

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

LAURA WILLIS LUHN, an individual
c/o 2020 Pennsylvania Ave NW #800
Washington, DC 20006

Plaintiff

v.

SUZANNE GUNDERSON SCOTT,
Individually
24 Homewood Drive
Morristown, NJ 07960

And

THE FOX CORPORATION,
dba Fox News Channel
c/o 400 N. Capitol Street NW, #550
Washington, DC 20001

Defendants.

Case Number:

VERIFIED COMPLAINT

INTRODUCTION

Plaintiff, LAURA WILLIS LUHN (“Plaintiff” or “Luhn”) hereby files this action against SUZANNE GUNDERSON SCOTT (“Defendant Scott”) and THE FOX CORPORATION, dba Fox News Channel (“FNC”) for Defamation and False Light.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. This Court has diversity jurisdiction over this case pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332, as the parties are completely diverse in citizenship and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000.

2. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2), (3) in that a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to Plaintiff Corsi’s claims arose herein.

THE PARTIES

3. Plaintiff Luhn is an individual, natural person who is a citizen and resident of California Plaintiff is not a public figure.

4. Defendant Suzanne Scott is an individual and a citizen and resident of New Jersey. Defendant Scott is the Chief Executive Office of Defendant FNC.

5. Defendant The Fox Corporation, dba Fox News Channel, has a major bureau in Washington D.C. and does a substantial portion of its business in Washington D.C. It also broadcasts daily into the District of Columbia, in part to influence decisionmakers in this district.

STANDING

6. Plaintiff Luhn has standing to bring this action because she has been directly and actually affected and victimized by the unlawful conduct complained herein. Her injuries are proximately related to the misconduct of Defendants, each and every one of them, jointly and severally.

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

7. Defendant Scott was appointed as the CEO of Defendant FNC in May of 2018 after former CEO Roger Ailes (“Ailes”) was ousted in 2016 due to sexual harassment and abuse charges.¹

8. As reported by The Guardian, “many are concerned that Scott is a member of Fox’s old guard and her appointment is not a break from the toxic workplace culture that led to so many harassment and discrimination claims being made.”²

9. Furthermore, “[Defendant] Scott herself is mired in the many harassment claims.

¹ Sam Wolfson, *Meet Suzanne Scott: the new Fox News CEO who enforced 'miniskirt rule*, The Guardian, May 17, 2018, available at:

<https://www.theguardian.com/media/2018/may/17/suzanne-scott-who-is-she-fox-news-ceo-female-miniskirt-rule>.

² *Id.*

Staff were apparently aghast when she was promoted last year, as she had been the executive tasked with enforcing Ailes's miniskirt dress code for women. One anonymous former staff member told the Daily Beast how Scott would enforce a "skimpy" dress code in coordination with the wardrobe and makeup departments."³

10. The Guardian also reported that "[Defendant] Scott is also cited in lawsuits brought by the former Fox News staffers Andrea Tantaros and Julie Roginsky, as one of the executives at the company who either did not respond to or covered up their complaints of harassment."⁴

11. In an article published by the Los Angeles Times, written by Stephen Battaglia, Defendant Scott made false, malicious, and defamatory statements about Plaintiff Luhn which also held her in a false light, who was the victim of a decades long pattern and practice of sexual, psychological, emotional and physical abuse by Ailes. See Exhibit 1, which is incorporated herein in whole by reference.

12. The Los Angeles Times article reported that Defendant Scott told FNC employees that "she had no knowledge of Ailes' behavior even though she was part of his inner circle."
Exhibit 1.

13. Defendant Scott was quoted as saying, "I had no clue on what was going on in Roger Ailes' office.... I have never had any issues with any sort of harassment myself." Exhibit 1.

14. These are provably false statements of fact that were made by Defendant Scott to defame, discredit, smear and hold Plaintiff Luhn in a false light, who had previously filed a lawsuit in the Superior Court for Los Angeles County and then U.S. District Court for the

³ *Id.*

⁴ *Id.*

District of Delaware (the “Delaware Case”) detailing the decades-long abuse that she endured at the hands of Ailes, and which was covered up in part by Defendant Scott. *See Luhn v. Showtime Inc., et al*, 1:19-cv-618 (D. Del.); *Luhn v. Showtime Inc., et al*, 19SMCV00110 (Los Angeles Sup. Ct.). Press releases announcing these cases were sent to Scott and FNC, detailing Plaintiff Luhn’s allegations in suits filed against Showtime, Blumhouse TV, LLC, and the writer of the upcoming eight part mini-series “Loudest Voice in the Room,” where A list actress Annabelle Wallace portrays Plaintiff Laura Luhn. This eight-part mini-series is currently scheduled to air on Showtime June 30, 2019, with the first episode.

15. Thus, Plaintiff Luhn had directly informed Defendant Scott of the allegations in the Los Angeles and Delaware Cases even before they were filed, and had sent out press releases regarding the Delaware Case. Exhibit 2.

16. Thus, at a minimum, Defendant Scott was aware of the allegations by Plaintiff Luhn, and was much more directly involved in the cover-up of Ailes’ conduct and served as an “enabler” to Ailes’ conduct in this regard. Defendant Scott aided and abetted in the sexual abuse cover up.

17. By making the provably false statement that she was not aware of any of Ailes’ sexual harassment, Defendant Scott has defamed, smeared and discredited Plaintiff Luhn by calling her a liar and creating the false implication that Plaintiff Luhn fabricated sexual assault allegations against Ailes.

18. This is especially damaging when Plaintiff Luhn’s allegations are not only a matter of public record, but have been publicized and broadcasted by media outlets in this district, nationwide and internationally.

19. Defendant Scott’s statements have severely harmed Plaintiff Luhn’s reputation for

honesty and subjected her to ridicule and shame by falsely portraying her as a someone who fabricates sexual assault allegations.

20. In *Keeton v. Hustler, Inc.*, 465 U.S. 770 (1984), the plaintiff was a resident of New York, who brought a defamation case in New Hampshire against the defendant magazine, which was an Ohio corporation. *Id.* at 772. The only connection that the defendant had to New Hampshire was that the magazine had circulation in New Hampshire. *Id.* The Supreme Court held that the publisher of a national magazine was subject to jurisdiction in every location in which it was circulated, even if “the bulk of the harm done to petitioner occurred outside [the forum].” Jurisdiction in this district is even more pronounced, as Scott runs and manages and FNC has a major bureau in this district, which is one of two major broadcasting centers for FNC.

21. Defendant Scott’s false, malicious and defamatory statements have caused Plaintiff Luhn severe harm, as she now seeks to recover from her decades long cycle of abuse at the hands of Ailes, as detailed below. During this time period, which continues to the present, Plaintiff Luhn has been caused to suffer severe emotional distress, physical ailments and PTSD, to such an extent that she has attempted to commit suicide on at least two occasions. The actions of Defendants Scott and FNC, as set forth herein, have again thrust Plaintiff Luhn to the brink of suicide. This severe if not potentially fatal damage is particularly extreme and emotionally charged by the fact that a fellow woman, Defendant Scott, is so callous and uncaring in the eyes of Plaintiff Luhn, that this FNC CEO, Ailes’ replacement and enabler, would continue to cover-up the truth and continue to profit from her position at FNC.

