### Case No. 83557

### In the Supreme Court of Nevada

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT,
Appellant,

vs.

ETHAN BRYAN; and NOLAN HAIRR, Respondents.

Electronically Filed Jun 02 2022 01:50 p.m. Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court

### APPEAL

from the Eighth Judicial District Court, Clark County
The Honorable NANCY ALLF, District Judge
District Court Case No. A-14-700018-C

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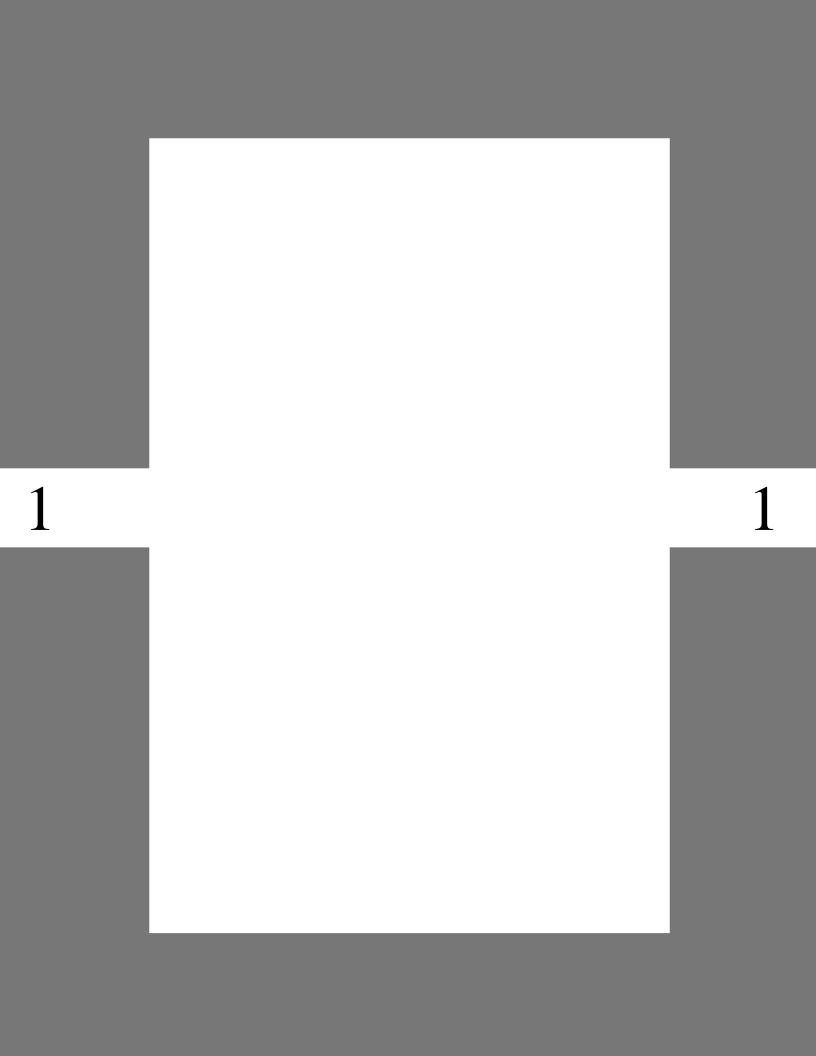
### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 2nd day of June, 2022, I submitted the foregoing "Appellant's Appendix" for filing *via* the Court's eFlex electronic filing system. Electronic notification will be sent to the following:

ALLEN LICHTENSTEIN ALLEN LICHTENSTEIN ATTORNEY AT LAW, LTD. 3315 Russell Road, No. 222 Las Vegas, Nevada 89120

Attorneys for Respondent

<u>/s/Cynthia Kelley</u>
An Employee of Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie LLP



#### CIVIL COVER SHEET

Clark County, Nevada
Case No.
(Assigned by Clerk's Office)

I.	P	artv	Info	rmation
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Plaintiff(s) (name/address/phone): Mary Bryan, mother of Ethan Bryan and Aimee Hairr, mother of Nolan Hairr

Attorney (name/address/phone):ACLU of Nevada 601 South Rancho Dr. Suite B-11, Las Vegas, NV 89106 Defendant(s) (name/address/phone): CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD); Pat Skorkowsky, in his official capacity as CCSD superintendent; CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; Erin A. Cranor, Linda E. Young, Patrice Tew, Stavan Corbett, Carolyn Edwards, Chris Garvey, Deanna Wright, in their official capacities as CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; GREENSPUN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL (GJHS); Principal Warren P. McKay, in his individual and official capacity as principal of GJHS; Leonard DePiazza, in his individual and official capacity as assistant principal at GJHS; Cheryl Winn, in her individual and official capacity as Dean at GJHS; John Halpin, in his individual and official capacity as counselor at GJHS; Robert Beasley, in his individual and official capacity as instructor at GJHS; NEVADA EQUAL RIGHTS COMMISSION (NERC); Kara Jenkins in her individual and official capacity as Commission Administrator of NERC; Dennis Perea, in his official capacity as Deputy Director of the NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING, AND REHABILITATION (DETR).

Attorney (name/address/phone):Unknown

II. Nature of Controversy (Please chapplicable subcategory, if appropriate)	neck applicable bold category and	Arbitration Requested
	Civil Cases	
Real Property		Torts
☐ Landlord/Tenant ☐ Unlawful Detainer ☐ Title to Property ☐ Foreclosure ☐ Liens ☐ Quiet Title ☐ Specific Performance ☐ Condemnation/Eminent Domain ☐ Other Real Property ☐ Partition ☐ Planning/Zoning	Negligence Negligence - Auto Negligence - Medical/Dental Negligence - Premises Liability (Slip/Fall) Negligence - Other	☐ Product Liability ☐ Product Liability/Motor Vehicle ☐ Other Torts/Product Liability ☐ Intentional Misconduct ☐ Torts/Defamation (Libel/Slander) ☐ Interfere with Contract Rights ☐ Employment Torts (Wrongful termination) ☐ Other Torts ☐ Anti-trust ☐ Fraud/Misrepresentation ☐ Insurance ☐ Legal Tort ☐ Unfair Competition

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Probate	Other Civil Filing Types			
Estimated Estate Value:  Summary Administration  General Administration  Special Administration  Set Aside Estates  Trust/Conservatorships  Individual Trustee  Corporate Trustee  Other Probate	Construction Defect  Chapter 40 General Breach of Contract Building & Construction Insurance Carrier Commercial Instrument Other Contracts/Acct/Judgment Collection of Actions Employment Contract Guarantee Sale Contract Uniform Commercial Code Civil Petition for Judicial Review Foreclosure Mediation Other Administrative Law Department of Motor Vehicles Worker's Compensation Appeal	□ Appeal from Lower Court (also check applicable civil case box) □ Transfer from Justice Court □ Justice Court Civil Appeal □ Civil Writ □ Other Special Proceeding □ Other Civil Filing □ Compromise of Minor's Claim □ Conversion of Property □ Damage to Property □ Employment Security □ Enforcement of Judgment □ Foreign Judgment — Civil □ Other Personal Property □ Recovery of Property □ Stockholder Suit □ Other Civil Matters		
III. Business Court Requested (Plea	ase check applicable category; for Clark or Wash	oe Counties only.)		
☐ NRS Chapters 78-88 ☐ Commodities (NRS 90) ☐ Securities (NRS 90)	☐ Investments (NRS 104 Art. 8) ☐ Deceptive Trade Practices (NRS 598) ☐ Trademarks (NRS 600A)	☐ Enhanced Case Mgmt/Business ☐ Other Business Court Matters		
4/29/14 Date	Allen L	initiating party or representative		

See other side for family-related case filings.

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#### EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

### CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

MARY BRYAN, mother of ETHAN BRYAN; AIMEE HAIRR, mother of NOLAN HAIRR,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

Nevada Bar No. 3992

allenaclunv@lvcoxmail.com

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD); Pat Skorkowsky, in his official capacity as CCSD superintendent; CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; Erin A. Cranor, Linda E. Young, Patrice Tew, Stavan Corbett, Carolyn Edwards, Chris Garvey, Deanna Wright, in their official capacities as CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; GREENSPUN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL (GJHS); Principal Warren P. McKay, in his individual and official capacity as principal of GJHS; Leonard DePiazza, in his individual and official capacity as assistant principal at GJHS; Cheryl Winn, in her individual and official capacity as Dean at GJHS; John Halpin, in his individual and official capacity

Case No.: A-14-700018-C

COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, AND DAMAGES

### JURY TRIAL DEMANDED EXEMPT FROM ARBITRATION

DEPT - XXVII

as counselor at GJHS; Robert Beasley, in his individual and official capacity as instructor at GJHS; NEVADA EQUAL RIGHTS COMMISSION (NERC); Kara Jenkins in her individual and official capacity as Commission Administrator of NERC; Dennis Perea, in his official capacity as Deputy Director of the NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING, AND REHABILITATION (DETR).

Come now Plaintiffs, by and through the undersigned attorneys, and file this Complaint for declaratory and injunctive relief ordering Defendants CCSD, Superintendent Skorkowski, CCSD Board of School Trustees, Trustee Cranor, Trustee Young, Trustee Tew, Trustee Corbett, Trustee Edwards, Trustee Garvey, Trustee Wright, Greenspun JHS, Principal McKay, Assistant Principal DePiazza, Dean Winn, Counselor Halpin, and Instructor Beasley (hereinafter "CCSD Defendants") to adopt, implement, and ensure compliance with policies and practices that ensure the safety of students faced with harassment and discrimination. These policies and practices include development of a safety plan, appropriate and timely investigations, timely and effective notice, independent monitoring of school officials, instituting an appeals process for parents and students who feel a school's actions to do not ensure a safe and respectful learning environments, and instituting disciplinary action against school officials who do not comply.

Plaintiffs also seek damages under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 for harm suffered as a result of CCSD Defendant's failure to maintain and follow a policy that prevents harassment and discrimination. Plaintiffs maintain claims for violation of Plaintiffs' rights under the equal protection clauses of the Nevada Constitution, Article 4, § 21, and the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution; for discrimination based on perceived sexual orientation as prohibited by N.R.S. § 651.070; the U.S. Constitution's Substantive Due Process Clause of the

Fourteenth Amendment; sex discrimination under Title IX; for negligence; as well as for denying Plaintiffs a safe and respectful learning environment free from harassment and discrimination.

