Sean 'Diddy' Combs Seen Kicking Cassie After Throwing Her to Ground in 2016 Hotel Surveillance Video

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- Entertainment
- <u>Music</u>

In a video obtained by CNN, Combs is seen physically assaulting his former girlfriend, singer Cassie, eight years ago in Century City

By <u>Daniela Avila</u> Updated on May 17, 2024 02:20PM EDT

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Sean 'Diddy' Combs; Cassie Venture. Photo: Matt Baron/Shutterstock; Johnny Nunez/Wirelmage

New surveillance video shows <u>Sean 'Diddy' Combs</u> grabbing, shoving and kicking his exgirlfriend, singer <u>Cassie</u>, during a 2016 altercation that matches allegations she made in a <u>now-settled</u> lawsuit <u>filed last November</u>.

In the surveillance video, <u>released by CNN</u> on May 17, Casandra 'Cassie' Ventura, now 37, exits a hotel room and walks toward an elevator as Combs, now 54, chases after her with a towel around his waist. When he reaches her, Combs is seen grabbing her by the neck and tossing her to the ground. While Ventura lays on the ground, Combs turns to violently kick her as he grabs her purse and suitcase.

As Ventura lies motionless on the ground, Combs kicks her again and briefly drags her toward the direction of the room before letting go and walking away. Seconds later, he sits down at a chair and grabs an object off a table to throw at her. Combs is then seen walking away and turns toward Ventura once again when an elevator door opens and someone appears to exit.

"The gut-wrenching video has only further confirmed the disturbing and predatory behavior of Mr. Combs. Words cannot express the courage and fortitude that Ms. Ventura has shown in coming forward to bring this to light," Ventura's attorney Douglas H. Wigdor said in a statement obtained by PEOPLE.

A rep for Diddy did not immediately respond to PEOPLE's request for comment.

Diddy and Cassie Settle Lawsuit Accusing Music Mogul of Rape and Abuse: 'Decided to Resolve This Matter Amicably'

In Ventura's lawsuit, which she <u>filed in November</u> and was obtained by PEOPLE at the time, she outlined what appears to be this exact scenario that took place at the now-closed InterContinental Hotel in Century City, Los Angeles.

In the lawsuit, she writes that in an incident "in or around March 2016," "Mr. Combs became extremely intoxicated and punched Ms. Ventura in the face, giving her a black eye."

"After he fell asleep, Ms. Ventura tried to leave the hotel room, but as she exited, Mr. Combs awoke and began screaming at Ms. Ventura," the lawsuit claims. "He followed her into the hallway of the hotel while yelling at her. 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."

Per the lawsuit, Ventura managed to get into the elevator and she took a cab to her apartment.

"Upon realizing that her running away would cause Mr. Combs to be even angrier with her, and completely stuck in his vicious cycle of abuse, Ms. Ventura returned to the hotel with the intention of apologizing for running away from her abuser," the complaint claims. "When she returned, hotel security staff urged her to get back into a cab and go to her apartment, suggesting that they had seen the security footage showing Mr. Combs beating Ms. Ventura and throwing glass at her in the hotel hallway."



Cassie and Sean 'Diddy' Combs in New York City in January 2018. Kevin Mazur/Getty

The complaint also alleges that Combs paid the hotel \$50,000 for the hallway security footage from that event.

IHG Hotels did not immediately respond to PEOPLE's request for comment.

This incident is one of many allegations made in her November lawsuit, in which she claimed that she was subject to years of repeated physical abuse by Combs in their relationship from 2007-2018.

However, Combs and Ventura reached a settlement one day after she accused him of <u>rape</u>, <u>sex trafficking</u>, <u>domestic violence</u> and more in New York.

At the time, they announced they resolved the claims in the lawsuit to their "mutual satisfaction."

"I have decided to resolve this matter amicably on terms that I have some level of control," Ventura said in a statement. "I want to thank my family, fans and lawyers for their unwavering support."

Her attorney Wigdor said, "I am very proud of Ms. Ventura for having the strength to go public with her lawsuit. She ought to be commended for doing so."

<u>A Timeline of Sean 'Diddy' Combs' Sexual Assault Allegations and Lawsuits</u> Combs added, "We have decided to resolve this matter amicably. I wish Cassie and her family all the best. Love."

Ben Brafman, Combs' lawyer, clarified his client's stance on issue, telling PEOPLE in a statement, "Just so we're clear, a decision to settle a lawsuit, especially in 2023, is in no way an admission of wrongdoing. Mr. Combs' decision to settle the lawsuit does not in any way undermine his flat-out denial of the claims. He is happy they got to a mutual settlement and wishes Ms. Ventura the best."

Since the lawsuit was settled, more people have come forward and accused Diddy of abuse, sex trafficking and gang rape.

On Dec. 6, <u>Diddy spoke out about the allegations</u>. "ENOUGH IS ENOUGH. For the last couple of weeks, I have sat silently and watched people try to assassinate my character, destroy my reputation and my legacy," he wrote in the statement, which was obtained by PEOPLE. "Sickening allegations have been made against me by individuals looking for a quick payday."

Then in March, Diddy's properties were raided by federal agents, which a Homeland Security Investigations representative told PEOPLE was "part of an ongoing investigation."

*If you are experiencing domestic violence, call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-*800-799-7233, or go to <u>thehotline.org</u>. All calls are toll-free and confidential. The hotline is available 24/7 in more than 170 languages.