

Liza & bodyguard settle assault suit

LIZA MINNELLI'S legal fight with a bodyguard who accused the "Cabaret" star of boozy beatings and coerced sex is over.

Minnelli and M'hammed Soumayah have settled a \$100 million lawsuit in which the ex-muscleman charged the aging songbird drunkenly battered him and forced him to bed her.

The terms of the settlement of the 2004 Manhattan Supreme Court lawsuit were confidential.

"The matter is resolved," said Harvey Mars, a lawyer for Soumayah. A lawyer for Minnelli declined comment.

Soumayah was countersued by Minnelli after he portrayed her as a sex-starved maniac who threatened to dump him from a \$238,000-a-year job unless he engaged in "sexual relations."

Minnelli, who was married to flamboyant promoter David Gest at the time of the suit, also told the bodyguard and chauffeur he was the "love of her life," the suit said.

"Fearing loss of his lucrative job, [Soumayah] tolerated Minnelli's violent outbursts and did not complain about them to her or anyone else," the suit stated.

Jose Martinez