In addition, Plaintiffs seek declaratory and injunctive relief ordering NERC, Commission Administrator Jenkins, and DETR Deputy Director Perea (hereinafter NERC Defendants) to speedily and effectively investigate and issue a final decision on Plaintiffs' complaints and to adopt, implement, and ensure compliance with policy and practices for addressing public school complaints. Plaintiffs seek damages for the prejudice suffered due to NERC Defendants' unreasonable delay amounting to a dismissal or denial of Plaintiffs complaints. NERC's behavior is arbitrary and capricious in violation of N.R.S. § 233B.135(3),(a)-(f), and fails to comply with NERC's statutory obligation to "protect the welfare, prosperity, health and peace of all the people of the State, and to foster the right of all persons to seek and be granted the services in places of public accommodation without discrimination, distinction, or restriction because of [perceived] sexual orientation..." N.R.S. § 233.010(2) (2011).

### STATEMENT OF THE CASE

1. As alleged in greater particularity below, Plaintiffs assert that CCSD failed to ensure a safe and respectful learning environment, free from discrimination, harassment, and violence, for Ethan Bryan and Nolan Hairr, two 13-year-old students attending Greenspun JHS. Despite numerous attempts by Plaintiffs to contact and request the CCSD Defendants to end the persistent sexual and physical assaults, harassment, and discrimination based on perceived sexual orientation, to develop a safety plan to ensure students could benefit from the "full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, and accommodations" of their public school, (See N.R.S. § 651.110), they did not do so.

2. During a nearly six month period, Ethan and Nolan endured severe and pervasive discriminatory name-calling, such as "faggot," "fucking faggot," "fucking fat faggot," "gay wad," "gay," "gay boyfriend," "a big fat ass," "dumbass," and "tattle-tale," a stabbing in the genitals, and such alienation that one boy planned suicide to escape the suffering. Plaintiffs further allege violations by NERC Defendants of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA). NERC has failed in its obligation to address discrimination based on perceived sexual orientation in places of public accommodation, which includes public schools. N.R.S. § 651.110. NERC's failure to act within nearly a two-year time period amounts to an unreasonable delay – which can only be characterized a final decision which is "arbitrary or capricious or characterized as an abuse of discretion." N.R.S. § 233B.135(f). NERC has failed to complete an investigation, respond to requests for information, or even supply a timeline for an anticipated completion of the case. As a result, Plaintiffs have no assurance that the discrimination they faced at Greenspun JHS and CCSD have been or will ever be remedied.

### **JURISDICTIONAL STATEMENT**

3. This action arises under the N.R.S., the Nevada APA, under the Nevada State Constitution, and under the U.S. Constitution, specifically the equal protection and substantive due process clause, and 42 U.S.C. § 1983. Nevada District Court have general jurisdiction in civil matters. N.R.S. Const. Art 6, § 6.

### **PARTIES**

- 4. Plaintiff Ethan Bryan is a student at CCSD, and a former student at Greenspun Middle School. Mary Bryan is his mother.
- 5. Plaintiff Nolan Hairr is a student at CCSD, and a former student at Greenspun Middle School. Aimee Hairr is his mother.

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6.	Defendant CCS	SD is the district t	hat encompasse	es all public	schools in	Las Ve	gas, N	evad
and sur	rounding areas.	including Greens	spun Junior Hie	h School (	Greenspun J	HS).		

- 7. Defendant Pat Skorkowsky is the current superintendent of CCSD and is responsible for overseeing school district staff.
- 8. Defendant CCSD Board of School Trustees is the organization that oversees all schools part of CCSD.
- 9. Defendants Erin A. Cranor, Linda E. Young, Patrice Tew, Stavan Corbett, Carolyn Edwards, Chris Garvey, Deanna Wright are currently members of CCSD Board of School Trustees, and responsible for overseeing CCSD schools.
- 10. Defendant Warren P. McKay is the principal at Greenspun JHS, and is responsible for overseeing the staff and students at the school.
- 11. Defendant Leonard DePiazza is the assistant principal at Greenspun JHS and is responsible for overseeing staff and students at the school, and reporting to the principal.
- 12. Defendant Cheryl Winn is the Dean at Greenspun JHS, and is responsible for overseeing students and disciplinary matters at the school.
- 13. Defendant John Halpin is the guidance counselor at Greenspun JHS, and is responsible for overseeing students and ensuring their safety and success at the school.
- 14. Defendant Robert Beasley is an instructor of band class at Greenspun JHS, and is responsible for overseeing students in his class and ensuring a positive and safe learning environment.
- 15. Defendant Andre Long is the Academic Manager for the area of CCSD that incorporates Greenspun JHS. He is responsible for overseeing activities at the school and others within his area boundary.

16. Defendant NERC is the Nevada agency tasked with addressing discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations.

- 17. Defendant Kara Jenkins is the Commission Administrator of NERC, and is responsible for overseeing the agency.
- 18. Defendant Dennis Perea, Deputy Director for the DETR, is responsible for executive oversight of NERC.

### STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS AND TOLLING

- 19. Pursuant N.R.S. § 651.120, the statute of limitations for a civil action sounding in discrimination in a place of public accommodation is tolled during the pendency of a complaint filed with NERC. Any complaint filed within one year of the date of the occurrence is tolled during the pendency of the complaint. N.R.S. § 651.120. The "date of occurrence" is deemed any day up until the discrimination has concluded. NERC has yet to issue a final decision, so the complaint is still pending. N.A.C. § 233.050. A complaint is pending until times for an appeal of a final decision expires, or in a review until proceedings are complete. Id.
- 20. Each Plaintiff's complaint was timely filed in July 2012 with NERC, for discrimination that occurred up until February of 2012. The principals of equity support the tolling of all claims, therefore, these claims are timely.

#### **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

- 21. On August 27, 2011, Plaintiffs began the sixth grade at Greenspun Junior High School.
- 22. From August 27, 2011 until or about February 9, 2012, several Greenspun students discriminated against and harassed both Plaintiffs based on their "perceived sexual orientation.,"

calling students sl	urs such as '	'faggot," '	"fucking faggot,"	"fucking fat	faggot,"	"gay wad,"	"gay,
"gay boyfriend," "	'a big fat ass	s," "dumb	ass," and "tattle-	tale."			

- 23. The main perpetrator was C.L., but Plaintiffs were also harassed and discriminated against by C.L.'s friend D.M., and other Greenspun students who were friends of C.L.
- 24. Initially Nolan bore the brunt of the harassment from C.L., but Ethan began being harassed when he attempted to verbally defend Nolan from C.L.
- 25. From approximately late August to mid-September, Nolan was subjected to most of the harassment and was assaulted several times, including unwanted touching, hair pulling, elbowing, and pushing, by C.L. Nolan persistently asked his perpetrator to stop. C.L. refused to stop, causing Nolan to be deeply troubled. Ethan was also verbally harassed during this time.
- 26. Defendant Instructor Beasley acknowledged the bullying, which occurred pervasively in his band classroom, but would only request that C.L. and D.M stop. Nolan asked to be moved to a seat away from his perpetrators, but Defendant Beasley refused to reseat him. It took three months before Nolan was seated away from his perpetrators.
- 27. Despite a CCSD Policy requiring any employee who "witnesses, overhears, or receives a report, formal or informal, written or oral, of bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, and/or intimidation at school…" to report it to a principal or principal's designee no such report was made.
- 28. On September 13, 2011, C.L. stabbed Nolan's genitals with a pencil, which was witnessed by Ethan. Nolan became increasingly terrified of C.L., and no longer wanted to attend school. He was also afraid to report the event for fear of retaliation. He would ultimately see a doctor for these injuries.

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29. On or near September 15, 2011, Mrs. Bryan learned of the stabbing incident and the pervasive bullying after overhearing Nolan and Ethan speak about it at her home. Mrs. Bryan immediately reported the harassment and assault in an email to Defendants Principal McKay, Counselor Halpin, and Teacher Beasley. She further identified C.L. and D.M. as the perpetrators, and elaborated on the stabbing of Nolan's genitals and the pervasive harassment. She also informed them of the incredible suffering being endured by Ethan and Nolan. She asked that the school move perpetrators, so that Ethan and Nolan could "...learn properly and have constructive school experiences." She urged the school to take swift action and for her complaint to be taken seriously, and for the Nolan and Ethan to be moved to a different seat. 30. CCSD Policies describe bullying as "a deliberate or intentional behavior using words or actions intended to cause fear, intimidation, or fear." CCSD, P-5137(II)(A). Further, CCSD's policy specifically defines behavior motivated by distinguishable characteristics such as "sexual orientation," as bullying. Id. The definition includes: physical acts, such as assaults, kicking, or punching; "indirect acts," such as "spreading cruel rumors, intimidation through gestures, social exclusion, or sending insulting messages or pictures...;" use of power imbalances, such as physical or psychological dominance, or verbal threats such as "teasing and name calling," intimidation, punitive acts aimed at hurting or punishing a targeted individual, or repetitive, systematic acts. CCSD, P-5137(II)(A)(1)-(6).

31. CCSD declares through its bullying policies that the district is "committed to providing a safe, secure, and respectful learning environment for all students..." CCSD claims that it "strives to consistently and vigorously address bullying, cyberbulling, harassment, and intimidation so that there is no disruption to the learning environment and learning process." CCSD, P-5137(I).

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32. The school failed to respond to Mrs. Bryan. Nor did the school notify Mr. or Mrs. Hairr
of the pervasive bullying, harassment, and discrimination based on perceived sexual orientation
involving Nolan

- 33. On September 16, 2011, Defendant Counselor Halpin met with Nolan to discuss the ongoing harassment, discrimination, and assaults. Halpin offered no safety plan, and Nolan felt Halpin simply "brush[ed]" off his complaints. Nolan did not feel safe going forward.
- 34. On September 19, 2011, Defendant Instructor Beasley moved Nolan's seat. However, instead of sitting next to C.L., Nolan was moved directly in front of C.L. C.L. continued to harass and assault Nolan.
- 35. On September 21, 2011, Mrs. Bryan notified Mrs. Hairr of the bullying endured by Nolan and Ethan. Mrs. Hairr learned for the first time that her son had been sexually assaulted, and had endured other forms of harassment, discrimination, and assault. Nolan had been too ashamed to report the incidents to her previously.

### Mrs. Hairr's Contacts with Greenspun JHS Administrators

- 36. The night of September 21, Mrs. Hairr spoke with Nolan regarding the ongoing harassment, assaults, including the stabbing of his genitals, and discrimination based on his perceived sexual orientation. Mrs. Hairr was grateful that Mrs. Bryan informed her of the bullying, but was frustrated and perplexed as to why the school had failed to notify her of such serious acts.
- 37. Mrs. Hairr called Greenspun JHS early the following morning to arrange a meeting regarding the pervasive harassment, discrimination, and the stabbing of her son's genitalia.

