

***American Idol* star and 2 others sue TV exec Nigel Lythgoe for sexual assault**

Court documents reveal that Paula Abdul, a renowned US singer, dancer, and former *American Idol* star, has filed a lawsuit against British television executive Nigel Lythgoe.



Paula Abdul and Nigel Lythgoe. Source: YouTube.

The [lawsuit](#), lodged in Los Angeles County Superior Court, accuses Lythgoe of sexually assaulting Abdul during their collaboration on two popular talent shows. Abdul, known for her chart-topping success in the late 1980s, specifically claims the assault occurred in an elevator during the early seasons of *American Idol*.

Lythgoe has since denied the allegations citing he is shocked and saddened by them.

Following Paula Abdul's lawsuit, Lythgoe is now confronted with a [second legal challenge](#). According to *TMZ* the lawsuit alleges that 20 years ago he sexually assaulted and harassed two contestants on the reality competition show *All American Girl*.

The show, which aired for one season in 2003, had Lythgoe as a producer. The documents, obtained by *TMZ*, detail the women's claims that Lythgoe would frequently appear on set and in dressing rooms when they were in dance costumes, engaging in "openly swatted and groped" behavior towards them.

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