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Luxury Real Estate World Rocked by Rape Allegations Against Star Broker

After lawsuits by two women, five more women speak about alleged assaults by jetsetting broker Oren Alexander

By Katherine Clarke [Follow] *and Emily Glazer* [Follow] June 18, 2024 8:35 am ET

Oren Alexander traveled the world in private jets, hosted lavish parties and enjoyed a lifestyle befitting some of the ultrawealthy clients who enlisted him to buy and sell their Manhattan penthouses and Miami mansions. New allegations that Alexander engaged in sexual assaults now threaten to bring down one of the biggest stars in the gilded world of luxury real estate.

Five women have told The Wall Street Journal that they were sexually assaulted or raped by Alexander, co-founder of boutique brokerage Official. The women—two of whom are realestate agents—described a similar pattern of behavior that they alleged occurred as recently as 2020 and as far back as 20 years ago when he was a high-school student.

They spoke out in recent days following a pair of lawsuits by two other women alleging sexual assaults by Oren Alexander and his twin brother Alon Alexander. The suits, filed in March, claim incidents dating back to 2010 and 2012.

Isabelle A. Kirshner, a lawyer for Oren and Alon Alexander, declined to comment on the allegations by the five women but denied the claims in the two lawsuits. "Our preliminary investigation of the claims has uncovered clear and irrefutable evidence that vindicates the Alexanders, which we look forward to presenting in court," she said in a statement about the lawsuits.

One woman, an aspiring model, told the Journal she went on several dates with Oren before going back to his home in the fall of 2017. She said he offered to show her virtual-reality goggles that helped buyers virtually tour his luxury listings.

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After the woman had the goggles on, she said he ripped her dress off and threw her on the bed, pinning her down. She alleges he raped her despite her crying and begging him to stop. The woman's husband confirmed her account, which the woman shared with him years ago.

Last week, Oren Alexander posted in a statement on Instagram that he was taking a pause from his work at Official and shifting his focus to fighting what he deemed "baseless civil allegations."

"I am confident that through review of the extensive evidence, including text messages and other communications, that the truth will be brought to light," he wrote.

In an internal email Friday, Official co-founder Nicole Oge wrote that Oren would be removed as an owner of the firm in the wake of the allegations.

A third brother, Tal Alexander, who is also a luxury broker and a co-founder of Official, wasn't named in either of the lawsuits. In an email sent to co-workers Sunday, he said he anticipated being unfairly implicated. He called the allegations against his brothers reprehensible and said he would never behave in such a way.

"I have little doubt that given my close relationship with my brothers, at some juncture, a lawyer or many lawyers will soon try to lump me in with the allegations against Alon and Oren," he wrote.

The A-Team



Oren and Tal Alexander brokered the \$240 million sale of an apartment on Billionaires' Row in New York City to hedge fund magnate Ken Griffin. PHOTO: AMIR HAMJA/BLOOMBERG NEWS

Oren Alexander is a household name in the luxury real-estate world. He and his older brother, Tal, have brokered some of the country's priciest transactions, including the roughly \$240 million sale in 2019 of an apartment at New York's 220 Central Park South to billionaire hedge fund magnate Ken Griffin. That deal still holds the record for the most expensive residential transaction ever closed in the U.S. They have also racked up major sales in Aspen and Miami.

A spokesperson for Griffin said he wasn't a longtime client of the Alexanders and that the transaction was the only deal that they had brokered for him.

In December 2022, Oren told the Journal that their team had sold close to \$3 billion in real estate across the country in the prior two years. In Miami, they sold the penthouses at highend condo buildings such as Faena House and Arte. That same year, the brothers left their longtime firm, Douglas Elliman, to start Official.

Going by the moniker the A-Team, Oren and Tal were part of a new wave of luxury real-estate agents who helped redefine the business starting in the 2010s, speaking the language of personal branding and social media. They aimed to live like their clients, flying around the world in private jets, spearfishing in Panama, snowboarding in Aspen and riding dune buggies in Saudi Arabia. At one point, Oren got around Miami in a black Mercedes with a Florida plate reading A TEAM-O.