22. Furthermore, to add insult to severe injury, it was reported back to Plaintiff Luhn that Defendant Scott tried to poison Plaintiff’s relationship to staff.

23. Discovery in furtherance of this lawsuit, whereby Plaintiff Luhn will subpoena

material witnesses who know of and will confirm the truth, along with documentation including but not limited to emails, text messages and internal FNC records and other documents and records, will prove this continuing cover-up by Defendants Scott and FNC. For instance, material witnesses such as John Moody, and also Jack Abernathy the latter of whom also informed Plaintiff Luhn that Defendant Scott was “running some strange invoices” on her expense accounts, most likely in furtherance of pay offs to persons who would otherwise reveal the truth, will be forced to testify about the cover-up, for which on information and belief there is an on-going grand jury investigation by the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York. In this regard, it has been reported that FNC paid out about 123 million USD in settlements to women who were sexually harassed and abused by Ailes to keep them quiet, which payments were hidden from shareholders and the public at large. Plaintiff Scott knew of and on information and belief participated in and furthered these secret payouts.

24. On information and belief there were also cover-ups which Defendant Scott knew of concerning child porn usage at the Washington, D.C Bureau of FNC, which Defendants Scott and FNC covered-up.

25. In sum, and as set forth below, Defendants Scott and FNC have engaged in a criminal enterprise to further their financial well-being by covering up the sexual abuse and discrimination that was and on information and belief remains rampant at the network. In so doing, persons like Plaintiff Luhn had to be silenced through coercion, intimidation and threats, notwithstanding overt acts designed to destroy them through defamation by ruining their reputations and subjecting them to extreme emotional distress with resulting physical ailments, which could even in Luhn’s case result in suicide.

FACTS PERTAINING TO ABUSE

26. Plaintiff was a part of the original staff which launched the Fox News Channel.

27. Plaintiff met Ailes in the summer of 1988 at the Washington, D.C. headquarters of the George H.W. Bush presidential campaign while she was on the staff at the campaign.

28. Plaintiff spent almost 15 years working for Fox News beginning on August 12, 1996 as a Guest Relations staffer for *Fox News Sunday with Tony Snow*. Plaintiff was part of the original staff that launched the Fox News Channel and was based in the Washington Bureau. Later, Plaintiff was promoted to Associate Producer/Guest Producer and was part of the *Special Report with Brit Hume* staff during the Kenneth Starr investigation and former president Bill Clinton impeachment proceedings. Plaintiff later became the Director of Booking for the Fox News Channel that included managing staff in both Washington, D.C. and New York City. In 2007, Plaintiff was promoted to Senior Director of Corporate and Special Events. This new position required commuting weekly to New York City working on the VIP launch event for the Fox Business Network hosted by Executive Chairman of News Corp, Rupert Murdoch, held in October at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.

29. In the early years of Fox News, Defendant Scott sat at the secretarial section directly outside of Ailes' office and was one of his gatekeepers.

30. During the entirety of Plaintiff's time on staff at Fox News, Ailes demanded, coerced, extorted, blackmailed and forced sexual favors from her, making impossible, frightening, dangerous and unrealistic demands and using abusive mind control techniques that he referred to as her "training." Ailes had bragged that he conducted training at the Central Intelligence Agency ("CIA") and this was his way to keep "Plaintiff in line and loyal to him." He would periodically call her in Washington telling her he felt her slipping up and that she needed more "training."

31. The immensely powerful Ailes always reinforced to Plaintiff that she was to tell no one about what she considered his abusive and threatening tactics and demands, which is why she remained very fearful of Ailes' promised retribution during her tenure with Fox News. Ailes told her to think of it as the military and that she was expected to follow orders. The "orders" were implied in every aspect of the Plaintiff's work life and personal life. Ailes required Plaintiff "to report in" anything she had heard or seen that he would find "useful."

32. Plaintiff was told to follow orders like "G.I. Jane" and act like Doris Day.

33. Plaintiff was forced to purchase black garters and stockings to wear for Ailes, which he called her "uniform." He required her to leave her job in the middle of the day and meet him in various hotel rooms requiring her to wear the "uniform." This was particularly painful, humiliating, and embarrassing to Plaintiff, as she was booking guests for a show and had to excuse herself, falsely telling the producers she felt ill. Ailes constantly reminded Plaintiff, "I own you."

34. Plaintiff would often pass John Moody, Senior Vice President of Editorial on the street while heading to meet Ailes at a hotel in Times Square.

35. When Plaintiff received a promotion in June of 2004, Ailes told her she needed to "thank him" as a *quid pro quo*. While in his office at Fox News Headquarters ("HQ"), Ailes told Plaintiff to go to the Doubletree Hotel in Times Square, put on her "uniform" and thank him for the promotion. Ailes forced Plaintiff to meet him at the hotel and perform oral sex in order to thank him for the promotion, continuing to manipulate Plaintiff. As the promotion was explained to Plaintiff, she would no longer report to Kim Hume, the Washington DC Bureau Chief. Ailes told her that she would be reporting to New York – specifically to Bill Shine. That actually included anyone from management on the second floor of the Fox News Headquarters ("HQ"),

usually Suzanne Scott, but also Kevin Magee, Irene Briganti, Judy Laterza and others.

36. A telephone call or email from anyone in Ailes' inner circle came with the understanding that it was what Ailes wanted, implying "following orders" no matter the consequence. It was absolutely understood that you were never to question orders. This created an atmosphere of mistrust toward Plaintiff, especially while try to function in her new role as Manager of Booking, operating in a hostile environment in the Washington D.C. Bureau.

37. Instead of using the Fox Travel Department, Ailes required Plaintiff to make her own hotel arrangements. Ailes was adamant that Plaintiff not stay at the Muse Hotel, where most of the Fox staff stayed. Plaintiff was expected to contact directly the Doubletree at Times Square, the Renaissance Hotel Times Square or the Omni Berkshire. Ailes ordered that Plaintiff stay at hotels that he had concluded were "safe" and convenient for him. This caused further embarrassment and humiliation for Plaintiff with questions raised concerning her hotel arrangements.

38. However "safe" Ailes had concluded the Doubletree was for him, Plaintiff was informed by a co-worker, Jama Vitale, in November 2006, almost 2 ½ years after the June 2004 promotion, that Peter Zorich, nephew to Michael Dukakis and a producer in the New York bureau, had witnessed Ailes leave the hotel and a few minutes later, had seen Plaintiff depart.

39. Plaintiff was unaware of Zorich, but had run into Cal Thomas, a Fox News Contributor while departing to take a cab to the airport. Ailes later told Plaintiff that he had visited with Cal Thomas in the hotel lobby when departing.

40. It is noteworthy that by October 2004, Ailes was embroiled in a sexual harassment lawsuit filed by Fox News Channel producer Andrea Mackris against Bill O'Reilly. After settling, the Andrea Mackris situation had terrified Ailes and his inner circle just enough to

preempt any perceived threat or future litigation from Plaintiff Luhn.

41. It was as if the entire Ailes inner circle employed tactics to “discredit” Plaintiff right after the Mackris fallout. This created an impossible work environment for Plaintiff, whom they had set up to fail.

