

# Silicon Valley Star Lands New Job a Month After Sex Scandal

SILICON VALLEY MEN REWARD EACH OTHER FOR SEX CRIMES



TechCrunch  
*/Flickr*

A little more than one month after a sexual harassment scandal threatened to sink a Silicon Valley superangel, Keith Rabois has landed a new gig that puts him not too far from his old one.

A charter member of the [PayPal mafia](#), Rabois is joining Silicon Valley venture capital firm [Khosla Ventures](#) as a "senior investment professional." Khosla is a backer of Square, the hot mobile payments startup where Rabois served as chief operating officer until resigning in late January over the sexual harassment allegations.

Rabois likely aided his quick professional recovery by offering his side of the story with a candor Americans aren't used to seeing when other business leaders or politicians find themselves hit with sex scandals. When his resignation was announced, he [published a lengthy post on Tumblr](#) admitting to having what he calls a consenting relationship with a man he had met through mutual friends in 2010. The man later landed a job with Square after Rabois urged him to apply, but Rabois says the man never reported to him directly. Before Rabois resigned, a New York-based attorney threatened him and Square with a lawsuit, alleging that relationship between the unnamed Square employee and Rabois was not consensual. He was told that he could make the whole ordeal disappear with a "payment of

millions of dollars," according to Rabois. One week after the threat, he left Square to prevent the lawsuit from becoming a distraction for his employees, he said.

A veteran executive and investor who also served stints at LinkedIn and Slide, Rabois wasn't likely to stay on the open market for long. Rumors began swirling last week that [Airbnb](#) might hire Rabois as its chief operating officer. News also leaked that Khosla was likely gearing up to [offer him a job](#).

In a statement, Khosla Ventures founding partner Vinod Khosla did not address Rabois' departure from Square. "We are thrilled to have Keith join us as he has shown himself to be a great investor, but even more importantly he's a true adviser," Khosla said. There's no word yet on what types of investments Rabois will oversee. Khosla Ventures invests heavily in green technology and sustainability projects, but also devotes money to technology and internet companies. Given his background, it's likely that Rabois will help beef up investments in payment technology, since Khosla Ventures has only four payment companies in its portfolio.

Rabois starts his new position in March 2013, likely closing the book on what in other walks of life could have been a career-ending embarrassment. High-ranking executives take note: When scandal hits, it's almost always better to say more than less.