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## Groping CUNY prof costs city 380G

BY JOHN MARZULLI  
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The city will pay \$380,000 to a former Kingsborough Community College student who alleged she was sexually assaulted by a biology professor on a school trip, according to the court papers.

The victim, whose name is being withheld by the Daily News because of the nature of the charges, also will receive \$20,000 from the tenured professor, Peter Lanzetta, who has since retired from Kingsborough.

"My client is happy that she's able to have closure with respect to an incident that had a profound impact upon her life," said lawyer Elliot Taub of the Manhattan firm Taub & Marder.

Taub said at least two other Kingsborough professors came forward and said they, too, were subjected to similar advances by Lanzetta, 64, in the past, but apparently did not report them to school officials.

"I think it's a disgrace that you have a professor who was doing these horrible things to women and this man was allowed to have contact with young adults," he added.

A spokeswoman for the city Law Department did not return a call for comment on the settlement, which was filed Tuesday in Brooklyn Federal Court.

The 21-year-old victim was part of a contingent of Kingsborough students and professors attending a biomedical conference for minority students in Texas in November 2004.

In the federal complaint, she alleged that Lanzetta invited her to his hotel room to work on a school project, and then forced himself on her. She accused Lanzetta of pushing her down on the bed and forcibly kissing and fondling her.

The attack was interrupted when her cell phone began ringing and she fled the room.

The victim immediately reported what happened to another professor who found her crying in the hotel lobby. She also filed a complaint with the police in Dallas.





The disposition of that complaint, in which a citation against Lanzetta for "provocative touching" was filed, could not be learned yesterday.

Taub said his client was emotionally traumatized by the incident and her grades suffered, resulting in the loss of her scholarship. She later transferred to St. Joseph's College, where she is receiving a partial scholarship for tuition.

A spokeswoman for Kingsborough said Lanzetta's retirement was effective September 2005.

Lanzetta could not be reached for comment.

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