



Double Standard, Indeed! Washington Post Ignored Sexual-Assault Claim Against Virginia's LT Governor Justin Fairfax But Skewered Judge Kavanaugh

The Washington Post was aware for more than a year of Vanessa Tyson's claim of sexual assault against Virginia's Lt. Governor Justin Fairfax, a Democrat who is next in line to become Governor if Ralph Northam steps down. The paper, however, declined to publish the story, claiming it could not be corroborated. It is impossible not to draw a comparisons to the media's savage treatment of Supreme Court nominee, Brett Kavanaugh, during his confirmation hearings. The Washington Post trumpeted almost every accusation against him, in total disregard of the the lack of proof. -GEG

- Virginia Lt. Gov. Justin Fairfax denied an uncorroborated sexual assault allegation on Monday.
- The Washington Post was aware of the allegation last year but declined to publish for lack of corroborating

evidence.

- The Fairfax accusation has drawn comparisons to the media's handling of claims against Justice Brett Kavanaugh.

The

uncorroborated sexual assault allegation against Virginia Lt. Gov.

Justin Fairfax, a Democrat, has drawn comparisons to the uncorroborated allegations against Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh.

Fairfax [issued a statement](#) early Monday morning disputing [a report](#)

by the right-wing blog Big League Politics, which linked Fairfax to an accusation of sexual assault at the 2004 Democratic National Convention.

Fairfax said at a press conference Monday that he had a consensual encounter with the woman, but denied that he sexually assaulted her.

Fairfax is poised to succeed embattled Gov. Ralph Northam [if the Virginia Democrat resigns](#) over a [racist photo on his yearbook page](#) that showed a man wearing blackface and another wearing a Klu Klux Klan robe. Northam first [admitted](#) to being one of the people in the photo, before backtracking and saying he [wore blackface on a different occasion, but not in the photo](#).

The Washington Post [reported](#)

on Monday that it had been aware of the allegation against

Fairfax for over a year, but was unable to corroborate it. Fairfax “incorrectly” claimed the Post declined to publish the claim because it found “red flags” regarding the woman’s story, according to the paper.

“Fairfax and the woman told different versions of what happened in the hotel room with no one else present. The Washington Post could not find anyone who could corroborate either version,” the Post reported.

The Post’s original decision not to publish the Fairfax accusation drew comparisons to [the Post’s coverage of the Kavanaugh accusations](#), which also lacked corroborating evidence. The paper did not return The Daily Caller News Foundation’s request for comment. [\(RELATED: Nine Times Media Pushed Misinformation About Kavanaugh\)](#)

“It’s good to see that the newspaper has found a renewed interest in the standard of proof it abandoned entirely when it broke the story of similar allegations of sexual misconduct leveled last year against Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh. Recall that it was the Post that first got Christine Blasey Ford to go on the record with her allegations,” [wrote](#) the Washington Examiner’s Becket Adams.

“It’s

fine if the Post passed on the Fairfax story because of a genuine lack of evidence. And there definitely doesn't appear to be that much to go on, other than the word of a single accuser," Adams added. "But it's hard to see the Post's decision to spike her story as anything but politically biased considering how the paper gorged itself on nearly every flimsy and fantastic allegation hurled in Kavanaugh's direction, no matter how ridiculous, again with no evidence to back any of it up."

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