

The logo for Damian McCarthy, an employment lawyer. It features a dark grey square with a vertical blue bar on the left side. The name 'Damian McCarthy' is written in white, with 'Damian' on the top line and 'McCarthy' on the bottom line. Below the name, the words 'Employment Lawyer' are written in a smaller white font.

**Damian
McCarthy**

**Employment
Lawyer**

Press Release

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Married bank manager who pleaded colleague for sex ‘saw her topless in hotel room’

A married HBOS manager told an employment tribunal today he repeatedly asked a woman colleague to have sex with him during a business trip.

The man, who cannot be named for legal reasons, said he had been drinking with a number of his colleagues at a hotel in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, 12 years ago and later went to the room of one of the women - Haley Tansey, now 39.

The manager said Mrs Tansey opened the door wearing only her pants - an allegation she has denied at the tribunal in Leeds.

But the man admitted he went into the room where he asked the woman repeatedly to have sex with him but she refused.

He said: ‘She just opened the door and I walked into the room. I asked her if I could sleep with her. ‘The first thing I said to her was to suggest we have sex.

‘Haley said no, she couldn’t.

‘I asked her a couple more times. She said, no she couldn’t, she wouldn’t, she wasn’t that sort of person. ‘She said she was tired and asked me to leave.’

The manager, who worked at HBOS offices in Halifax and Leeds, said he had drunk about 10 pints before his encounter with Mrs Tansey in her hotel room.

He told the tribunal the complainant had been drinking with him earlier and had been ‘flirting’ with him. The manager admitted Mrs Tansey refused his request to go up to her room together.

But he admitted going up later and banging on the door.

The man said that after leaving Mrs Tansey's room he returned later and convinced a porter to let him back in.

'I did go back again to see if she'd changed her mind and would sleep with me,' he said.

The man denied allegations he had gone into the bathroom in the hotel room and taken all his clothes off. 'I did not remove any clothes and I left when she asked me to,' he said.

He said he was ashamed at what he had done at the hotel in 1998 because he was married and his wife was expecting their baby at the time.

But the manager said Mrs Tansey told him at the time to 'forget about it'.

He said he was astonished when the incident was brought up again almost a decade later. The man said he had been 'stupid' when he was drunk.

Earlier this week former HBOS business manager Mrs Tansey, from Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire, said she had woken to find the man in her room before he stripped in the bathroom.

She said there had been a tolerance of sexual behaviour at HBOS and said she had been traumatised by the hotel incident. Mrs Tansey denied claims she was claiming sexual harassment at the bank simply to secure £600,000.

Today she sobbed and shook her head as the man denied some of her allegations. The tribunal, which is due to last 14 days, continues.