42. This pattern of conduct by Ailes fueled harmful gossip in New York and Washington D.C., further alienating Plaintiff Luhn from her co-workers and the management of Fox News. Ailes’ threatening brazenness and arrogance escalated as the years went on, and the demands became more frightening. Ailes manipulated and threatened Plaintiff, reminding her that he kept the compromising photographs and videos that he had taken of her in a safe-deposit box and that they were his “insurance policy” so that she would remain both silent and loyal to him. Blackmailed, and with no realistic options to get away from his predatory and threatening behavior, Plaintiff felt boxed in with no choice but to comply when he ordered her to meet him in a hotel room. The abusive and intense mind control techniques were most effective and she had no choice but to trust the man who told her that he was her only friend. Plaintiff was required to consistently pledge her loyalty to Roger Ailes, playing on the Plaintiff’s extremely vulnerable position.

43. While this abusive behavior continued, Ailes continued to also play the role of “mentor” to Plaintiff, which was confusing to Plaintiff and meant to keep her off balance. Yet, she was expected to follow his orders, no matter how outrageous.

44. There was a period of time after the terror attacks on September 11, 2001 when Ailes told Plaintiff Luhn that he had a “friend” he wanted her to meet. The “friend” was a woman he had brought to a suite at the Renaissance Hotel in Times Square. Plaintiff was asked to perform 3-way sex with Ailes and his “friend.” Plaintiff recalls Ailes being threatening and

forceful. She was terrified and remains traumatized to this day from the experience. There were at least three other meetings in New York hotel rooms with his “friend.” The last meeting that Plaintiff recalls took place at the Omni Berkshire Hotel in New York in October 2005. Plaintiff recalls Ailes with a camera on that day. She will never forget the trauma and sickness she felt when she saw him photograph her with that woman. Ailes often reminded the Plaintiff of his “loyalty requirement” and of his collection of compromising photographs of the emotionally shattered Luhn that he “owned.” Ailes kept screaming to Plaintiff, “get in there Laurie!” and violently shoving her into his “friend.”

45. Ailes photographed, coerced, blackmailed, extorted and threatened Plaintiff in Mafioso fashion for twenty years. He disseminated false statements and smears to both the management, on-air talent and staff of Fox News, defaming Plaintiff. Ailes used character assassination to damage Plaintiff’s reputation and intentionally gave false statements about Plaintiff to the media in an effort to create confusion and deflect from his two decades long sexual harassment and abuse of Plaintiff. Ailes monitored, harassed and gaslit Plaintiff Luhn, and along with his aides, drove her into a deeply depressed mental state causing severe mental anguish and emotional distress. Defendant Scott participated in this and furthered this by, among many other acts, pressuring Plaintiff Luhn to sell her coop apartment at 4000 Cathedral Avenue, N.W., Unit 729 B, to compel her to move to New York City, where it would be easier to monitor and spy on her as part of the on-going cover-up.

46. Ailes hired contractors (which were overseen by one of the Vice Presidents of Fox News, Warren Vandever to install a very large unusual brass lock that could be accessed by a fingerprint and a separate key to Plaintiff’s front door at her Westchester apartment in Washington, D.C., located at 4000 Cathedral Avenue, NW, Apartment 729B. Curious neighbors

questioned Plaintiff about the lock. It was obtrusive and unlike the standard building locks for the Westchester. It was another embarrassing and humiliating experience for the Plaintiff to endure. Ailes was completely oblivious to Plaintiff's continuing pain, humiliation and trauma. Ailes told her falsely that it was for her security and protection. However, Plaintiff's apartment continued to be ransacked regularly.

47. At one point during her tenure at Fox News, Ailes told Plaintiff to cut off contact with both staff in the Fox News Washington, D.C. bureau and her personal friends, ordered her to sell her co-op apartment in Washington, D.C. and move to New York in order for him to monitor her and control and use her. Plaintiff was a classic victim of Stockholm Syndrome. This was part of a diagnosis by Plaintiff's psychiatrist, and one that she has continued to suffer as a result of years of abuse and conflicting messages from Ailes.

48. Ailes would call Plaintiff at her desk in Washington and demand phone sex.

49. Ailes continuously told Plaintiff that she had "no friends" and that he was her only friend in the world. "I'll protect you," Ailes told Plaintiff. "You need to do this for me, stay quiet and show your loyalty, Laurie." Ailes continued to threaten Plaintiff by telling her not to trust anyone with the exception of Ailes' inner circle at Fox News, which included Judy Laterza, Michael Tammero, Brian Lewis, Bill Shine, and Defendant Scott.

50. In fact, Defendant Scott was tasked with constantly monitoring Plaintiff Luhn, which included weekly lunches as status reports to Ailes. Luhn was constantly questioned about why her apartment had not sold.

51. Ailes had installed Plaintiff in the Washington Bureau of Fox News in 1996, telling her that she would be his "eyes and ears in Washington." Ailes required Plaintiff to report to him any signs of what he called "disloyalty" within the management, staff, and on-air talent of

Fox News, and that included anyone who did not fall in line with Ailes' editorial agenda. This later included on-air guests that Ailes deemed unsuitable because of their particular views on policy, whatever may be the topic at hand or his whim. Ailes was an extremely vindictive and mean person towards guests who "displeased" him for any reason. It was an unwritten policy that got so out of hand, Plaintiff lost her job as Director of Booking due to an impending expose by Brody Mullins of *The Wall Street Journal* and what became not so fondly known as Ailes' "blacklisting" of guests appearing on Fox News. It was a huge controversy at the time. *The Wall Street Journal* did not run the piece because Plaintiff was removed from the news division and was considered no longer "relevant" or "useful" according to Ailes.

52. Media Relations Vice President Irena Briganti told Plaintiff that she would need to be removed from the Booking Unit because of the rumors and gossip surrounding the Plaintiff and Ailes. The Media Relations Department and the very volatile and paranoid Ailes were making every effort to stop *The Wall Street Journal* from publishing this expose on Fox News "blacklisting" because it would no doubt put the entire operation and Ailes' culture under close scrutiny for their disreputable editorial approach and the highly abusive Ailes/Luhn relationship. Here, it was actually Briganti, not her supervisor Bill Shine, who effectively removed Plaintiff from her position as Director of Booking in a preemptive move to (always) protect her boss (Ailes) from scrutiny and negative press or exposure, no matter the collateral damage, the lies that were told, the extent of the cover-up, or the lives that were destroyed. As part of a larger strategy and reflective of the "culture" of Fox News, Ailes tasked the Media Relations Department with the role of smearing and discrediting Plaintiff. This provided Ailes "cover" and plausible deniability since he could not be held responsible for "whispers to the media."

53. The removal of Plaintiff from the news division was severely traumatic as it was

actually a cover-up for Ailes' crimes perpetrated against her. With his tremendous power and influence, Ailes was able to shift the focus and kill the Wall Street Journal piece in an effort to deflect from his sexual abuse. Ailes had always used Fox News programming and editorial content to impose his own political views and biases; settling scores with enemies, real or perceived. Ailes installed Fox News Contributors agreeable to those views that he deemed "loyal" and paid them handsomely. He skillfully shielded himself from many of the attacks. He depended on his inner circle of loyal lieutenants, including some of the on-air talent and contributors as layers of protection from negative press. He seemed to treat character assassination like a game, one that he was well-skilled at and quite enjoyed. He even employed his personal attorney, Peter Johnson, Jr. as a Fox News Contributor.

