

The motion also claimed that Mr. Dershowitz had **abused** other minors and had been "an eyewitness to the **sexual abuse** of many other minors" by Mr. Epstein and others.

In a statement accompanying the court filing, Mr. Dershowitz said the encounters could not have occurred for several reasons, including the one time he had visited Mr. Epstein's house in New Mexico. The house was still under construction, and Mr. Dershowitz said he had stayed for about an hour. He was accompanied, he said, by his wife and daughter and another couple.

"Mr. Epstein was not there," Mr. Dershowitz said. "Nor were there any young girls visible at any time."

Bradley J. Edwards, a lawyer for the woman, declined to comment Tuesday.

Mr. Dershowitz's lawyers said in their motion that the **allegation** was "nothing more than a vehicle to impugn the reputation of Professor Dershowitz, filed with the certain result of stirring up media interest."

The motion argued that Mr. Dershowitz, who has previously served as Mr. Epstein's lawyer, should be allowed to remove his name from the case given that the **allegations of sexual abuse** had harmed his reputation.

"Few accusations, if any, can launch such an immediate sensation as well as an enduring taint, notwithstanding their utter falsity and the impeccable reputation of the accused," the motion said.

Further, the motion maintained that the accusation, while "categorically false," had no relevance to the underlying lawsuit.

The broader lawsuit was filed in 2008 by two women who claimed that federal **prosecutors** had failed to adequately take into consideration their legal claims. While the Palm Beach police said they believed they had sufficient evidence for Mr. Epstein to be charged with at least four counts of **unlawful sex with minors**, he was allowed to plead **guilty** to a single count of soliciting an under-age girl for prostitution and was sentenced to 18 months in prison.

Subsequently, lawyers for two other women -- including the woman who claimed to have had sex as a minor with Mr. Dershowitz and Prince Andrew -- filed a motion seeking to join the lawsuit. A decision is pending.

URL: <http://www.nytimes.com/2015/01/07/us/alan-dershowitz-denies-allegations-of-sex-with-minor.html>

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GRAPHIC: PHOTO: Alan M. Dershowitz, in a court filing on Monday, called the claims of a suit "categorically false." (PHOTOGRAPH BY ANDREW INNERARITY/REUTERS)

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