38. After receiving no response, Mrs. Hairr called Greenspun JHS again, and requested to speak directly with the Defendant Principal McKay regarding the treatment of her son and the administrators failed response to the situation. She was told to leave a message for Defendant Principal McKay, but her call was never returned.

39. Mrs. Hairr called again to initiate her own complaint process, and was transferred to Defendant Assistant Principal DePiazza. We offered no assistance to remedy the harassment, discrimination, and assaults, and he provided no safety plan. He persistently emphasized that Mrs. Hairr had "choices" in taking her son out of the school and enrolling him elsewhere. He referred Mrs. Hairr to Defendant Dean Winn, and the tenor of the conversation left Mrs. Hairr feeling helpless, in tears, and even more concerned for the safety of her son.

- 40. Later that day, Nolan and Mrs. Hairr met with Defendant Winn. Winn acknowledged that Nolan was in fact a victim of "bullying" in the form of harassment, discrimination, and physical assaults. Specifically, she was aware that Nolan had been stabbed in his genitals. When discussing disciplinary action, Winn cited the "progressive disciplinary system," meaning incidents would have to be documented, with disciplinary actions progressing gradually per each incident.
- 41. Defendant Dean Winn did not provide any safety plan to ensure Nolan experienced a safe and respectful learning environment, free of the harassment, assaults, and discrimination.
- 42. Mrs. Hairr did not feel comfortable with results of the conversation, but felt hopeful that the school would take appropriate action now that the management-level staff at the school were aware if her concerns. She did not file a police report at this time, assuming Greenspun JHS would take the appropriate actions.

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43. Shortly after the meeting, the harassment nearly ceased in the band class, but Nolan was
still pushed by C.L. as he would leave or return to the class, and called derogatory and
discriminatory names. The incidents continued elsewhere in the school. Nolan now reported al
incidents to his mother.

- 44. During approximately the last week of September, 2011, Mrs. Hairr continued to report these instances of assaults, harassment, and discriminatory language to Defendant Halpin.
- 45. Shortly thereafter, Mrs. Hairr met with Defendants Counselor Halpin, Dean Wynn, and Teacher Beasley. Defendants assured Mrs. Hairr that the "bullying" would cease. However, the result was only a seating change in band class, which resulting in Ethan, the other known victim, being placed close to C.L. while Nolan finally was seated further away.
- 46. After the seat change, from about late-September to December 2011, Ethan began receiving most of the harassment, discrimination, and unwanted touching.
- 47. The discrimination and harassment by C.L. and other students included, over the period of several months, calling Plaintiffs a litany of homophobic and offensive slurs such as "faggot," "fucking faggot," "fucking fat faggot," "gay wad," "gay," "gay boyfriend," "a big fat ass," "dumbass," and "tattle-tale."
- 48. C.L. also accused the boys of "J.O. [jacking off] to each other," and that the boys would, "Put stuff up each other's butts for pleasure."
- 49. In December, 2011, C.L. and his friends filmed Ethan while he ate during lunch hour, calling Ethan names and filming his reaction. The perpetrators threatened to post the camera phone video on Youtube.com. Ethan was deeply disturbed by the notion of the bullies publicizing this humiliating taunting and harassment based on his perceived sexual orientation.

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50. The incidents of harassment, discrimination, and assaults occurred during band class, in hallways, the lunch room, and other areas of the school. Although Ethan was now the primary target, Nolan was targeted too when he was present.

51. In December of 2011, Ethan and Nolan witnessed C.L. sexually assaulting another student by groping the student's genitals in the hallway. Ethan and Nolan felt disturbed by the pervasive culture of harassment and sexual assaults tolerated by the school.

### Mrs. Bryan's Additional Contacts with Greenspun JHS Administrators

- 52. Mrs. Bryan repeatedly e-mailed Greenspun administrators to ask for help addressing the continued harassment of her son Ethan, but the school's response was tepid.
- 53. On October 18, 2011, C.L, still sitting next to Ethan, repeatedly hit Ethan in the legs with a piece of his trombone while calling him "big fat ass." Mrs. Bryan informed the staff that the physical and verbal assaults were affecting her son and had to stop.
- 54. On October 19, 2011, Mrs. Bryan attempted again to end the bullying by emailing Defendants Principal McKay, Counselor Halpin, and other CCSD officials regarding the ongoing bullying, harassment and assaults. She informed CCSD Defendants of the assault using the trombone, and also that the name-calling has persisted. Mrs. Bryan sought confirmation that her complaints were being addressed.
- 55. The next day, on October 20, 2011, Mrs. Bryan called the school and met with Defendant Dean Winn face-to-face for the first time (after nearly two months of harassment had already taken place): when Dean Winn left Mrs. Bryan with no satisfactory safety plan to prevent the harassment, assaults, and discrimination based on perceived sexual orientation, Mrs. Bryan

ultimately asked to volunteer as a monitor to the students, for which Defendant Dean Winn accepted.

56. From October 20, 2011 to December 12, 2011, however, Ethan's situation with C.L. did not improve: instead the harassment in band class occurred almost every day, and Ethan was beginning to be greatly affected by the tormenting by C.L. and his friends.

57. On December 16, 2011, Ethan witnessed D.M. pulling a Santa Claus hat off of another student. D.M. proceeded to slap the student in the head and threw the student's school materials all over the hallway floor, leaving the student teary-eyed and humiliated.

58. A couple of days after this incident, Mrs. Bryan brought the harassment to the attention of Defendant Dean Winn during an informal meeting. Mrs. Bryan summarized this and several other incidents of harassment suffered by Ethan and Nolan. Mrs. Bryan explicitly asked Defendant Dean Winn why the harassing students C.L. and D.M were not expelled from Greenspun. Defendant Winn responded that she needed to keep documenting things so that those students' discipline could progress under Greenspun's progressive disciplinary system. Ultimately, Mrs. Bryan was concerned with the lack of a safety plan for Ethan, Nolan, and others.

59. By January 11, 2012, Ethan had a final breakdown brought upon by the continuous discrimination and harassment he had endured. Ethan had recurring nightmares and needed to sleep with a night-light. Ethan admitted that he felt terrible and depressed, and revealed that he had planned his suicide.

60. On or before February 7, 2012, Mrs. Bryan filed a formal complaint with the CCSD Board of School Trustees regarding Greenspun's lack of effective response in addressing the

harassment, assaults, and discrimination based on perceived sexual orientation. Towards Ethan and Nolan.

- 61. In retaliation, the next day Defendant Assistant Principal DePiazza physically ejected Mrs. Bryan off of the campus when she arrived to assume her volunteer duties for the day and told her she was not welcome there. The incident left Mrs. Bryan anxious, humiliated, ill, and no longer with the ability to monitor the discrimination and harassment suffered by students at the school.
- 62. Mrs. Bryan contacted Defendant Long, Academic Manager for Clark County School District, who assured her that something would be done to address the lack of a safety plan. Mrs. Bryan was given no indication that Mr. Long followed through with any action.
- 63. On February 9, 2012, Defendant Principal McKay called Mr. and Mrs. Bryan and left a voicemail message requesting a meeting. This was the Defendant Principal McKay's first attempt in contacting the Bryans since September when he was notified about Ethan and Nolan's harassment. Defendant Principal McKay stated he thought the harassment had ended in October, despite the persistent contact by Mrs. Bryan and Mrs. Hairr. Defendant McKay never followed up with Ethan or the Bryans regarding Ethan's safety from October 2011 until February 2012.
- 64. CCSD Defendants consistently failed to remedy the pervasive perceived sexual orientation discrimination, harassment, and physical and psychological pain Ethan and Nolan suffered. Plaintiffs were depressed and no longer wanted to attend school. Their educational outcomes began to suffer as a result.
- 65. The lack of a response that permeated Greenspun's administration and continued with the no help from CCSD was a blatant disregard and violation of Nolan and Ethan's rights as students in their school district.

66. On January 12, 2012, Mrs. Hairr decided to remove Nolan from Greenspun JHS. Only Defendant Dean Winn apologized for the suffering endured by Nolan.

67. By February, Mrs. Bryan had also removed her son, Ethan, from Greenspun JHS.

#### **Contacts with CCSD Police**

68. Near the end of January, 2012, Mrs. Hairr attempted to file a police report with CCSD Police related to the pervasive harassment, assaults, and discrimination based on perceived sexual orientation. Officers never showed up to their scheduled appointment with Mrs. Hairr. CCSD Police followed up with a phone call discouraging Mrs. Hairr from filing a formal report.

69. On February 7, 2012, due to the numerous complaints of Mrs. Hairr and Mrs. Bryan,
Defendants Trustee Young and Academic Manager Long met with the Hairrs and Bryans
regarding the incidents. Long did not provide the Plaintiffs with the assurance of a safety plan or
a plan to end the pervasive discrimination, and otherwise provided no assistance to the families.
Long explained that Mrs. Hairr or Mrs. Bryan could still volunteer if they needed.

70. After this meeting, CCSD Defendants never followed up with Plaintiffs or offered any support. When Plaintiffs attempted to reach Defendant Academic Manager Andre Long, they were told he could no longer assist them.

71. On February 9, 2012, Mrs. Bryan, Mrs. Hairr, Ethan, Nolan, along with another victim and mother, met with CCSD Police Officer Gervasi, to file a Crime Report. The officer discouraged filing the report, but Plaintiffs insisted and filed a report detailing the incidents that had occurred against Nolan and Ethan. CCSD Police indicated that the incidents were now part of a criminal investigation and "further investigation is warranted."

72. The Crime Report detailed the bullying and discriminatory conduct and language. [See Exhibit 1]. Plaintiffs detailed the sexual assault, harassment, inappropriate touching, and other actions endured by Plaintiffs. Each victim completed their own statements. Nolan wrote of the genital stabbing incident, him being called a "Fagot boy," among other language, and other acts. Nolan also detailed the many Greenspun JHS staff he reported to, but how the harassment did not stop. Ethan spoke of his reporting a well, and the retaliation he faced, such as being stabbed by C.L. with a trombone. He also reported being called "gay" among other names. He revealed his desire to leave the school out of fear.

- 73. Officer Gervasi was dismissive to Plaintiffs, and commented, "If I had to file a report every time a girl's boob was grabbed, I'd be filing reports all day."
- 74. CCSD Police responded to the report with no action. Plaintiffs again felt CCSD was unwilling to take their complaints seriously.