54. Plaintiff had been referred to as "Roger's spy" since the early days of Fox News, both within the organization and in the greater political and journalistic community. Plaintiff suffered greatly by this designation and the continuing gossip and innuendo that permanently damaged the Plaintiff's reputation – never to be recovered – as she has endured unimaginable pain and sadness, while at the same time being defamed, including loss of family relationships that have been permanently destroyed.

55. Ailes also utilized Fox News' Management and Media Relations Department to monitor, harass, threaten, and gaslight Plaintiff. Ailes made a management decision to destroy both Plaintiff's confidence and reputation in an effort to completely "discredit" her as a future witness against Ailes' illegal acts and sexual abuse.

56. For twenty years, Ailes threatened Plaintiff by telling her, "I own you."

57. Starting in 2006 and into 2007, Plaintiff had a stalker. Ailes fueled her fear and kept her terrified by telling her she should not stay in her Washington D.C. co-op apartment

that she owned. Ailes had her stay at the Warwick Hotel in New York under the name Suzanne Scott, who is today the CEO of Fox News. It was a frightening and harrowing experience where Ailes required Plaintiff to cut off all communication with everyone, even old, personal friends. Ailes forced Plaintiff to provide all incoming and outgoing emails to him for “approval.” He even dictated responses for the Plaintiff to send. It was classic Ailes - making the Plaintiff feel owned, controlled and completely dependent on him. Plaintiff was fearful because the stalker had been ransacking her Washington D.C. apartment on a regular basis. Ailes told the Plaintiff that George Soros and Hillary Clinton were trying to kill her.

58. Ailes had constantly demanded what he referred to as “loyalty” and forbade Plaintiff from telling her Washington D.C. psychiatrist – Dr. David Fischer - friends or family about the constant sexual, emotional and psychological abuse. She remained silent for 20 years, becoming deeply depressed by keeping the destructive abuse she endured bottled up inside, resulting in humiliation and embarrassment. The traumatized Plaintiff was completely isolated from Fox News staff and remained a prime target for painful malicious gossip and rumors, eventually driving her from Washington D.C. and moving to Los Angeles in 2011. Ailes exploited the Plaintiff’s vulnerable position and dependency on him – intentionally keeping her off balance through his destructive mind control techniques, Mafioso tactics, gaslighting and harassment by his aides, causing severe psychological damage.

59. Ailes threatened, harassed and questioned Plaintiff about every aspect of her life. This included probing her personal life and constantly instructing her on whom she could “trust,” whom she could have as friends, including forcing her to cut off existing relationships with friends and colleagues. Ailes was very insistent for years that the Plaintiff could not trust anyone. Therefore, this resulted in complete isolation both from within Fox News and the community as

a whole. Roger Ailes was guilty of a decades-long obsession with Plaintiff Luhn. This obsession was sadistic and proved dangerous and highly toxic to the Plaintiff.

60. Fox News senior staff, including CFO Jack Abernathy and SVP Editorial John Moody were aware of Ailes' obsession with Plaintiff Luhn.

61. In 2011, Bill Shine, Ailes' right-hand man – at the direction of Ailes – ordered Plaintiff to vacate her apartment – with zero notice – in Los Angeles. This event took place a few days after *The New York Times* published a page one story on February 24, 2011 about Roger Ailes urging Judith Regan to lie to federal investigators regarding a cover-up involving key figures, such as Bernard Kerik of the 9/11 terror attacks.

62. Shine hired Pinkerton Security and sent Plaintiff to her family home in San Antonio, telling her that the Los Angeles (“LA”) apartment had to be checked out due to stalkers. Ailes had continued to tell the Plaintiff that George Soros was trying to kill her, which kept her terrified because she was being terrorized at the LA apartment. During her stay with her parents, Bill Shine, Ailes' top deputy, sent Plaintiff to a handpicked psychiatrist based at the University of Texas Health Science Center in an effort to manipulate and prevent her from speaking out about the sexual and psychological abuse.

63. While in San Antonio, Plaintiff contacted the office of the Attorney General of the United States, Eric Holder, on the telephone. It is noteworthy that there were rumors online and in the press that Roger Ailes was to be indicted, which terrified the Plaintiff because she was tied to him. Plaintiff explained that she would like to have a confidential conversation with Holder regarding Fox News. Mr. Holder's assistant would not put the call through to the Attorney General. Instead, Plaintiff was directed to meet with First Assistant U.S. Attorney Jim Blankenship (“Blankenship”) in San Antonio. A very shaken and frightened Plaintiff spent time

outlining in graphic detail the years of abuse and psychosexual torture that she endured at the hands of Ailes.

64. Blankenship, a George H.W. Bush appointee, and his aide, were dismissive and did not take her seriously or make any effort to follow up on the very serious claims regarding Ailes. The meeting was cut short when the Shine-picked psychiatrist, Dr. Camis Milam (“Dr. Milam”), called her out of the meeting while she was in the U.S. Attorney’s office in San Antonio. On the telephone, Dr. Milam threatened to admit the Plaintiff to the hospital psych ward that very night if she did not leave immediately.

65. In fact, the doctor admitted Plaintiff to the psychiatric ward at a mental hospital 48 hours later. Dr. Milam scolded the Plaintiff for contacting the U.S. Department of Justice. Both Bill Shine and Dianne Brandi, Legal Counsel for Fox News, were in direct and constant contact with Dr. Milam – including issuing threats to the Plaintiff and scolding her for contacting Jamie Vitale, a co-worker at Fox News. The email was forwarded to Dr. Milam.

66. This was part of Ailes’ strategy to paint Plaintiff as “crazy, delusional, and paranoid” and to discredit any possible testimony regarding his psychological and sexual abuse. As acts of intimidation, Bill Shine also frequently called Plaintiff’s father during this time asking questions about her.

67. When Plaintiff returned to her LA apartment, Dr. Milam indirectly referred Plaintiff to an attorney in order to negotiate settlement with Fox News.

68. However, Fox News executives knew that Plaintiff was in no mental or emotional condition to negotiate settlement, as she was on serious medication that prevented her from having a clear head or thinking logically. Plaintiff was traumatized and frightened of a media spectacle if she filed suit against Fox News.

69. Plaintiff never received proper assistance of counsel, as she was pressured and deceived, if not fraudulently induced, into settlement by the unethically conflicted attorney who was referred indirectly by Dr. Milam – who was working in concert with Fox News – when Plaintiff really needed to file a legal action. No legal action was ever filed, and Plaintiff, in a heavily medicated, hazy, and foggy mental state, was pressured, coerced and fraudulently induced into agreeing to settlement.

70. The entire “settlement” process was rushed through and slapped together extremely quickly by Ailes, Dianne Brandi, and Plaintiff’s attorney, all working closely together.

71. Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer serious, debilitating and life threatening trauma, anxiety and other serious health complications as a result of Ailes’ severe psychological torture and mind control. This was covered up and furthered by his inner circle, including but not limited to Judy Laterza, Bill Shine, Brian Lewis, Irena Briganti and Suzanne Scott. Emotionally shattered and deeply depressed by her tragic experience with Ailes and Fox News and a with destroyed reputation, Plaintiff twice attempted suicide and to this day continues to be severely damaged with PTSD and bouts of intermittent anxiety and hopelessness. She continues to feel isolated and ostracized by society. The long-term impact and severe damage caused by Ailes’ mind control techniques, and the cover-up and complicity of his abovementioned top aides, and the resulting Stockholm Syndrome still gripping and strangling the Plaintiff is incalculable. Plaintiff has never been able to reach closure through this ongoing painful process of defamation, a tragedy resulting in loss of income and any chance of a healthy existence.