For Tal's 30th birthday, the brothers tapped a professional production company to put together a film of their celebrations in the Hamptons, set to Travis Scott's hit "A-Team." In the video, they wore all-white suits and partied on a speedboat.

The brothers' father founded a company that provides security and concierge services to commercial and residential buildings, but eventually he became a prominent developer of luxury homes in South Florida. In 2012, a home he built in Miami's sought-after Indian Creek Village sold for \$47 million, setting a then-record for Miami.

Alon is an executive at the family's private security firm, Kent Security. The brothers' mother, a former Hebrew school principal, serves as the chief financial officer of Kent.

Invitation to a party

The attorney for the two women in the March lawsuits, Evan Torgan of Torgan Cooper + Aaron, said in an interview that since the suits became public, he has heard from several dozen women with similar stories. Luxury Real Estate World Rocked by Rape Allegations Against Star Broker Oren Alexander - WSJ

Torgan said he sees patterns in the allegations, saying he believes Oren and Alon Alexander mostly targeted young models in their circle. Some of the women willingly went on dates and to parties with the brothers, who were wealthy, successful and good-looking, Torgan said.

The two lawsuits were filed in March and earlier reported by the Real Deal, a real-estate trade magazine. In one, a woman named Rebecca Mandel alleges that she encountered Oren and Alon Alexander at a nightclub in New York in September 2010. They had been introduced about a year earlier and were active in the same social circles, according to the suit. She accepted a drink from Alon at the club and then an invitation to accompany the twins to a party thrown by one of their friends.



Alon Alexander, left, and Oren Alexander at a party in 2011 at Sir Ivan's Castle, a mansion in the Hamptons designed to look like a medieval castle. PHOTO: MATTHEW PEYTON/GETTY IMAGES FOR PEACEMAN PRODUCTIONS

and fear.

High-school allegation

She then alleges that, once they arrived at the purported party, she found that there was no such event. Instead, the hallway was quiet; there were no voices and no music. Mandel alleged that, once inside the apartment, Oren and Alon assaulted her. She alleges that Alon held her down while Oren penetrated her. Then, according to her, they switched places.

In the other suit, a woman named Kate Whiteman, now based in Australia, claims she was raped by the twins at Sir Ivan's Castle, a mansion in the Hamptons designed to look like a medieval castle.

Whiteman alleges that she rebuffed Oren's requests for dates for years before running into the twins at a Hamptons nightclub over Memorial Day weekend in 2012. She claims they forced her into a black SUV and drove her to the castle, where she was forced to strip inside the garage and put on a sarong. She then alleges they took her upstairs to a bedroom and raped her. In the suit, she said the alleged incident left her experiencing extreme depression, anxiety In conversations with the Journal, one woman who isn't a party in either lawsuit said she was a real-estate agent in Miami in early 2017—and socialized in the same circles as the Alexander twins—when Oren raped her.

She alleged they were hanging out with mutual friends in a trendy Miami Beach nightclub when she accepted his invitation to accompany him back to his home. When they got there, he poured her a drink and they began to become intimate, but, as they made their way into the bedroom, she started to feel sick.

She said she felt the room spinning and her vision blurring. She said she told Oren that she wouldn't have sex with him because she wasn't feeling well and, suspecting that she had too much to drink, she wanted to sleep it off. She alleged that he nevertheless persisted, pushing himself on her and raping her.

She said she didn't report the alleged incident to the police, out of fear she wouldn't be believed because she had gone home with Oren willingly and likely had had too much to drink. A friend of the woman's confirmed that she had told her about the alleged incident shortly after it happened.

Another woman said she was raped by Oren Alexander about 20 years ago when they were both high-school students. The girl and others were invited to the Alexander home for a party but when they showed up the three Alexander brothers and two of their friends were the only ones they saw there.

She said they were given alcohol and then she was separated from the others and raped. The woman asked to remain anonymous. A friend of the woman confirmed her account, which she shared at the time. The woman said she didn't report the incident at the time because she thought it might have been her fault for willingly going to the Alexander home in the first place.

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