### Contacts with Nevada Equal Rights Commission (NERC)

- 75. In an effort to find a meaningful avenue of oversight, Plaintiffs approached NERC.
- 76. The legislature has declared a strong public policy towards the obligation of NERC to "protect the welfare, prosperity, health and peace of all the people of the State, and to foster the right of all persons to seek and be granted the services in places of public accommodation without discrimination, distinction, or restriction because of [...] sexual orientation..." N.R.S. § 233.010(2). Sexual orientation is defined as "having or being perceived as having an orientation of heterosexuality, homosexuality or bisexuality." N.R.S. § 233.020(6).
- 77. In order to facilitate this public policy, NERC's administrator is authorized to "investigate tensions, practices of discrimination and acts of prejudice against any person or

group" because of sexual orientation. N.R.S. § 233.150(1)(a). Further, NERC has the authority and obligation pursuant Nevada's strong public policy to remedy discrimination to mediate between parties, and in the course of an investigation or hearing, issue subpoenas to witnesses, order the production of documents or other tangible evidence. N.R.S. § 233.150(2),(3).

78. NERC must accept "any complaint alleging unlawful discriminatory practice over which it has jurisdiction..." N.R.S. § 233.157. NERC must also ensure that a process is in place to address these complaints. Id.

79. When attempting to mediate after an investigation and finding of probable cause, NERC must hold a meeting between parties to attempt to achieve a resolution, and ensure the respondent will cease the discriminatory activity. N.A.C. § 233.130(1). This must be followed by a disposition of the case in writing, and notice to all parties involved. Id.

80. Further, NERC may hold a public hearing if attempts to mediate or conciliate between parties fail, and after such a hearing may order a party to cease and desist unlawful practices.

N.R.S. § 233.170 (3),(3)(b)(1). NERC has wide ranging authority in conducting such a hearing to come to a determination or decision. This authority includes, but is not limited to, calling and examining witnesses, issuing subpoenas (and applying to the district court for enforcement), taking depositions and obtaining discovery, regulating the hearing itself, and holding conferences. N.A.C. § 233.160

81. NERC regulations mandate a liberal construction of its rule of practice to secure just, speedy and economical determination of all issues before it." N.A.C. § 233.020(1) (emphasis added).

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82. According to the plain language of the NERC enabling statute and Nevada Supreme Court's interpretation of N.R.S. § 651.050(3)(k), discrimination in public school is prohibited because public schools are places of public accommodation.

- 83. The definition of "place of public accommodation" includes "[a]ny nursery, private school or university or other place of education." N.R.S. § 651.050(3)(k) (emphasis added). Public schools clearly qualify as a place of education based on a plain reading of the statute.
- 84. The Nevada Supreme Court has unequivocally determined that NERC's jurisdiction extends to public schools in Clark County Sch. Dist. v. Buchanan, 924 P.2d 716 (1996). The case specifically cites N.R.S. § 651.050(3)(k) in finding a public school (CCSD) is in fact a place of public accommodation and therefore an individual in that setting was entitled to protections under the statute. Id. at 719.
- 85. NERC's mandate extends to violations pursuant N.R.S. § 651.110, which states that "[a]ny person who believes he or she has been denied full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages and accommodations of any place of public accommodation because of discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, sex, gender identity or expression may file a complaint to that equal effect with the Nevada Equal Rights Commission."
- 86. NERC has a responsibility to act as an avenue of redress for discrimination in public accommodations. Thus, a student should be able to complain when he or she has been denied full and equal enjoyment of goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages and accommodations of any place of public accommodation," such as public schools, "because of discrimination or segregation based on race, color religion, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, sex, gender identity or expression." N.R.S. § 651.110.

87. In a letter dated July 18, 2012, Plaintiffs detailed the discrimination endured at Greenspun JHS, the non-responsiveness of CCSD Plaintiffs, and their desire to file a complaint with NERC based on these events. The letter sought conformation that the case would be accepted, and enclosed were Plaintiffs' "Charge of Public Accommodation Complaint Form[s]" and a detailed outline of discriminatory acts and requests for assistance.

88. In letters dated August 31, 2012, NERC scheduled Nolan and Ethan for "In Person appointment[s]": on Tuesday, September 18, 2012 for both Nolan and Ethan. The letters stated this appointment was designed to "determine whether the allegations of your client's complaint fall within the jurisdiction of the Commission." The letters further stated that, "[s]hould your client's complaint be deemed non-jurisdictional, you will receive a dismissal letter."

89. Based on these September 18 meetings, NERC permitted Plaintiffs to officially file complaints of public accommodation discrimination based on perceived sexual orientation.

90. In letters dated September 26, 2012, NERC provided copies of Plaintiffs' complaints along with proposed remedies for Plaintiffs' signature. The complaints included the allegations of public accommodation discrimination, including Greenspuns JHS and CCSD's failure to act. The remedies included requests that respondents alter their procedural practices to comport with existing state law and CCSD policy. Further, Plaintiffs requested specific changes to ensure proper implementation, such as annual trainings by NERC, weekly meetings regarding contemporaneous discrimination and harassment incidents, and annual meetings with Greenspun JHS students to teach about bullying, harassment, and discrimination. The remedies also included a request for actual damages, damages awarding costs related to litigation, attorney's fees, and other monetary relief deemed appropriate pursuant N.R.S. § 651.090.

91. Plaintiffs timely signed the documents and returned to them NERC.

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92. In letters dated October 15, 2012, NERC informed Plaintiffs of two scheduled "Informal
Settlement Meetings" [ISMs]. The letter in regards to Nolan's complaint scheduled the ISM for
8:30AM on Thursday, November 29th. The letter regarding Ethan's complaint scheduled his
ISM for 2PM that same day.

- 93. NERC cancelled Nolan's ISM. NERC stated that the meeting would be rescheduled for December, 2012. They told Mrs. Hairr she would receive another notice letter with an exact date and time of the rescheduled meeting.
- 94. Ethan's scheduled ISM did occur via telephone conference. The meeting included the Dennis Maginot, NERC Commission Administrator, Scott Greenburg, Carlos McDade, CCSD attorney, Mrs. Bryan and Ethan, and Katrina Rogers, staff attorney at ACLU of Nevada. Mr. Maginot openly stated that NERC should and does have jurisdiction over the schools, but hesitated to fully commit to a thorough investigation. This was very disheartening to Mrs. Bryan and Ethan, who began to feel the agency would not adequately address their matter.
- 95. The ISM yielded no results, but NERC agreed to be continue to engage in settlement and advised Plaintiffs to draft a proposed remedy.
- 96. Maginot stated that it would take **two to three months** before the case would be assigned to an investigator, and approximately an additional **six months** to investigate. According to NERC's representations, Plaintiffs expected a decision by September, 2013.
  - 97. NERC never contacted Mrs. Hairr to reschedule their cancelled November 29 ISM.
- 98. In a letter dated February 13, 2013, Plaintiffs supplied proposed changes, at NERC's request, to CCSD policies and implementation, along with new enforcement mechanisms to remedy the failure of the part of school officials and the district to appropriately handle Plaintiffs' complaints, and requested money damages.

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99. In June 10, 2013, NERC responded that the since the informal settlement conferences yielded no result (even though Mrs. Hairr and Nolan never participated in an ISM), an investigator, Lila Vizcarra, would now be assigned to an investigation. (NERC's original two to three month timeline to assign an investigator had been extended to over six months).

100. The letters also summarized CCSD and GJHS' position. The district and school denied the allegations of discrimination, and they stated they responded appropriately to both Nolan and Ethan's incidents. They also stated that at no time were they aware of harassment discriminatory in nature. Further, respondents attempted to draw a distinction between official reporting versus more informal reporting. In sum, they attested that they had an effective bullying policy that was implemented appropriately.

101. The response from CCSD and GJHS spanned about a page, with only conclusory statements pointing to no wrongdoing – some of which were in direct contradiction to recorded accounts.

102. NERC requested a detailed response from Plaintiffs and various documents, such as telephone records spanning several months, all emails between Plaintiffs and school officials, report cards, police reports, contact information for all witnesses, along with a summary of their testimony, and any other relevant information.

103. NERC requested the information by June 25, 2013, only fifteen days from the date of the letter.

104. In letters dated July 26, 2013, Plaintiffs responded to Greenspun JHS and CCSD's position. In addition to providing NERC with all the requested documents, Plaintiffs detailed the assaults, harassment, and discrimination faced by Nolan and Ethan, and they explained that the

lack of information claimed by the CCSD Defendants in their response illustrates the failed reporting system and unwillingness to ensure a safe and respectful learning environment.

105. Further, Plaintiffs detailed CCSD's own bullying policy, which does not require formal reporting, but instead states that any CCSD employee who "witnesses, overhears, or receives a report, formal or informal, [...] shall report it to the principal or principal designee." See CCSD Policy P-5137(IV)(A)(2).

106. Further, Plaintiffs detailed several communications with the school regarding the safety of the students, and how many of these emails should have resulted in immediate involvement of the principal, but did not.

107. Plaintiffs took issue with the enormous burden the respondent put on Ethan specifically to report the sensitive and embarrassing harassment details, and essentially using this as a reason not to investigate.

108. The responses also detailed the issues Plaintiffs faced when filing a police report, reporting generally, retaliation faced by Mrs. Bryan, among other issues.

109. Further, the responses detailed several remedies the Plaintiffs expected – including a reference to the New Jersey Anti-Bullying Act as a model to highlight deficiencies in CCSD's current policies and procedures.

110. Plaintiffs requested, pursuant N.R.S. § 233.190(3)(a), that NERC ask for consent from Greenspun JHS and CCSD to disclose information gathered in the course of investigation, including records of communication at Greenspun JHS and CCSD regarding the bullying of Ethan and Nolan, and Mrs. Bryan's ejection, all documentation related to the investigation, and all documentation of meetings with Plaintiffs.

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111. Plaintiffs never received any response regarding their request for documents and information gathered during the course of the investigation. Plaintiffs were never informed as to whether CCSD and Greenspun JHS were asked or gave consent for the disclosure of these materials.

112. Several months later, on November 5, 2013, Plaintiffs requested via email from NERC an update on the status of the investigation. Specifically, Plaintiffs sought timelines for the conclusion of the investigation and any remedial action. NERCS initial estimate for a final decision of the case, September 2013, had passed. Plaintiffs were concerned that NERC had failed to take any action, and Plaintiffs informed Ms. Vizcarra that they may need to evaluate other forms of redress.

- 113. In an email dated the same day, Defendant Kara Jenkins, NERC Commission

  Administrator, responded stating that Ms. Vizcarra was on leave and when she gets back in, "I will get back to you first thing." No timeline was given as to when Ms. Vizcarra would return, nor was any timeline or update given on the status of the case.
- 114. Further, Ms. Jenkins stated "You may still proceed to advocate for your clients; our investigation is "not adversarial."
- 115. Troubled by this assertion, Plaintiffs responded via email later that same day. Plaintiffs explained that although fact-finding should be inherently objective, NERC has not only the authority, but the obligation, to address, remedy, and eliminate unlawful discrimination. To respond to an email requesting an update on the timeline and the possibility of remedial measures with an assertion that investigation are "not adversarial" raised flags about the dedication of NERC to the Plaintiffs' complaint.

