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Former employee sues Johnson & Johnson for age discrimination

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Singapore: Ms Sylvia Santos, a former Johnson & Johnson employee, has filed a lawsuit against the firm allegeing that she was fired because of her age and medical disability and was wrongly accused of fraud in maintaining company records.

Ms Santos filed the complaint against Johnson & Johnson Consumer Companies Incorporated, which is a division of the New Brunswick-based company, in Superior Court.

The complaint states that, "The facts of this matter suggest that the 'true' reason for Ms Santos' termination was her age, 56, as well as her medical condition."

Ms Santos has also accused the division of defamation, because certain employees have been spreading rumors of her being fired for engaging in illegal conduct, including shredding company documents.

Ms Santos experience with the firm is in contrast to the findings of the 2013 BioSpectrum Gender Parity Survey. Although the survey revealed that women working in the life science sector faced several hindrances on their way up the corporate ladder, there was equality between men and women in the industry in terms of age.