

## Shahs of Sunset alum accuses business partner of embezzlement, files lawsuit

Reality star Lilly Ghalichi's lawsuit alleges hundreds of thousands of dollars were stolen, and damage caused to her business, image and reputation

LOS ANGELES, CALIF., USA, December 8, 2017 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Style icon Lilly Ghalichi, also known for starring in the Bravo TV reality series "Shahs of Sunset," filed a lawsuit Thursday in Los Angeles Superior Court against her Want My Look business partner Payam Pedram saying she wants Pedram to pay back hundreds of thousands of dollars she says he stole from her.

The lawsuit claims Pedram fraudulently induced the partnership, gained control, locked her out of the business, stole money from Ghalichi and her other businesses, and grossly mismanaged the multi-million-dollar WML beauty and glamour brand.



Shahs of Sunset alum Lilly Ghalichi is suing her business partner, accusing him of embezzlement

"Pedram entered the partnership with the intent to use the proceeds from Lilly's hard work to finance his elaborate lifestyle," said Neama Rahmani of <u>West Coast Trial Lawyers</u>, who represents Ghalichi.

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...He betrayed her trust, destroyed her vision, and left her with a legal and financial ordeal that might take years to remedy." *Neama Rahmani, West Coast Trial Lawyers*  "He turned WML into an online scam, looted the business and Ghalichi's personal bank accounts, alienated her fans and customers, mistreated employees, and seriously tainted the image Ghalichi established through years of rigorous attention to her style and brand."

Ghalichi and Pedram formed a partnership in November 2013. Ghalichi, whose legal name is Neelufar (Lilly) Ghalichi Mir, agreed to use her image, celebrity status, and vision to market the business, which includes fashion and swimwear lines, beauty products and jewelry. Pedram, who Ghalichi

says falsely represented his prior business experience, promised to manage the business. The partners opened a joint bank account and the two planned to share profits, but Ghalichi never received a salary or profits from the business.

According to the complaint, Pedram began operating a product shipping scheme through which he

embezzled hundreds of thousands of dollars from Ghalichi. When Ghalichi confronted him about the missing money, Pedram promised to pay it back. Instead, Ghalichi's signature was forged on checks and money transferred from her account into the WML account for Pedram's personal use. He also obtained loans against the business without Ghalichi's authorization, the complaint alleges.

In addition to appropriating funds, Ghalichi alleges in the lawsuit, Pedram failed to fulfill customers' orders, he neglected to pay federal, state and employment taxes, and he ignored his obligation to pay employees in a timely manner, while at the same time assuring his partner he was meeting his management obligations.

"Pedram not only stole from and lied to Lilly, he betrayed her trust, destroyed her vision, and left her with a legal and financial ordeal that might take years to remedy," Rahmani said. "We are asking the court to help her recoup some of her losses from Pedram and force him to relinquish control so Lilly can begin to repair the damage."

The view the full complaint, visit the West Coast Trial Lawyers media page.

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