116. Further, Plaintiffs reminded NERC that it was expressly created to prevent and address a broad range of unlawful acts and practices. NERC has the authority and obligation to eliminate discrimination in Nevada. N.R.S. § 233.010(2).

117. In addition to NERC's initial reluctance to acknowledge its jurisdiction over public schools, the assertion that NERC was "non-adversarial," and the comments made by the Mr. Maginot at Ethan's ISM regarding NERC's indicating a reluctance to deal with school discrimination, Plaintiffs' suspicion regarding NERC's commitment to Nolan and Bryan were confirmed in a call dated February 25, 2014. Plaintiffs again called NERC seeking an update on the status of a case, and to request a timeline for a conclusion to the investigation.

118. Defendant Commission Administrator Jenkins stated that "just because Plaintiffs had ACLU attorneys, that did not mean they would be given special treatment." She also felt that Plaintiffs' emails that expressed frustration as to the lack of information and timeline, and seemingly lack of commitment by NERC, were unwelcome

- 119. When asked about a timeline, she stated, "I need to manage your expectations. These cases can take over two years." Plaintiffs attempted to affirm this timeline. Ms. Jenkins promptly corrected herself stating that every case is different, and there is no guarantee this investigation would be completed in two years. She said she would only say "the case is moving forward," but all other information was confidential.
- 120. Most troubling, was her closing statement in which she said, "You have to understand, NERC has a complicated relationship with CCSD."
- 121. Plaintiffs were forced to file the present action due to NERC's capricious unwillingness to pursue the investigation of serious and pervasive harassment and discrimination of Ethan and Nolan.

122. NERC took no action, issued no final decision, and failed to do anything to protect these and other students over the course of nearly two years. As a result, Plaintiffs were forced to file the present action.

# CLAIMS FOR RELIEF: CCSD DEFENDANTS CLAIM FOR RELIEF I PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION DISCRIMINATION

- 123. All allegations set forth in this Complaint are hereby incorporated by reference.
- 124. N.R.S. § 651.070 provides in relevant part, "All persons are entitled to the full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages and accommodations of any place public accommodation, without discrimination or segregation on the ground of [...] sexual orientation..."
- 125. N.R.S. 651.050(3)(k) defines a "place of public accommodation" to mean any nursery, private school or university or other place of education. In Clark County School Dist. v. Buchanan, 924 P.2d 716, 719 (1996), the Nevada Supreme Court confirmed that the definition of
- "other place of education" in the context of N.R.S. § 651.050(3)(k) includes public schools.
- 126. Given the facts detailed above, and given that Greenspun JHS is a public school, and hence a place of "public accommodation," Greenspun JHS violated N.R.S. § 651.070 in failing to provide for Nolan and Ethan's safety and well-being while they were pervasively harassed and discriminated against by C.L. and other students.
- 127. N.R.S. § 651.090 provides in relevant part: "Any person who: (a) withholds, denies, deprives or attempts to withhold, deny or deprive any other person of any right or privilege secured by N.R.S. § 651.070 [...] is liable to the person whose rights pursuant to N.R.S. § 651.070 [...] are affected for actual damages, to be recovered by a civil action in

a court in and for the county in which the infringement of civil rights occurred or in which the defendant resides."

128. Ethan and Nolan were harassed and discriminated against based on their perceived sexual orientations. They were thereby denied the full and equal enjoyment of the "goods, services, privileges, advantages, and accommodations" of Greenspun, JHS.

129. Faced with the continued and knowing indifference of the CCSD Defendants, the parents of Ethan and Nolan were forced to remove their children from Greenspun JHS. In the new school, the young men were not able to engage in many of the activities they had enjoyed previously, such as the robotics club.

130. In an action pursuant to N.R.S. § 651.090, a court may grant equitable relief and award costs and reasonable attorneys' fees.

## CLAIM FOR RELIEF II NEGLIGENCE PER SE: VIOLATIONS OF N.R.S. AND CCSD POLICIES

131. All allegations set forth in this Complaint are hereby incorporated by reference.

132. Defendant's failure to ensure the safety of Plaintiffs also violated statutes designed to protect the class of individuals to which Ethan and Nolan belong, namely students in the public school system. See N.R.S. Chapter 392 Pupils, et seq. The failure of CCSD Defendants to implement appropriate disciplinary and safety strategies in protecting Ethan and Nolan, as required by school and district policies, and regulations, and Nevada state law amounts to a negligence per se.

133. In Barnes v. Delta Lines, 669 P.2d 709, 710 (1983), the Nevada Supreme Court held that "when a defendant violates a statute which was designed to protect a class of persons to which

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the plaintiff belongs, and thereby proximately causes injury to the plaintiff, such a violation constitutes negligence per se."

134. The legislature has declared, "[a] learning environment that is safe and respectful is essential for the pupils enrolled in the public schools in this State to achieve academic success and meet this State's high academic standards." N.R.S. § 388.132(1). Further, it codified its goals of maintaining "public schools [that] provide a safe and respectful learning environment in which persons of differing beliefs, characteristics and backgrounds can realize their full academic and personal potential; and that "[a]ll administrators, principals, teachers and other personnel of the school districts and public schools [...] demonstrate appropriate behavior on the premises of any public school by treating other persons, including, without limitation, pupils, with civility and respect and by refusing to tolerate bullying..." N.R.S. § 388.132(4)(a),(b) [emphasis added].

135. N.R.S. § 392.915 prohibits the use in public schools of language or other means to knowingly threaten the use of bodily harm through with the intent to "[i]ntimidate, harass, frighten, alarm or distress a pupil."

136. N.R.S. § 392.910(1) prohibits any person from disturbing the peace in a public school "by using vile or indecent language within the building or grounds of the school." Further, it is unlawful for a person to assault a pupil on school grounds pursuant this statute. N.R.S. 392.910 (2)(a).

137. N.R.S. § 392.4645 requires that a plan be developed which provides for the temporary removal of a pupil if, in the judgment of a teacher, the pupil seriously interferes with the teacher's ability to teach or a student's ability to learn

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1	138. N.R.S. § 392.4647 requires the establishment of a committee, consisting of the school
2	principal and two teachers who are selected for membership by a majority of the school's
3	teachers, in order to review the temporary alternative placement of pupils.
4	139. Clark County School District policy P-5137 prohibits violence, threats of violence, and
5 6	harassment, were not implemented. The policy states that such behaviors warrant permanent
7	expulsion.
8	140. The failure of the CCSD Defendants to provide a safe and respectful learning
9	environment for all students, regardless of their "perceived sexual orientation," constitutes a
10	violation of their statutory duties. Further, their inaction, resulted in a school setting that more
11	than tolerated bullying.
12	141. CCSD Defendants failed to train and/or require the training of CCSD personnel, failed to
14	review associated policies, failed to enforce statutory and school district policies related to
15	securing a safe and respectful learning environment, or take other actions that could have
16	avoided the injuries to Ethan and Nolan.
17	142. The injuries suffered by Ethan and Nolan are of the very type the NRS Chapter 392
18 19	provisions were designed to prevent. See Vega v. Eastern Courtyard Associates, 24 P.3d 219,
20	221 (2001).
21	143. As a proximate result of CCSD Defendants negligence, practices, acts and omissions,
22	Ethan and Nolan suffered immediate and irreparable injury, including physical, psychological
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24	and emotional injury.
0.5	CCSD ONLY - CLAIM FOR DELIEF III

VIOLATIONS OF TITLE IX, 20 USC § 1681(A) 42 USC § 1983

144. All allegations set forth in this Complaint are hereby incorporated by reference.

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145.	On information	and belief,	CCSD:	receives	federal	funds.

146. Based on the receipt of federal funds, CCSD is subject to Title IX requirements. 20 USC § 1681(a).

147. Section 901(a) of Title IX provides, "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." 20 USC § 1681(a).

- 148. CCSD had actual knowledge of the sexual harassment endured by Nolan and Ethan.
- 149. The harassment was "severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive."
- 150. As a whole, and/or as individual school administrators, Defendants responded to the harassment with deliberate indifference.
- 151. An implied private right of action exists to enforce Title IX mandates, through which a Plaintiff may obtain both injunctive relief and damages. Cannon v. University of Chicago, 441 U.S. 677, 717 (1979); Franklin v. Gwinnett County Public Schools, 503 U.S. 60, 76 (1992).

## CLAIM FOR RELIEF IV VIOLATIONS OF STATE AND FEDERAL EQUAL PROTECTION GUARANTEES 42 U.S.C. § 1983

- 152. All allegations set forth in this Complaint are hereby incorporated by reference.
- 153. N.R.S. Const. Art. 4, § 21 states that "...all laws shall be general and of uniform operation throughout the State."
- 154. Nevada looks to the federal equal protection clause for guidance on interpretation. Laakonen v. Eighth Judicial Dist. Ct., 538 P. 2d 574 (1975).
- 155. Under the federal interpretation, an equal protection violation occurs when Defendants "act[] under color of state law, discriminate[] against [plaintiffs] as members of an identifiable

class and [] the discrimination was intentional." See Flores v. Morgan Hill Unified School Dist., 324 F.3d 1130, 1134 (9th Cir. 2010) (students perceived as LGBT sued regarding school's lack of response to complaints of harassment).

- 156. Members of an identifiable class based on sexual orientation are protected from discrimination under the Equal Protection Clause. Id.
- 157. When a Defendants treat complaints of harassment based on sexual orientation differently than other complaints, for example by not following school district disciplinary anti-harassment and anti-discrimination policies, plaintiffs can establish a violation of their rights under the equal protection clause. Id.
- 158. As an independent equal protection challenge, Plaintiffs observe that Defendants displayed deliberate indifference, which means defendants were "clearly unreasonable" in their response to peer harassment. Davis v. Monroe County Bd. of Educ., 526 U.S. 629, 649, 119 S.Ct. 1661, 143 L.Ed.2d 839 (1999) (Fifth grade student sued school board under Title IX for failure to address peer sexual harassment).
- 159. Despite a complete and thorough record of notice, Defendants failed to follow-up and investigate the incidents. They did not follow their own District policies, nor state law related to discrimination and harassment at public schools. They further prohibited Mrs. Bryan from volunteering and monitoring the harassment herself.
- 160. Defendants were deliberately indifferent to the harm suffered by Plaintiffs, and thus violated Ethan and Nolan rights.
- 161. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983, a student may raise constitutional claims against a school district, its governing board and superintendent, for an inadequate response to peer on peer

sexual harassment. Fitzgerald v. Barnstable School Committee, 555 U.S. 246 (2009). The 42 U.S.C. § 1983 claims are applicable to the federal claims.

