast, she was suggested simply days earlier than the recording that the Company didn't need her to file the podcast, solely to have a youthful worker step in and file the podcast."

Noting MediaCo's alleged "sample of hiring new staff who had been of their 20s and 30s moderately than extra skilled people," Scott stated she was fired round May 9, 2022, with the corporate telling her it was getting in a "new path" (Scott's substitute was in her 30s). "Recognizing its illegal conduct, MediaCo refused to pay Cattouse her severance until she promised to waive all of her authorized claims in opposition to the corporate, together with claims for intercourse and age discrimination," the go well with states.

Scott is accusing MediaCo and Emmis of violating the Equal Pay Act, the New York State Pay Equity Law, the New York State Human Rights Law, and the New York City Human Rights Law. She's in search of unspecified damages.