

Hizzoner on hot seat in harass case

MAYOR BLOOMBERG was grilled for five hours yesterday about claims that his company discriminates against women who try to take maternity leave.

The closed-door session allowed lawyers suing Bloomberg L.P. to ask the mayor about claims that more than 80 pregnant women were harassed, demoted or fired if they took leave.

“Mr. Bloomberg does pride himself as a hands-on, detail-oriented owner, businessman and now mayor,” said **Richard Roth**, the lawyer for five of the women. “We are determining if and when Mr. Bloomberg became aware of these issues, whether they were happening under his watch and if so, what he did about them.”

Bloomberg is not a defendant in the lawsuit, and his company has denied the allegations.

Roth said the mayor was cooperative, cool and collected during the session.

Bloomberg came to the meeting straight from a speech at the New York Women’s Foundation, which Bloomberg’s company has donated to for 12 years.

“It’s been a very exiting week for me and New York women,” the mayor said.

**Adam Lisberg
and Chloe Rosenberg**