# CLAIM FOR RELIEF V VIOLATIONS OF UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION: SUBSTANTIVE DUE PROCESS 42 USC § 1983

- 162. All allegations set forth in this Complaint are hereby incorporated by reference.
- 163. When a state actor engages in "affirmative conduct" that places a plaintiff in danger and acts with "deliberate indifference" to a "known and obvious danger," the state actor has violated a plaintiff's substantive due process right under the state created danger doctrine under the Fourteenth Amendment Due Process Clause of the U.S. Constitution. Patel v. Kent School Dist., 648 F.3d 965, 974 (9th Cir. 2011).
- 164. Deliberate indifference is established when a state actor "disregarded a known or obvious consequence of his action." Patel, 648 F.3d at 974, quoting Bryan Cnty. v. Brown, 520 U.S. 397, 410, 117 S.Ct. 1382, 137 L.Ed.2d 626 (1997).
- 165. On numerous and documented occasions, Defendants were notified as to the harassment and injuries endured by the Plaintiffs.
- 166. By forcing Nolan and Ethan to sit next to their harasser, and otherwise not developing a safety plan to ensure the safety of Plaintiffs, Defendants CCSD, Trustees, and Greenspun JHS were deliberately indifferent to the risk and knew the result would be further harassment and physical harm.
- 167. Further, by prohibiting Mrs. Bryan from volunteering, Defendants at Greenspun JHS were aware of the immediate danger and were indifferent to parental efforts to mitigate it.

168. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983, a student may raise constitutional claims against a school district, its governing board and superintendent, for an inadequate response to peer on peer sexual harassment. Fitzgerald v. Barnstable School Committee, 555 U.S. 246 (2009).

# CLAIM FOR RELIEF VI: NERC DEFENDANTS VIOLATION OF NEVADA'S ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT: "Arbitrary and Capricious" Behavior & Unreasonable Delay Petition for Judicial Review NRS § 233B.130, et seq.

- 169. All allegations set forth in this Complaint are hereby incorporated by reference.
- 170. NRS § 233B.135(f) provides for judicial review of a final decision of an agency, which is "arbitrary or capricious or characterized by abuse of discretion."
- 171. Plaintiffs filed a public accommodations complaint with NERC in July of 2012.

  Approximately one year, and ten months have passed since this filing, and NERC still has not provided a timeline for completion of their investigation. One wonders if Nolan and Ethan may graduate from high school by the time NERC finally acts.
- 172. In a similar case, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals held that a 16 month delay in which the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) failed to respond to a request for administrative reconsideration of a claim requesting supplemental workforce training amounted to a "dismissal" and "final agency action" permitting court review. Houseton v. Nimmo, 670 F.2d 1375, 1376 (1982). The Court observed, "This delay of 16 months is unreasonable. The failure of the Government to act...causes plaintiff irreparable injury since she is not receiving the training to which she is entitled."
- 173. The similar failure of the NERC Defendants to conclude their investigation within a reasonable time amounts to the equivalent of a final decision.

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174. Where an agency unlawfully withholds or unreasonably delays an action, such failure to act is, by its very nature, "arbitrary", "capricious" and/or an "abuse of discretion." See In re Intl. Chemical Workers Union, 958 F. 2d 1144 (D.C. Cir. 1992)

175. Substantial rights of the Plaintiffs have been prejudiced because NERC's inaction violates constitutional and statutory provisions requiring the agency to protect Plaintiffs from unlawful discrimination in a place of public accommodation, and obligating the agency to provide a "secure, just, speedy and economical" determination of all issues before it. N.A.C. § 233.020(1).

176. In the face of this delay, Plaintiffs continue to suffer from the lack of access to a safe and secure learning environment, with all its attendant advantages and privileges.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Wherefore Plaintiffs respectfully requests this Court:

- a. Enter an order declaring CCSD Defendants' conduct in violation of Chapter 392
   of N.R.S. Pupils, and CCSD Policies;
- b. Enter an order declaring CCSD Defendants' conduct in violation of the Equal Protection Clause of the Nevada Constitution, Art. 4, § 21.
- c. Enter and order declaring CCSD Defendants' conduct in violation of the substantive due process under the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S.
   Constitution;
- d. Enter an order declaring CCSD Defendants' conduct in violation of the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution;
- e. Enter a permanent injunction, on proper motion, requiring Defendant CCSD to develop and administer a new policy around discrimination, harassment, and assault, and to ensure proper and equal implementation;

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f.	Pursuant to N.R.S. § 651.090, Plaintiffs request actual damages, damages
	awarding costs related to this litigation, attorneys' fees, and other monetary relief
	as the court deems appropriate;

- g. Award Plaintiffs' counsel reasonable attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to 42
   U.S.C. § 1988 and any other applicable provisions of law;
- h. Enter an order declaring NERC Defendants' conduct in violation of the Nevada APA, as an unreasonable delay amounting to arbitrary or capricious agency action or an abuse of discretion;
- i. Enter an injunction requiring NERC to expeditiously process this investigation of public accommodation discrimination in the public school setting;
- j. Award Plaintiff compensatory damages and costs and attorneys' fees against the NERC Defendants;
- k. Grant to Plaintiffs such other and further relief as may be just and proper under the circumstances, including but not limited to appropriate injunctive relief.

#### JURY TRIAL DEMAND

Plaintiffs hereby demand that this matter be tried by a jury, pursuant the Seventh Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, as to all claims for damages.

Dated this 29<sup>th</sup> day of April 2014 Respectfully submitted by:

/s/ Amanda Morgan

Amanda Morgan

ACLU of Nevada 601 S. Rancho Blvd. Las Vegas, Nevada 89106

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICE DEPARTMENT

## STATEMENT REPORT

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CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICE DEPARTMENT

### STATEMENT REPORT

CCSD
CLARK COUNTY
SCHOOL DISTRICT

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## CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICE DEPARTMENT CRIME REPORT - NARRATIVE

1202-01070

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Narrative:

102/02/2012 at or about 1943 Hrs a suspicious incident was reported to police by a concerned parent at Greenspun M.S., regarding student grabbing at other students. The incident occurred in Sept of 2011. The parent of the alleged victim reported the situation to school administration however they did not report the incident to police. Mrs. Hairr did not wish to have a crime report filed in this matter until she had talked to her husband. SEE OFFICERS REPORT WITH SAME DR# 1202-01070.

Due to new information that has come to light, this incident has now become a criminal investigation with the following having been recently reported.

On 02/06/2012 at or about 2230 Hrs, Officer Dove P# 277 and Officer Markiewicz P# 530 responded to McD-niel E.S. and were contacted by three students from Greenspun M.S. and their parents. All three students (Victims) (Bryan, and Hairr) told responding officers that they had been builted and or battered by another student named

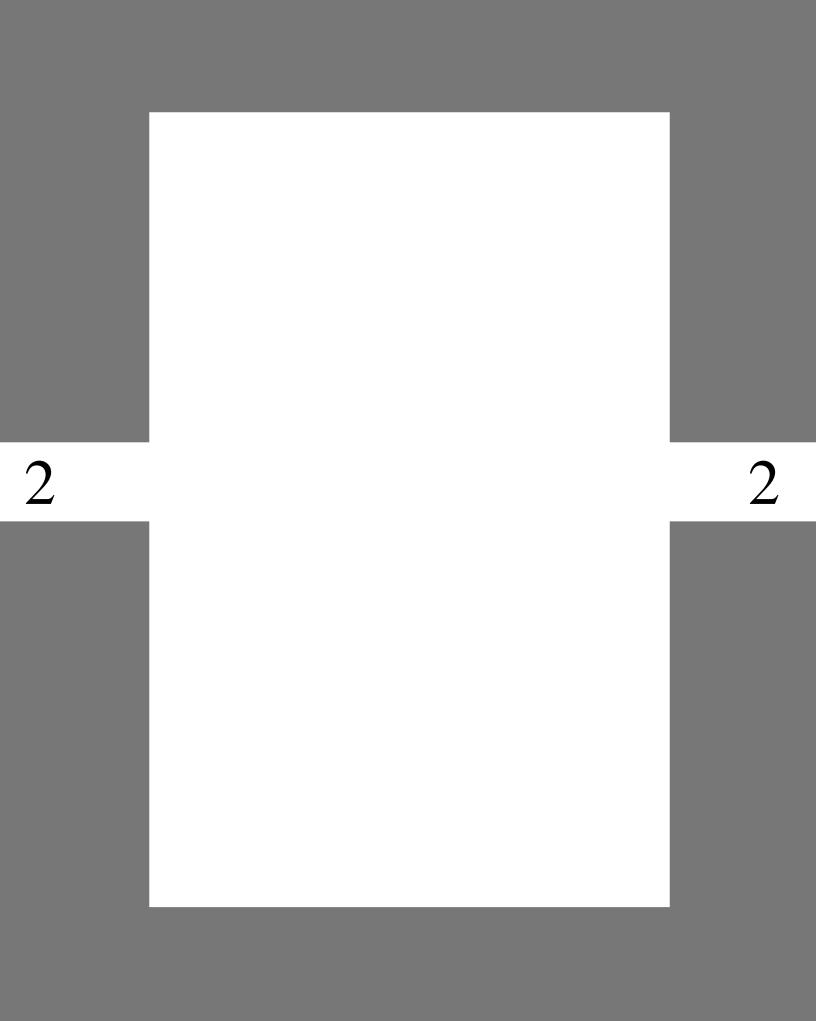
Suspect s is a Greenspun student. All three victims completed stater and alleged mat one suspect in this case poked/jabbed at them, pulled hair, harassed and teased them as well as stabbed them.

All victims indicated that this activity of bulling has been occurring from the middle part of September 2011. SEE SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT BY OFFICER DOVE AND STATEMENTS.

Based on the statements provided by the victims in this case, further investigation is warranted. Due to the length of time in reporting this incident no surveillance cameras were reviewed at the school. The suspect in this case has not yet been interviewed. Note: Per the parent of victim Hairr, her primary concern before filing a police report was that the staff at Greenspun M.S. would not tell her what actions they were taking regarding the juvenile suspect in this case. Based on all evidence provided this report is to be forwarded to CCSD Police Detective unit for follow-up investigation and possible charging of the alleged suspect. End of report.