72. After Ailes resigned in 2016, Plaintiff called Michele Hirshman of Paul Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP, the New York law firm hired by 21st Century Fox to investigate sexual-harassment allegations against him.

73. Plaintiff sent to an email Hirshman, terrified by the gaslighting and attacks after Gretchen Carlson filed suit against Ailes.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION
Defamation

74. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference the allegations in the preceding paragraphs of the Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

75. Defendant Scott, on behalf of and in concert with Defendant FNC, published malicious, false, misleading and defamatory statements of and concerning Plaintiff Luhn in this judicial district, nationwide, and worldwide.

76. These false and misleading statements were published with malice, as Defendant Scott knew that they were false and misleading, or at a minimum acted with a reckless disregard for the truth.

77. Plaintiff Luhn has been severely harmed and damaged by these false and misleading statements because they subjected her to hatred, distrust, ridicule, contempt, and disgrace.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION
Defamation by Implication

78. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference the allegations in the preceding paragraphs of the Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

79. Defendant Scott, on behalf of and in concert with Defendant FNC, published numerous false, misleading and defamatory statements about Plaintiff Luhn as set forth in the preceding paragraphs.

80. These false, misleading and defamatory statements were published on the internet and published and republished elsewhere in this district, domestically and for the entire world to see and hear.

81. These false and misleading statements were published with malice, as Defendant Scott knew that they were false and misleading, and/or at a minimum acted with a reckless disregard for the truth.

82. These statements created the false and misleading implication that Plaintiff Luhn is dishonest and fabricated allegations of sexual abuse against Ailes.

83. Plaintiff Luhn has been severely harmed and damaged by these false and misleading statements because they subject her to hatred, distrust, ridicule, contempt, and disgrace.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION
False Light

84. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference the allegations in the preceding paragraphs of the Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

85. Defendant Scott, in concert with Defendant FNC, knowingly made false statements, representations, or imputations about Plaintiff Luhn that she was a liar who had fabricated sexual harassment allegations against Ailes.

86. Defendant Scott's statements were all made in public, and were foreseeably published and disseminated through various media outlets to persons all across the world, and were reasonably understood to be of or concerning Plaintiff Luhn.

87. Defendant Scott's statements about Luhn implying that Luhn was dishonest and fabricated sexual assault allegations placed Plaintiff Luhn in a false light that would be offensive to a reasonable person.

88. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant Scott's statements, Plaintiff has suffered pecuniary damage, as well as injury to reputation, impairment to standing in the community, personal humiliation, pain and suffering, emotional distress and physical ailments.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION
Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress

89. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference the allegations in the preceding paragraphs of the Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

90. Defendants engaged in extreme and outrageous conduct by falsely calling Plaintiff Luhn a liar and creating the implication that she fabricated sexual assault allegations against Ailes.

91. Plaintiff did not consent to Defendants' conduct.

92. Defendants' extreme and outrageous conduct directly caused Plaintiff Luhn severe emotional distress and resulting severe harm and damage, including reoccurring thoughts of attempted suicide.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff Laura Willis Luhn prays for judgment against Defendants as follows:

- a. Awarding Plaintiff compensatory including actual, consequential, incidental and punitive damages for malicious tortious conduct in an amount to be determined at trial and in excess of \$120,000,000 U.S. Dollars.
- b. Awarding Plaintiff attorney's fees and costs.
- c. Granting any further relief as the Court deems appropriate, including but not limited to injunctive relief.

PLAINTIFF DEMANDS A JURY TRIAL ON ALL COUNTS TRIABLE.

Dated: April 23, 2019

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Larry Klayman

Larry Klayman, Esq.
KLAYMAN LAW GROUP, P.A.
D.C. Bar Number: 334581
2020 Pennsylvania Ave NW #800
Washington, DC, 20006
Telephone: (310)-595-0800
Email: leklayman@gmail.com
Counsel for Plaintiff

VERIFICATION

I, Laura Luhn, hereby swear under oath and penalty of perjury that the facts contained in this Complaint are true and correct to the best of my personal knowledge and belief.

Dated: April 23, 2019

Respectfully Submitted,



Laura Willis Luhn
Plaintiff

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COMPANY TOWN BUSINESS

Fox News Chief Executive Suzanne Scott keeps her focus on winning

By **STEPHEN BATTAGLIO**
APR 03, 2019 | 4:00 AM

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Fox News Chief Executive Suzanne Scott in a studio at Fox News headquarters in New York on March 28. (Michael Nagle / For The Times)

In the politically charged environment powered by the Trump White House, Fox News Channel's role in public discourse is more polarizing than ever. Even an error in an on-screen graphic can spark critics to charge the network with misinforming, propagandizing or serving as state TV.

But after 23 years at the network, Fox News Chief Executive Suzanne Scott has learned how to shut out the noise surrounding her — no easy feat when the channel's No. 1 fan, President Trump, is watching for policy advice and emotional sustenance.

inRead invented by Teads

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“Of course people are going to pay attention to what we’re doing,” she said during a recent conversation in her office at Fox News headquarters in midtown Manhattan. “People always want to shoot at the leader.... But I care about growing our business and keeping us profitable.”

The importance of that task has only increased for Scott. The news network is the centerpiece of Fox Corp., Rupert Murdoch’s new company spun off after its sale of the 21st Century Fox entertainment assets to Walt Disney Co.

Scott was given the top post in May, after a turbulent period when Fox News was engulfed by a sexual harassment scandal that led to the ouster of its founding chief executive Roger Ailes in 2016 and popular host Bill O’Reilly the following year.

Ailes, who branded establish
into a powerful and controver
Republican candidates, he op
of news organization.

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In contrast, the even-keeled Scott, 53, is not driven by ideology. Her voter registration in the northern New Jersey town where she lives with her husband and 13-year old daughter is not affiliated with a political party. Many colleagues are unaware of her political leanings.

“Suzanne runs Fox News as more of a business than as a political machine,” said Washington attorney Robert Barnett, who represents a number of the network’s personalities. “Roger ran it in a completely different way.”

Fox News has been the most-watched cable network for three consecutive years despite the loss of O’Reilly and Megyn Kelly, who left in early 2017. But there have been other challenges.

Liberal media watchdog groups have successfully driven advertisers away from prime-time commentators Tucker Carlson and Laura Ingraham over inflammatory comments they have made, significantly reducing ad revenues for their shows. Scott said the network is standing by them.

“Our viewers trust our hosts and are loyal, passionate followers,” Scott said. “We just cannot cave to political activists or those kinds of groups. We fully support our talent.”

Such loyalty has been demonstrated in the Nielsen ratings since special counsel Robert Mueller’s investigation determined President Trump or his campaign did not collude with the Russians in their efforts to influence the presidential election (although the story is far from over, as Mueller’s full report has yet to be released). Fox News viewing surged in March as prime-time commentators felt vindication for the president they support nightly.

