

Sean Combs Is Shown Assaulting Cassie in 2016 Surveillance Video

[nytimes.com/2024/05/17/arts/music/sean-combs-diddy-cassie-assault-video.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2024/05/17/arts/music/sean-combs-diddy-cassie-assault-video.html)

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Hotel surveillance footage [published by CNN on Friday](#) showed Sean Combs physically assaulting and kicking Casandra Ventura, his former girlfriend, in a manner consistent with allegations she made against him in a lawsuit that she filed and settled last year.

The video shows Mr. Combs, a hip-hop mogul known as Puff Daddy and Diddy, wearing a towel and confronting Ms. Ventura while she waits for an elevator. It shows him grabbing her and throwing her to the ground, kicking her twice, grabbing some of her possessions, and beginning to drag her down the hallway by her sweatshirt.

Mr. Combs is also seen grabbing an object off a table and throwing it.

A lawyer representing Ms. Ventura, Douglas H. Wigdor, confirmed that the woman being assaulted in the video is his client.

“The gut-wrenching video has only further confirmed the disturbing and predatory behavior of Mr. Combs,” he said in a statement. “Words cannot express the courage and fortitude that Ms. Ventura has shown in coming forward to bring this to light.”

A representative for Mr. Combs, who has not been criminally charged, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

In Ms. Ventura’s lawsuit, she described an incident from 2016 at an InterContinental Hotel in Los Angeles in which Mr. Combs became “extremely intoxicated and punched Ms. Ventura in the face, giving her a black eye.” The lawsuit said that after Mr. Combs fell asleep, Ms. Ventura tried to leave the hotel room, but Mr. Combs woke up and followed her into the hallway.

“He grabbed at her, and then took glass vases in the hallway and threw them at her, causing glass to crash around them as she ran to the elevator to escape,” the lawsuit said.

Mr. Wigdor confirmed that the video footage corresponds to those allegations.

Mr. Combs settled the suit with Ms. Ventura — an R&B singer known as Cassie, who had been signed to Mr. Combs’s record label — in one day in November, and denied any wrongdoing. Three suits by other women, each alleging rape, followed in quick succession, and in February a male music producer filed suit accusing Mr. Combs of unwanted sexual contact.

Mr. Combs is facing a federal investigation, which officials said was at least in part a human trafficking inquiry. In March, federal agents raided his homes in Los Angeles and Miami Beach, Fla., and stopped him at a Miami-area airport, confiscating his electronic devices.

Mr. Combs has vehemently denied the accusations in the civil suits, calling them “sickening allegations” from people looking for “a quick payday.” His lawyers have sharply criticized how the raids — which involved agents from Homeland Security Investigations brandishing guns — were carried out, calling them a “gross overuse of military-level force.”