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#### EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT STATE OF NEVADA, CLARK COUNTY

**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

MARY BRYAN, ET AL

2 Plaintiff. 3

Case No: A-14-700018-C

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CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD); ET AL

Defendant

#### AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

STATE OF NEVADA COUNTY OF CARSON CITY

55.:



WADE MORLAN, being duly sworn says: That at all times herein affiant was and is a citizen of the United States over 18 years of age, not a party to nor interested in the proceedings in which this affidavit is made.

The affidant received copy(ies) of the SUMMONS; COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, AND DAMAGES; CIVIL COVER SHEET, on 05/15/2014 and served the same on 05/16/2014 at 10:55 AM by delivering and leaving a copy with:

AMANDA WHITE, OF THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL who stated he/she is authorized to accept service on behalf of KARA JENKINS IN HER INDIVIDUAL AND OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS COMMISSION ADMINISTRATOR OF NERC.

Service address: 100 N. CARSON ST NEVADA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE CARSON CITY, NV 89705

A description of AMANDA WHITE is as follows:

Sex	Color of skin/race	Color of hair	Age	Height	Weight
6		Blonde			141-150lbs
Other Fea	Dures:				

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on: 05/19/2014 by WADE MORLAN

WADEMORLAN

Registration#: R-006823 Rene/Carson Messenger Service, Inc. (Lic# 322)

No Notary is Required per NRS 53.045

185 Martin Street Reno, NV 89509 775.322,2424

Atty File#: BRYAN V. CCSD



\*49261**\*** 



#### STATE OF NEVADA

#### OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

160 North Careon Street Carson City, Nevada 89701-4717

CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO Atturno Garcinal

KEITH G. MUNDO Associa of Associa General

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	NOTICE

NRS 41,031(2) provides in part that, in any action against the State of Nevada, the action must be brought in the name of the State of Nevada on relation of the particular department, commission, board or other egency of the state whose actions are the basis for the suit. In an action against the State of Nevada, the summons and a copy of the complaint must be served upon the Attorney General, at the Office of the Attorney General in Carson City and upon the person serving in the office of administrative head of the named agency. Service on the Attorney General or designed these not constitute service on any individual or administrative head.

This Receipt acknowledges that the documents described herein have been received by the Neveda Attorney General or the designee authorized by NRS 41.031(2)(a). This Receipt does not ensure that any party, person or agency has been properly served, nor does it waivs any legal requirement for service.

Receipt of a subposed by the Office of the Attorney General does not constitute valid service of the Subposed upon any individual of upon any state agency, except the Office of the Attorney General. Receipt of summons and complete or any other process by the Attorney General of designed does not constitute any any individual, nor does it constitute any twent the Attorney General does not constitute any any individual, nor does it constitute any other than the Santa any individual and the Santa and the Santa and the Santa and Santa

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1 MARY BRYAN, ET AL

Plaintiff,

Case No: A-14-700018-C

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CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD); ET AL

Defendant

#### AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

STATE OF NEVADA COUNTY OF CLARK

ss.:



ROGER PAYNE, being duly sworn says: That at all times herein affiant was and is a citizen of the United States over 18 years of age, not a party to nor interested in the proceedings in which this affidavit is made.

The affidant received copy(ies) of the SUMMONS; COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, AND DAMAGES; CIVIL COVER SHEET, on 05/15/2014 and served the same on 05/15/2014 at 4:45 PM by delivering and leaving a copy with:

JOAN MORTIMER, PARALEGAL who stated he/she is authorized to accept service on behalf of CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD).

Service address: CCSD DISTRICT OFFICES 5100 W. SAHARA AVE., 3RD FLOOR LAS VEGAS, NV 89146

A description of JOAN MORTIMER is as follows:

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Sex	Color of skin/race	Color of hair	Age	Height	Weight
Female	Caucasian	N/A	40's	5'8"	130 LBS.
Other Feat	ures:				

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct.

23

Executed on: 05/18/2014 by ROGER PAYNE

ROGER PAYNE

Registration#: R-038800

Reno/Carson Messenger Service, Inc. (Lic# 322)

No Notary is Required per NRS 53.045

185 Martin Street Reno,NV 89509 775.322.2424

Atty File#: BRYAN V, CCSD



\*49247\*

EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT STATE OF NEVADA, CLARK COUNTY 3 MARY BRYAN, ET AL 2 Plaintiff, Case No: A-14-700018-C 3 YS. CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 5 (CCSD); ET AL 6 Defendant 7 AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE 8 ğ STATE OF NEVADA COUNTY OF CLARK 55.0 10 ROGER PAYNE, being duly sworn says: That at all times herein affiant was and is a citizen of 11 the United States over 18 years of age, not a party to nor interested in the proceedings in which this affidavit is made. 12 The affidant received copy(ies) of the SUMMONS; COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, AND DAMAGES; CIVIL COVER SHEET, on 05/15/2014 13 and served the same on 05/15/2014 at 4:45 PM by delivering and leaving a copy with: 14 JOAN MORTIMER, PARALEGAL who stated he/she is authorized to accept service on behalf 15 of STAVAN CORBETT, IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEE. 15 17 **VEGAS, NV 89146** 18 A description of JOAN MORTIMER is as follows: 14 20

Service address: CCSD DISTRICT OFFICES 5100 W. SAHARA AVE., 3RD FLOOR LAS

Sex	Color of skin/race	Color of hair	Age	Height	Weight	
Female	Caucasian	·	40's	5'8''	130 LBS.	
Other Features:						

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on: 05/18/2014 by ROGER PAYNE

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ROGER PAYME

Registration#/R-038800

Reno/Carson Wiessenger Service, Inc. (Lic# 322)

No Notary is Required per NRS 53.045

185 Martin Street Reno.NV 89509 775.322.2424

Atty File#: BRYAN V. CCSD



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## EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

STATE OF NEVADA, CLARK COUNTY 4 MARY BRYAN, ET AL 7 Plaintiff, Case No: A-14-700018-C 3 VS. CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 5 (CCSD); ET AL Ô Defendant 7 AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE 8 9 STATE OF NEVADA COUNTY OF CLARK SSG 10 ROGER PAYNE, being duly sworn says: That at all times herein affiant was and is a citizen of 11 the United States over 18 years of age, not a party to nor interested in the proceedings in which this affidavit is made. 12 The affidant received copy(ies) of the SUMMONS; COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, AND DAMAGES; CIVIL COVER SHEET, on 05/15/2014 13 and served the same on 05/15/2014 at 4:45 PM by delivering and leaving a copy with: 14 JOAN MORTIMER, PARALEGAL who stated he/she is authorized to accept service on behalf įĘ, of ERIN A CRANOR, IN HER OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEE. 16 Service address: CCSD DISTRICT OFFICES 5100 W. SAHARA AVE., 3RD FLOOR LAS 17 VEGAS, NV 89146 10 A description of JOAN MORTIMER is as follows: 19 Color of skin/race Color of hair Height Weight 20 Female Caucasian 4⊕'s 5'8" 130 LBS Other Features: 21 22 I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct. 23 24 Executed on: 05/18/2014 by ROGER PAYNE ROGER PANNE 200 Registration R-038800 Reno/Carson Messenger Service, Inc. (Lic# 322) No Notary is Required per NRS 53.045 185 Martin Street

Reno, NV 89509 775.322.2424

Atty File#: BRYAN V. CCSD



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## EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

STATE OF NEVADA, CLARK COUNTY 1 MARY BRYAN, ET AL Plaintiff, 3 Case No: A-14-700018-C VS. CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 5 (CCSD); ET AL 6 Defendant 7 AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE 8 3 STATE OF NEVADA COUNTY OF CLARK SS.; 10 ROGER PAYNE, being duly sworn says: That at all times herein affiant was and is a citizen of 11 the United States over 18 years of age, not a party to nor interested in the proceedings in which this affidavit is made. 12 The affidant received copy(ies) of the SUMMONS; COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, AND DAMAGES; CIVIL COVER SHEET, on 05/15/2014 13 and served the same on 05/15/2014 at 4:45 PM by delivering and leaving a copy with: 14 JOAN MORTIMER, PARALEGAL who stated he/she is authorized to accept service on behalf 15 of PATRICE TEW, IN HER OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEE. 16 Service address: CCSD DISTRICT OFFICES 5100 W. SAHARA AVE., 3RD FLOOR LAS 13 **VEGAS, NV 89146** 10 A description of JOAN MORTIMER is as follows: 绉 Color of skin/race Color of hair Height Weight 20 Female Caucasian 5'8" 130 LBS Other Features: 21 22 I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct. 23 26 Executed on: 05/18/2014 by ROGER PAYNE ROGER PAY 25 Registration R-038800 Reno/Carson Messenger Service, Inc. (Lic# 322) No Notary is Required per NRS 53.045 185 Martin Street Reno, NV 89509. 775.322.2424



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#### EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT STATE OF NEVADA, CLARK COUNTY

4 MARY BRYAN, ET AL 2 Plaintiff, 3 Case No: A-14-700018-C VS. 4 CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 5 (CCSD); ET AL 8 Defendant 7 AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE 8 ŝ STATE OF NEVADA COUNTY OF CLARK SS.: 10 ROGER PAYNE, being duly sworn says: That at all times herein affiant was and is a citizen of 11 the United States over 18 years of age, not a party to nor interested in the proceedings in which this affidavit is made. 12 The affidant received copy(ies) of the SUMMONS; COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, AND DAMAGES; CIVIL COVER SHEET, on 05/15/2014 13 and served the same on 05/15/2014 at 4:45 PM by delivering and leaving a copy with: 14 JOAN MORTIMER, PARALEGAL who stated he/she is authorized to accept service on behalf 15 of DEANNA WRIGHT, IN HER OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEE. 16 Service address: CCSD DISTRICT OFFICES 5100 W. SAHARA AVE., 3RD FLOOR LAS 17 VEGAS, NV 89146 18 A description of JOAN MORTIMER is as follows: 19 Color of skin/race Color of hair Age Height Weight 30 Female Caucasian N/A 40's 5'8" 130 LBS Other Features: 21 22 I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on: 05/20/2014 by ROGER PAYNE ROGER PAYAYE Registration#: R-038800 Reno/Carson Messenger Service, Inc. (Lic# 322) No Notary is Required per NRS 53.045 185 Martin Street Reno, NV 89509 775.322.2424