Cable fees still drive income for Fox News, with the network earning \$1.5 billion in subscription and ad revenue, according to a report by media analysis firm MoffettNathanson LLC, projects that Fox Corp. will have high single-digit growth from pay-TV revenue over the next five years, largely driven by Fox News, despite the cord-cutting trend.

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FOX NEWS, DESPITE THE COST-CUTTING BLEND.

But Scott is working at expanding Fox News revenue streams by improving its offerings on the web and mobile devices. Fox News Digital had 104 million unique users in February, an increase of 17% from the same month a year ago, according to comScore. She developed Fox Nation, an online streaming service launched in November for dedicated fans who want more unfettered conservative commentary and documentaries. Sign-ups for the service are well ahead of projections, said Scott, who has also expanded the Fox News brand to terrestrial and satellite radio.

Scott has also tried to be an agent of change for the company’s workplace culture. Fox News became ground zero for the #MeToo movement after former anchor Gretchen Carlson filed a harassment lawsuit against Ailes in 2016, which led to his ouster and required a \$20-million settlement.

The company was rocked by more harassment lawsuits and numerous lurid reports describing alleged bad behavior by Ailes, O’Reilly and others.

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“I felt devastated for the women who work here,” Scott said. “I wanted to do everything I could to heal this place.”

She had one-on-one meetings to create a safe environment for women and

“It was often uncomfortable to talk to me was, ‘How do I explain to my family that I work at FOX NEWS?’

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In some of those discussions, it was necessary for Scott to tell employees she had no knowledge of Ailes' behavior even though she was part of his inner circle. Scott had also worked closely with Bill Shine, a longtime Ailes lieutenant who was pushed out of his role as co-president in May 2017 because of his handling of the scandal.

“I had no clue on what was going on in Roger Ailes' office,” Scott said. “I have never had any issues with any sort of harassment myself.”

Scott has eradicated the memory of Ailes by overseeing a massive renovation of the entire second floor where his corporate lair was located — part of a \$135-million upgrade of facilities and studios. More than 200 of the network's producers, writers and production assistants have been moved from a bleak basement at 1211 Avenue of the Americas to a bright, airy workspace steps away from where top management is located. Scott and Jay Wallace, president of news, have offices adjacent to Rupert Murdoch and his son Lachlan, who serves as co-chairman of Fox Corp. and has become more involved with the channel.

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Women at the company say there is now a process to report inappropriate behavior to human resources, with nar
restrooms.

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“It's a reminder that you don
longtime meteorologist on “Fox & Friends.”

Dean, who recently detailed her own uncomfortable encounters with Ailes in her recent memoir “Mostly Sunny,” attested to an improved atmosphere under Scott.

“I don’t feel fear anymore,” Dean said. “It truly is because of the strong women who work at the company now.”

Scott tries to attend a monthly breakfast held for women who work at Fox News. A mentoring program has also been implemented. There are also company-wide meetings where all staffers can air their concerns. Employees previously had scant contact with top management.

“The openness and transparency that she has brought to the job has been quite noticeable,” said daytime news anchor Bill Hemmer.

Scott has been at Fox News since it launched in 1996. She joined as an executive assistant to Chet Collier, a veteran producer who gave Ailes his first TV job on “The Mike Douglas Show” in the 1960s.

Collier was a worldly Boston liberal and the political polar opposite of Ailes. But he understood what viewers liked and passed that along to Scott, who spent hours with him watching audition tapes of prospective anchors and reporters for the channel.

“Chet taught me talent puts themselves on the front lines for this place,” she said. “They need to be well managed and taken care of.”

Scott eventually became producer of Greta Van Susteren’s program “On the Record.” The veteran former Fox News host recommended years ago that Scott be elevated to the executive suite and believes she was the right choice to lead the company in the post-Ailes era.

“She’s smart, she works hard said.

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While Scott made her bones as a news anchor, she has also been a vocal opinion host, Washington anchor Chris Wallace said he is happy with the attention she has given to the journalism side of the operation.

“I feel more supported in being an equal opportunity inquisitor by the new regime than I did in the old regime,” said Wallace, who often goes hard at Trump administration officials who appear on “Fox News Sunday.”

Wallace said the news side is being heard when it complains about occasional ethics breaches by the opinion hosts, such as when Sean Hannity appeared on stage with Trump at a rally before the midterm elections in November.

“We made it clear we were ticked off because we felt it hurt our credibility,” he said.

Wallace added that Scott’s preference is to handle such matters privately.

Scott quietly scaled the ranks at Fox News without much of a profile outside of its headquarters.

She is not a regular New York media-industry parties. On weekends, she serves as a certified YMCA stroke-and-turn official at a New Jersey club where her daughter is a competitive swimmer.

Scott said her steady work ethic came from her parents. Her father ran a trucking business out of the Morristown, N.J., home she grew up. Her 88-year-old mother still works as a real estate agent. It’s why Scott believes she is built for cable’s nonstop news cycle.

“My father was incredibly hardworking — up at three in the morning, working Monday through Saturday,” Scott said. “He never complained. He was the happiest guy on the planet.”

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Stephen Battaglio



Stephen Battaglio writes about television and the media business for the Los Angeles Times out of New York. His coverage of the television industry has appeared in TV Guide, the New York Daily News, the New York Times, Fortune, the Hollywood Reporter, Inside.com and Adweek. He is also the author of three books about television, including a biography of pioneer talk show host and producer David Susskind.

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A portrait of Larry Klayman, a man with glasses and a blue jacket, looking directly at the camera. The background is a blurred outdoor scene with green foliage.

LARRY KLAYMAN

ATTORNEY AT LAW

Roger Ailes Female Victim Files New Suit vs. Showtime and Blumhouse

Laura Luhn Alleges That Fox News' CEO Suzanne Scott Covered Up Her Sexual Abuse

Demands \$750,000,000 In Damages for Misuse and Misappropriation of Her Likeness

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(Wilmington, Delaware, April 4, 2019). Today, Larry Klayman, the founder of Judicial Watch and Freedom Watch, and a former prosecutor of the U.S. Department of Justice, announced the filing of a lawsuit for the most sexually abused and criminally harmed of all of the women at Fox News by its former founder and CEO Roger Ailes. The complaint is embedded below and can also be found at www.larryklayman.com.

This complaint was filed against Showtime and Blumhouse Productions and their writer Gabriel Sherman. These Hollywood companies are producing and now filming an eight-part miniseries about Roger Ailes titled "The Loudest Voice in the Room," which includes as one of its principal subjects Laura Luhn, as played by Hollywood actress Annabelle Wallis. It asks for over \$750,000,000 million dollars, which includes treble and punitive damages, for violations of the Lanham Act among other counts, based on the misuse and misappropriation of the likeness and being of Ms. Luhn, without compensation. Moreover, based on a prior article written by Gabriel Sherman, it is believed that the rendition of Ms. Luhn will be defamatory and

inaccurate at the least.

Importantly, the complaint, the facts of which are sworn to under oath, under penalty of perjury, by Ms. Luhn, directly contradicts a wholly inaccurate "fluff piece" which was published yesterday by reporter Stephen Battaglio of the Los Angeles Times titled "Fox News Executive Suzanne Scott Keeps Her Focus on Winning" (April 3, 2019). In this article Battaglia, taking it "hook, line and sinker" quoted Ms. Scott as saying "I felt devastated for the women who work here... I wanted to do everything I could to heal this place." Battaglio then added: "In some of those discussions (with women), it was necessary for Scott to tell employees she had no knowledge of Ailes' behavior even though she was part of his inner circle."

