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### Marietta Daily Journal (GA)

#### Two women file lawsuits against KSU

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KENNESAW - Two women have filed separate lawsuits against Kennesaw State University and the Georgia Board of Regents, both citing "bad treatment by the university," their attorney Charles Field said.

Field, the attorney for **Patricia Crawford** and Elizabeth Boyd, said papers were served to KSU and the Board of Regents on Dec. 9. The defendants have 30 days to respond to the lawsuit. In the first complaint, it says **Crawford** "was intentionally and negligently held up to public ridicule and ultimate termination of her job."

Kennesaw State University and **Crawford** could not be reached for comment.

Boyd's complaint says she "was intentionally and negligently held up to public ridicule, slanderous, defamatory and harmful statements and ultimate termination of her job."

Field cannot say what damages **Crawford** is seeking. Boyd is suing for \$10 million for harassment she said has continued seven years after her employment ended. She is seeking emotional distress and punitive damages, Field confirmed.

Boyd contends Dr. Kamal Fatehi, a tenured professor of international management in the Coles College of Business, called her names and made inappropriate comments when she worked for him in 2000 and 2001. She said Boyd "had it in for" her after she confronted him about irregularities involving state money. She said Fatehi, in listing his 2001 accomplishments in a letter to Dean Timothy Mescon, boasted that he "fired the (expletive) and cleaned the administrative assistant office."

Fatehi, who fired Boyd in 2001, never refers to her by name in the listing.

In 2003, Boyd says she found Fatehi had written on his KSU Web page about her and again used the expletive. Linda Nelson, assistant vice president for opportunity development at KSU, investigated after Boyd complained and found, "Dr. Kamal Fatehi used inappropriate language when referring to Ms. Elizabeth Boyd." That same year, KSU paid Boyd \$50,000 to settle her claims. Fatehi and Mescon also each wrote notes of apology to Boyd.

But in October 2007, Boyd said she found more postings about her firing at [www.kamal-fatehi.com](http://www.kamal-fatehi.com), the professor's personal Web site. The postings are no longer on the Web site. "Her point is when do people learn their lessons? The university pays \$50,000 and they both gave personal apologies and he goes back and posts something," Filed said. "I don't appreciate them allowing this loose cannon to continue."

Boyd said she's suing the system because "they let this ride."

"What am I gonna do, sit back and wait another year or wait another three years and he's gonna do this again? No," Boyd said. "He admitted he did it and now he's doing it again." Since losing her job at KSU, Boyd said she has not been able to find another job in the University System of Georgia. She now works as a cashier at Wal-Mart.

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