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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Defamation Suit Against Former Fox News Anchor *Bill O'Reilly* Expands
Rebecca Gomez Diamond and Andrea Mackris, Former Fox News Employees,
Join Rachel Witlieb Bernstein In Lawsuit

New York City, Dec. 20, 2017 – Two former Fox News employees, **Rebecca Gomez Diamond** and **Andrea Mackris**, have sued **Bill O'Reilly** and Fox News for defamation joining former producer **Rachel Witlieb Bernstein**. Ms. Mackris and Ms. Diamond were named in an April NY Times article as having received settlements after complaining about sexual harassment by O'Reilly.

The women are represented by Neil Mullin, Esq. and Nancy Erika Smith, Esq., of the Montclair, N.J. law firm Smith Mullin, and previously represented Gretchen Carlson in her suit against former Fox CEO Roger Ailes.

"These women were specifically identified in the NY Times article, to which O'Reilly and Fox responded with false and defamatory statements," Smith said. "They are tired of being smeared with lies by a bully who thinks that his victims are afraid to answer them. They are standing up for the truth, joining the many voices of brave women who are no longer tolerating abuse or being silenced."

The suit, filed in United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, alleges that Ms. Bernstein, Ms. Diamond and Ms. Mackris are members of a "small group" identified by name in the Times article. It lists numerous false statements by O'Reilly in which he claims that he "never mistreated anyone," that no women complained about him, "I've been in the business for 43 years and I've never had a complaint filed by anyone at 12 different companies," and referred to the harassment accusations as "a political and financial hit job."

Fox issued a statement, repeated in the NY Times, that no woman ever called the 21st Century Fox hotline to complain and that O'Reilly denied all claims. The suit notes that 21st Century Fox was not the Fox News parent company until 2013 — after all three women had left the company, so there was no 21CF hotline. It also notes that Fox News is well aware that all three women did complain and they had "solid evidence."

Mr. Mullin said, "By claiming these women did not complain, O'Reilly and Fox portray them as liars and extortionists. Both Ms. Mackris and Ms. Diamond did complain of harassment by O'Reilly in a timely way to Dianne Brandi, Fox VP of Legal. The result of those complaints was that the women left Fox and were silenced and O'Reilly remained and continued to harass women and smear his victims."

The suit also refers to Rupert Murdoch's recent statement to Sky News that the raft of sexual harassment complaints at Fox News were "nonsense," other than some "isolated incidents" regarding former Fox CEO Roger Ailes, who was ousted weeks after Gretchen Carlson sued him for harassment. Murdoch said that a lot of conduct is "flirting." The suit claims Murdoch's statements are knowingly false and defamatory.

Smith said, "These three women seek to stop O'Reilly and Fox from continuing to bully and malign women O'Reilly abused and harassed. They want to expose and stop the Fox culture of sexism and misogyny and give the victims their voices back. At this time in our culture women are tired of being told to shut up about abuse at the hands of men."