In fact, as set forth in the Luhn complaint, this is patently false! Ms. Scott knew of Ailes' sexual abuse and criminality, but covered it up and continues to cover it up. Undoubtedly as a "good soldier," she ultimately was rewarded by the Murdochs with Ailes' position when he was forced out of Fox News when the sexual abuse became public at the time that Gretchen Carlson sued the network over her sexual harassment.

Klayman has this to say about Fox News and its current CEO Ms. Suzanne Scott:

"I am a proud conservative and as the founder and head of Judicial Watch during the early years of Fox News, I played a big role in helping to build the network through my appearances over the government scandals my group had uncovered and prosecuted, particularly involving the Clintons. But as time passed, I saw how unethical the network was and remains and how particularly my female clients were mistreated and lied to. I wrote about this in my autobiography 'Whores: Why and How I Came to Fight the Establishment,' which can be found at Amazon.com or BarnesandNoble.com.

"The sexual and psychological abuse foisted upon and perpetrated against Ms. Luhn, the most severely damaged of all the women at Fox News, is demonstrative of not just of the degeneracy of the now deceased Roger Ailes, but as bad its current leadership, run by a woman who enabled Ailes and then covered up his crimes: Suzanne Scott. That Scott would sell out a fellow woman to advance her career is despicable.

"For the true story to be told about Ailes and his enablers at Fox News by Showtime

and Blumhouse, Ms. Luhn's character must depict this cover-up, which continues to today with its CEO Suzanne Scott. But rather than making Ms. Luhn a consultant so the public will have the complete and accurate story, the defendants have illegally frozen Ms. Luhn out of consultancy and compensation for the use of her life story. This will not legally stand and justice will now be meted out."

For more about this sordid and ongoing Fox News scandal, listen to Ms. Luhn's interview, also embedded below, on "Special Prosecutor with Larry Klayman," a nationally syndicated radio show on Radio America.

For more information or an interview, contact daj142182@gmail.com or (424) 274 2579.

A portrait of Larry Klayman, an attorney at law, wearing glasses and a blue blazer over a pink and white striped shirt. The background is a blurred outdoor scene with green foliage.

LARRY KLAYMAN

ATTORNEY AT LAW

Ailes/Fox News Victim Laura Luhn Sues Showtime, Blumhouse Productions, and Gabriel Sherman Over Miniseries "Loudest Voice in the Room"

Suit Asks for In Excess of \$750 Million Dollars in Damages and Injunctive Relief



(Los Angeles, Ca., January 9, 2019). Today, Laura Luhn, a victim of the sexual, mental, highly destructive and tortuous abuse and mind control techniques by Roger Ailes and Fox News filed a lawsuit asking for over \$750 million dollars in damages and preliminary and permanent injunctions against Showtime, Blumhouse Production (dba Blumhouse Television) and writer Gabriel Sherman for misappropriation of her likeness and being, as well as "life story," in the production of an eight-part miniseries, starring Russell Crowe as Roger Ailes and other prominent actors, titled "Loudest Voice in the Room."



Ms. Luhn, above all female victims of Roger Ailes, the former and now deceased CEO of the Fox News Channel ("Fox News"), was and remains the most damaged collectively by them. Compounding her severe injury as detailed in the Verified Complaint (embedded below) filed in the Superior Court of Los Angeles County, are

the alleged facts, sworn to under oath, that the severe sexual harassment and psychological "gaslighting" and torture meted out by Ailes was covered up by his former "lieutenants" Bill Shine, now Deputy Chief of Staff of the White House, and the current CEO of Fox News Suzanne Scott, among others in Ailes' Fox News' inner circle.

As alleged in the Verified Complaint, Ms. Luhn's "experience" with Ailes and Fox News was so prominent that she occupies a central role in Defendants' miniseries, which is currently filming in Los Angeles. To this end, it is no coincidence that Ms. Luhn is being played by an A-List Actress Anabelle Wallis. But Ms. Luhn, who is not a public figure, is not being compensated for the use of her likeness and being, as is **legally required**. In this regard, on behalf of the Defendants, their law firm, Davis Wright Tremaine, arrogantly told Ms. Luhn to get lost when she tried to settle with them, not even agreeing to use her as a consultant to ensure that the miniseries was factually accurate. Previously, Defendant Sherman had written a defamatory article about Ms. Luhn, as alleged in the Verified Complaint, which he refused to correct.

Larry Klayman, a former federal prosecutor and founder of both Judicial Watch and Freedom Watch and Ms. Luhn's attorney, had this to say upon filing the Verified Complaint on her behalf:

"It is outrageous that Defendants would seek to profit from Ms. Luhn's tragic experience with Ailes and Fox News, yet heartlessly leave this defenseless, emotionally shattered and broken woman out in the cold! Showtime's, Blumhouse Production's and its writer Gabriel Sherman's cruelty is only exceeded by Ailes and Fox News themselves! This injustice will not be allowed to stand."

The Verified Complaint, which provides much more of the factual detail underlying this suit, is embedded below or go to www.larryklayman.com.

For more information, contact daj142182@gmail.com or (424) 274 2579.

CIVIL COVER SHEET

JS-44 (Rev. 6/17 DC)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS (b) COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED PLAINTIFF _____ (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)	DEFENDANTS COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED DEFENDANT _____ (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) <small>NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED</small>
(c) ATTORNEYS (FIRM NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER)	ATTORNEYS (IF KNOWN)

II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (PLACE AN x IN ONE BOX ONLY) <table style="width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff</td> <td><input type="radio"/> 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> 2 U.S. Government Defendant</td> <td><input type="radio"/> 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in item III)</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="radio"/> 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	<input type="radio"/> 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)	<input type="radio"/> 2 U.S. Government Defendant	<input type="radio"/> 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in item III)	III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (PLACE AN x IN ONE BOX FOR PLAINTIFF AND ONE BOX FOR DEFENDANT) FOR DIVERSITY CASES ONLY! <table style="width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">PTF</th> <th style="text-align: center;">DFT</th> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">PTF</th> <th style="text-align: center;">DFT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Citizen of this State</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="radio"/> 1</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="radio"/> 1</td> <td>Incorporated or Principal Place of Business in This State</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="radio"/> 4</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="radio"/> 4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Citizen of Another State</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="radio"/> 2</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="radio"/> 2</td> <td>Incorporated and Principal Place of Business in Another State</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="radio"/> 5</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="radio"/> 5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="radio"/> 3</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="radio"/> 3</td> <td>Foreign Nation</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="radio"/> 6</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="radio"/> 6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		PTF	DFT		PTF	DFT	Citizen of this State	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 1	Incorporated or Principal Place of Business in This State	<input type="radio"/> 4	<input type="radio"/> 4	Citizen of Another State	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 2	Incorporated and Principal Place of Business in Another State	<input type="radio"/> 5	<input type="radio"/> 5	Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 3	Foreign Nation	<input type="radio"/> 6	<input type="radio"/> 6
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IV. CASE ASSIGNMENT AND NATURE OF SUIT

