

RETAIL

Saks Fifth Avenue sued for discrimination

December 19, 2018



Exterior of Saks Fifth Avenue. Image credit: Saks Fifth Avenue

By STAFF REPORTS

Department store Saks Fifth Avenue is undergoing a lawsuit saying it discriminated against employees.

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Eight former Saks employees are suing the department store citing race and age discrimination. The lawsuit alleges that the men could not advance in the workplace due to the discrimination.

Discrimination in the workplace

The case against Saks was filed Nov. 20 in New York and is represented by Shegerian & Associates.

Some of the men claim that Saks purposefully put them in low trafficked areas, which led to low sales numbers.

Two men, aged 68 and 70, say that managers focused on the younger employees and overlooked them and also stated that they were fired despite maintaining their sales.

Others say that it was a hostile work environment and they were spoken to in a condescending manner. One plaintiff claims a manager touched him inappropriately in a dressing room.



Cartier's boutique in Saks

"The allegations against Saks are indicative of the age discrimination older employees face in a wide range of industries," said Mr. Shegerian, in a statement. "It's important that employees understand their rights and constitutes

as harassment."

This is not the only lawsuit Saks is dealing with at the moment.

French jeweler Cartier believes that Saks Fifth Avenue's new department store floor model is damaging its business and is fighting back with a lawsuit.

The department store attempted to end Cartier's five-year lease at the New York flagship in addition to its new remodel years early. The jeweler is seeking \$40 million in damages, according to *Women's Wear Daily* ([see story](#)).

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