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Multi-Billion Dollar Real Estate Services Company JLL Sued by Former Associate for Gender Discrimination and Retaliation

NEW YORK, NY, August 10, 2020 – The Law Offices of Veronica S. Jung, PLLC filed suit against Jones Lang LaSalle (JLL) on behalf of Tiffany Catalini alleging that JLL discriminated against Ms. Catalini because of her gender, failed to pay her agreed upon bonuses, and retaliated against her for complaining of sexism and unpaid bonuses. Before JLL fired her in March 2020, Ms. Catalini was the only woman in her group and one of the few female Associates in JLL’s New York office.

JLL is a multi-national real estate services company based out of Chicago, with tens of billions of dollars of annual revenue and nearly 100,000 employees across the globe. The Complaint, filed on August 10, 2020 in the Manhattan courthouse of the Federal District Court for the Southern District of New York, alleges that Ms. Catalini experienced pervasive gender discrimination in JLL’s New York office: that her managers assigned her menial tasks like fetching lunch and clothes and created a sexist work environment. The Complaint also alleges that JLL retaliated against Ms. Catalini for complaining about gender discrimination. JLL fired Ms. Catalini in March 2020.

Ms. Catalini is a real estate professional with decades of experience, who had worked in JLL’s Capital Markets group since joining the company in 2012. The Complaint alleges that Ms. Catalini experienced gender discrimination at JLL after the company brought Mr. Beler into the Capital Markets group. When JLL promoted Mr. Beler to Vice Chairman, Ms. Catalini began reporting to him directly. Ms. Catalini alleges that Mr. Beler openly used graphic, sexist language in the workplace, and that he gave her, the one Female associate in Capital Markets, demeaning tasks such as fetching him lunch and clean shirts.

According to the Complaint, Ms. Catalini, struggled for years with a toxic, sexist atmosphere under Mr. Beler, and complained to JLL, both during and after his tenure, about sexism at the company.

Ms. Catalini also alleges that JLL failed to pay her an agreed upon retention bonus, and that Mr. Beler further cut her annual bonus because of her gender. Ms. Catalini alleges that JLL retaliated against her for making complaints about sexism at JLL and her unpaid bonus, going so far as to terminate Ms. Catalini’s employment in March 2020. Ms. Catalini was the only employee terminated at that time, months before JLL began making widespread cuts due to COVID-19.

Veronica Jung, the lead attorney on the case, stated, “Ms. Catalini filed this action in Federal court because she feels compelled to stand up and address the sexism and gender discrimination she experienced at JLL. Ms. Catalini found JLL’s actions particularly offensive because the multi-billion-dollar company holds itself out as diverse and inclusive, but repeatedly failed to live up to its own policies and directives regarding equal opportunity and employee treatment.”

The firm’s founder, Veronica S. Jung, is a former trial attorney for the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice. The firm focuses on representing senior-level and high-profile employees, abused workers, and whistleblowers. The firm has been recognized for its penetrating internal investigations, and has offices in California, Washington D.C. and New York. More information on the firm is available at <http://www.veronicajunglaw.com/>.

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