(Place an X in one category, A-N, that best represents your Cause of Action and one in a corresponding Nature of Suit)

<input type="radio"/> A. Antitrust 410 Antitrust	<input type="radio"/> B. Personal Injury/Malpractice 310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 330 Federal Employers Liability 340 Marine 345 Marine Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 360 Other Personal Injury 362 Medical Malpractice 365 Product Liability 367 Health Care/Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability 368 Asbestos Product Liability	<input type="radio"/> C. Administrative Agency Review 151 Medicare Act <u>Social Security</u> 861 HIA (1395ff) 862 Black Lung (923) 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) 864 SSID Title XVI 865 RSI (405(g)) <u>Other Statutes</u> 891 Agricultural Acts 893 Environmental Matters 890 Other Statutory Actions (If Administrative Agency is Involved)	<input type="radio"/> D. Temporary Restraining Order/Preliminary Injunction Any nature of suit from any category may be selected for this category of case assignment. *(If Antitrust, then A governs)*
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<input type="radio"/> E. General Civil (Other) OR <input type="radio"/> F. Pro Se General Civil			
<u>Real Property</u> 210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent, Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property <u>Personal Property</u> 370 Other Fraud 371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal Property Damage 385 Property Damage Product Liability	<u>Bankruptcy</u> 422 Appeal 27 USC 158 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 <u>Prisoner Petitions</u> 535 Death Penalty 540 Mandamus & Other 550 Civil Rights 555 Prison Conditions 560 Civil Detainee – Conditions of Confinement <u>Property Rights</u> 820 Copyrights 830 Patent 835 Patent – Abbreviated New Drug Application 840 Trademark	<u>Federal Tax Suits</u> 870 Taxes (US plaintiff or defendant) 871 IRS-Third Party 26 USC 7609 <u>Forfeiture/Penalty</u> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 690 Other <u>Other Statutes</u> 375 False Claims Act 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a)) 400 State Reapportionment 430 Banks & Banking 450 Commerce/ICC Rates/etc. 460 Deportation	462 Naturalization Application 465 Other Immigration Actions 470 Racketeer Influenced & Corrupt Organization 480 Consumer Credit 490 Cable/Satellite TV 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange 896 Arbitration 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes 890 Other Statutory Actions (if not administrative agency review or Privacy Act)

<input type="radio"/> G. Habeas Corpus/ 2255 530 Habeas Corpus – General 510 Motion/Vacate Sentence 463 Habeas Corpus – Alien Detainee	<input type="radio"/> H. Employment Discrimination 442 Civil Rights – Employment (criteria: race, gender/sex, national origin, discrimination, disability, age, religion, retaliation) *(If pro se, select this deck)*	<input type="radio"/> I. FOIA/Privacy Act 895 Freedom of Information Act 890 Other Statutory Actions (if Privacy Act) *(If pro se, select this deck)*	<input type="radio"/> J. Student Loan 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loan (excluding veterans)
<input type="radio"/> K. Labor/ERISA (non-employment) 710 Fair Labor Standards Act 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations 740 Labor Railway Act 751 Family and Medical Leave Act 790 Other Labor Litigation 791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act	<input type="radio"/> L. Other Civil Rights (non-employment) 441 Voting (if not Voting Rights Act) 443 Housing/Accommodations 440 Other Civil Rights 445 Americans w/Disabilities – Employment 446 Americans w/Disabilities – Other 448 Education	<input type="radio"/> M. Contract 110 Insurance 120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran’s Benefits 160 Stockholder’s Suits 190 Other Contracts 195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise	<input type="radio"/> N. Three-Judge Court 441 Civil Rights – Voting (if Voting Rights Act)

V. ORIGIN
 1 Original Proceeding
 2 Removed from State Court
 3 Remanded from Appellate Court
 4 Reinstated or Reopened
 5 Transferred from another district (specify)
 6 Multi-district Litigation
 7 Appeal to District Judge from Mag. Judge
 8 Multi-district Litigation – Direct File

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION (CITE THE U.S. CIVIL STATUTE UNDER WHICH YOU ARE FILING AND WRITE A BRIEF STATEMENT OF CAUSE.)

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT	CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R.C.P. 23 <input type="checkbox"/>	DEMAND \$ _____	JURY DEMAND: YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY	(See instruction)	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	If yes, please complete related case form

DATE: _____	SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD _____
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INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET JS-44
Authority for Civil Cover Sheet

The JS-44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and services of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. Listed below are tips for completing the civil cover sheet. These tips coincide with the Roman Numerals on the cover sheet.

- I.** COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED PLAINTIFF/DEFENDANT (b) County of residence: Use 11001 to indicate plaintiff if resident of Washington, DC, 88888 if plaintiff is resident of United States but not Washington, DC, and 99999 if plaintiff is outside the United States.
- III.** CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES: This section is completed only if diversity of citizenship was selected as the Basis of Jurisdiction under Section II.
- IV.** CASE ASSIGNMENT AND NATURE OF SUIT: The assignment of a judge to your case will depend on the category you select that best represents the primary cause of action found in your complaint. You may select only one category. You must also select one corresponding nature of suit found under the category of the case.
- VI.** CAUSE OF ACTION: Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing and write a brief statement of the primary cause.
- VIII.** RELATED CASE(S), IF ANY: If you indicated that there is a related case, you must complete a related case form, which may be obtained from the Clerk’s Office.

Because of the need for accurate and complete information, you should ensure the accuracy of the information provided prior to signing the form.

Civil Action No. _____

PROOF OF SERVICE

(This section should not be filed with the court unless required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 (l))

This summons for *(name of individual and title, if any)* _____
was received by me on *(date)* _____.

I personally served the summons on the individual at *(place)* _____
_____ on *(date)* _____; or

I left the summons at the individual's residence or usual place of abode with *(name)* _____
_____, a person of suitable age and discretion who resides there,
on *(date)* _____, and mailed a copy to the individual's last known address; or

I served the summons on *(name of individual)* _____, who is
designated by law to accept service of process on behalf of *(name of organization)* _____
_____ on *(date)* _____; or

I returned the summons unexecuted because _____; or

Other *(specify)*: _____.

My fees are \$ _____ for travel and \$ _____ for services, for a total of \$ _____.

I declare under penalty of perjury that this information is true.

Date: _____

Server's signature

Printed name and title

Server's address

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc:

Civil Action No. _____

PROOF OF SERVICE

(This section should not be filed with the court unless required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 (l))

This summons for *(name of individual and title, if any)* _____
was received by me on *(date)* _____.

I personally served the summons on the individual at *(place)* _____
_____ on *(date)* _____; or

I left the summons at the individual's residence or usual place of abode with *(name)* _____
_____, a person of suitable age and discretion who resides there,
on *(date)* _____, and mailed a copy to the individual's last known address; or

I served the summons on *(name of individual)* _____, who is
designated by law to accept service of process on behalf of *(name of organization)* _____
_____ on *(date)* _____; or

I returned the summons unexecuted because _____; or

Other *(specify)*: _____.

My fees are \$ _____ for travel and \$ _____ for services, for a total of \$ _____.

I declare under penalty of perjury that this information is true.

Date: _____

Server's signature

Printed name and title

Server's address

Additional information regarding attempted service, etc: