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L.A. Reid's Epic Records Exit Followed **Allegations by Female** Staffer

5/14/2017 by Hannah Karp









Courtesy of Epic Records

billboard

Antonio "L.A." Reid's abrupt exit from the top job at Sony Music Entertainment's Epic Records followed a claim by a female assistant alleging "unlawful harassment of an employee," sources tell Billboard.

Sources said the claim



prompted a company investigation into his conduct. The labels

he has run have included Epic, Universal Music Group's Island/Def Jam and LaFace Records, which was co-founded by Reid in 1989 and eventually absorbed into Sony.

In a letter to Sony, the claimant's attorney detailed alleged harassment his client had faced on a daily basis, which included alleged inappropriate remarks about her appearance and clothing and alleged propositions that caused her embarrassment and distress, making it impossible for her to continue working at the label. The letter -- the contents of which were relayed to Billboard -- threatened litigation if a settlement

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Entertainment Music News

L.A. Reid's Epic Records Exit Followed Allegations by Female Staffer

May 15, 2017 🛔 Kevin Fleming 🗩 0 Comment 🖠 departure, LA Reid, Sony Music Chairman/CEO

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A lawyer for Reid declined to comment. The claimant and her lawyer declined to comment.

Reid's departure is the second high-profile exit at Sony since Columbia Records chairman/CEO Rob Stringer took over as CEO of Sony April 1. Last month Sony said Dr. Luke (Lukasz Gottwald) would leave the CEO role at its Kemosabe Records amid the hit-maker's protracted legal battle with singer-songwriter Kesha, who sued Dr. Luke three years ago in New York court for alleged sexual abuse. Dr. Luke has denied the charges and sued Kesha for defamation, claims that are still pending.