Atty File#: BRYAN V. CCSD

## EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

STATE OF NEVADA, CLARK COUNTY 1 MARY BRYAN, ET AL Ž Plaintiff, 3 Case No: A-14-700018-C VS. CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ŝ (CCSD); ET AL 6 Defendant 7 AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE 8 3 STATE OF NEVADA COUNTY OF CLARK \$5,1 w ROGER PAYNE, being duly sworn says: That at all times herein affiant was and is a citizen of 11 the United States over 18 years of age, not a party to nor interested in the proceedings in which this affidavit is made. 12 The affidant received copy(ies) of the SUMMONS; COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, AND DAMAGES; CIVIL COVER SHEET, on 05/15/2014 13 and served the same on 05/15/2014 at 4:45 PM by delivering and leaving a copy with: 13 JOAN MORTIMER, PARALEGAL who stated he/she is authorized to accept service on behalf 15 of CHRIS GARVEY, IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEE. 16 Service address: CCSD DISTRICT OFFICES 5100 W. SAHARA AVE., 3RD FLOOR LAS 17 **VEGAS, NV 89146** 18 A description of JOAN MORTIMER is as follows: 19 Color of skin/race Color of hair Height Weight 20 Female Caucasian 51811 40's 130 LBS. Other Features: 21 22 I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the state of Nevada shadthe foregoing is true and correct. 23 24 Executed on: 05/18/2014 by ROGER PAYNE ROGER PAYN 25 Registration#: R-038800 Reno/Carson Messenger Service, Inc. (Lic# 322) No Notary is Required per NRS 53.045 185 Martin Street Reno, NV 89509 775.322.2424

EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT STATE OF NEVADA, CLARK COUNTY 1 MARY BRYAN, ET AL 2 Plaintiff, Case No: A-14-700018-C 3 CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT Š (CCSD); ET AL B Defendant ? AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE 3 ğ STATE OF NEVADA COUNTY OF CLARK SS.: 10 ROGER PAYNE, being duly sworn says: That at all times herein affiant was and is a citizen of 11 the United States over 18 years of age, not a party to nor interested in the proceedings in which this affidavit is made. 12 The affidant received copy(ies) of the SUMMONS; COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, AND DAMAGES; CIVIL COVER SHEET, on 05/15/2014 13 and served the same on 05/15/2014 at 4:45 PM by delivering and leaving a copy with: 14 JOAN MORTIMER, PARALEGAL who stated he/she is authorized to accept service on behalf 15 of LINDA E. YOUNG, IN HER OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEE. 16 Service address: CCSD DISTRICT OFFICES 5100 W. SAHARA AVE., 3RD FLOOR LAS 17 VEGAS, NV 89146 18 A description of JOAN MORTIMER is as follows: 19 20 21

Sex	Color of skin/race	Color of hair	Age	Height	Weight	
Female	Caucasian	N/A	40's	5'8"	130 LBS.	
Other Features:						

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the Slate of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on: 05/18/2014 by ROGER PAYNE

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ROGER PAYN Registration#: R-038800

Reno/Carson Messenger Service, Inc. (Lic# 322)

No Notary is Required per NRS 53.045

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EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT STATE OF NEVADA, CLARK COUNTY ١ MARY BRYAN, ET AL 2 Plaintiff. 3 Case No: A-14-700018-C 3 VS. CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 3 (CCSD); ET AL 8 Defendant 7 AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE 8 8 STATE OF NEVADA COUNTY OF CLARK 88.: 10 11 ROGER PAYNE, being duly sworn says: That at all times herein affiant was and is a citizen of the United States over 18 years of age, not a party to nor interested in the proceedings in which 12 this affidavit is made. The affidant received copy(les) of the SUMMONS; COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, AND DAMAGES; CIVIL COVER SHEET, on 05/15/2014 13 14 and served the same on 05/15/2014 at 4:45 PM by delivering and leaving a copy with: 15 JOAN MORTIMER, PARALEGAL who stated he/she is authorized to accept service on behalf of PAT SKORKOWSKY, IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS CCSD SUPERINTENDENT. 10 Service address: CCSD DISTRICT OFFICES 5100 W. SAHARA AVE., 3RD FLOOR LAS 17 VEGAS, NV 89146 18 A description of JOAN MORTIMER is as follows: 19 Color of hair Weight Color of skin/race Height 5'8" 130 LBS. Caucasian Female æ Other Features: 21 22 and correct. 23

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true

Executed on: 05/18/2014 24 by ROGER PAYNE

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ROGER PAYN

Registration#: 2-038800

Reno/Carson Messenger Service, Inc. (Lic# 322)

No Notary is Required per NRS 53.045

185 Martin Street Reno, NV 89509 775.322.2424





EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT STATE OF NEVADA, CLARK COUNTY 1 MARY BRYAN, ET AL Plaintiff, Case No: A-14-700018-C VS. CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT S (CCSD); ET AL Defendant 3 AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE 8 \$ STATE OF NEVADA COUNTY OF CLARK 88.1 W ROGER PAYNE, being duly sworn says: That at all times herein affiant was and is a citizen of 11 the United States over 18 years of age, not a party to nor interested in the proceedings in which this affidavit is made. 13 The affidant received copy(ies) of the SUMMONS; COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, AND DAMAGES; CIVIL COVER SHEET, on 05/15/2014 13 and served the same on 05/15/2014 at 4:45 PM by delivering and leaving a copy with: 14 JOAN MORTIMER, PARALEGAL who stated he/she is authorized to accept service on behalf 15 of CAROLYN EDWARDS, IN HER OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEE. 16 Service address: CCSD DISTRICT OFFICES 5100 W. SAHARA AVE., 3RD FLOOR LAS 17 **VEGAS, NV 89146** 18 A description of JOAN MORTIMER is as follows: 19 20 21

Sex	Color of skin/race	Color of hair	Age	Height	Weight		
Female	Caucasian	N/A	40's	5'8"	130 LBS.		
Other Fea	Other Features:						

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the state of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on: 05/18/2014 by ROGER PAYNE

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ROGER PAYNE Registration#; R6038800

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Reno/Carson Messenger Service, Inc. (Lic# 322)

Reno, NV 89509 775.322.2424





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EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT STATE OF NEVADA, CLARK COUNTY MARY BRYAN, ET AL 2 Plaintiff. 3 Case No: A-14-700018-C vs. CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 3 (CCSD); ET AL ø Defendant 7 AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE ä 9 STATE OF NEVADA COUNTY OF CLARK SS. 10 11 ROGER PAYNE, being duly sworn says: That at all times herein affiant was and is a citizen of the United States over 18 years of age, not a party to nor interested in the proceedings in which ť this affidavit is made. 13 The affidant received copy(ies) of the SUMMONS; COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, AND DAMAGES; CIVIL COVER SHEET, on 05/15/2014 14 and served the same on 05/16/2014 at 10:20 AM by delivering and leaving a copy with: 15 SUSAN M. SMITH, SCHOOL PRINCIPAL who stated he/she is authorized to accept service on behalf of GREENSPUN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL (GJHS). 16 Service address: GREENSPUN MIDDLE SCHOOL 140 N. VALLE VERDE DRIVE 17 HENDERSON, N 89074 18 A description of SUSAN M. SMITH is as follows: 19 Color of skin/race Color of hair Weight BLONDE 5'10" Caucasian 40's 150 LBS Female 20 Other Features: 21 22

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct.

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Executed on: 05/18/2014 by ROGER PAYNE

ROGER PAYNE

Registration#: R-038800

Reno/Carson Messenger Service, Inc. (Lic# 322)

No Notary is Required per NRS 53.045

185 Martin Street Reno, NV 89509 775.322.2424

Atty File#: BRYAN V. CCSD



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Docket 73856

1 MARY BRYAN, ET AL 2 3 Plaintiff, Case No: A-14-700018-C 4 VS. 5 CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD); ET AL \$ Defendant 7 8 Declaration of Service ₿ STATE OF NEVADA 10 COUNTY OF CLARK 88.: 11



ROGER PAYNE, being duly sworn says: That at all times herein affiant was and is a citizen of the United States over 18 years of age, not a party to nor interested in the proceedings in which this affidavit is made.

That affiant received copy(ies) of the SUMMONS; COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, AND DAMAGES; CIVIL COVER SHEET, on 05/15/2014 and served the same on 05/16/2014 at 10:20 AM by delivering and leaving a copy with:

JOHN HALPIN, IN HIS INDIVIDUAL AND OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS COUNSELOR AT GJHS at GREENSPUN MIDDLE SCHOOL, 140 N. VALLE VERDE DRIVE, HENDERSON, NV 89074

A description of the Recipient, or other person served on behalf of the Recipient is as follows:

Sex	Color of skin/race	Color of hair	Age	Height	Weight	
Male	Caucasian	N/A	40's	5'10''	160 LBS.	
Other Features:						

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on: 05/20/2014 by ROGER PAYNE

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ROGER PAYNE

Registration#: R-038800

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Reno, NV 89509 775.322.2424

Atty File#: BRYAN V. CCSD



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1 MARY BRYAN, ET AL Ž. 3 Plaintiff. Case No: A-14-700018-C 4 VS. 5 CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD); ET AL 6 Defendant 7 8 Declaration of Service 9 STATE OF NEVADA to COUNTY OF CLARK 85.1 11



ROGER PAYNE, being duly swom says: That at all times herein affiant was and is a citizen of the United States over 18 years of age, not a party to nor interested in the proceedings in which this affidavit is made.

That affiant received copy(ies) of the SUMMONS; COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, AND DAMAGES; CIVIL COVER SHEET, on 05/15/2014 and served the same on 05/16/2014 at 10:20 AM by delivering and leaving a copy with:

ROBERT BEASLEY, IN HIS INDIVIDUAL AND OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS INSTRUCTOR AT GJHS at GREENSPUN MIDDLE SCHOOL, 140 N. VALLE VERDE DRIVE, HENDERSON, NV 89074

A description of the Recipient, or other person served on behalf of the Recipient is as follows:

Sex	Color of skin/race	Color of bair	Age	Height	Weight	
Male	Caucasian	N/A	40's	5'8"	150 LBS.	
Other Features:						

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct.

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Executed on: 05/20/2014 by ROGER PAYNE

ROGER PAYNE Registration#: R-038800

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Reno/Carson Messenger Service, Inc. (Lie# 322)

185 Martin Street Reno, NV 89509 775.322.2424

Atty File#: BRYAN V. CCSD



MARY BRYAN, ET AL 2

Plaintiff.

Case No: A-14-700018-C

VS.

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD); ET AL

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Defendant 7

#### Declaration of Service

STATE OF NEVADA COUNTY OF CLARK

SS.:



ROGER PAYNE, being duly swom says: That at all times herein affiant was and is a citizen of the United States over 18 years of age, not a party to nor interested in the proceedings in which this affidavit is made.

That affiant received copy(ies) of the SUMMONS; COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, AND DAMAGES; CIVIL COVER SHEET, on 05/15/2014 and served the same on 05/16/2014 at 10:20 AM by delivering and leaving a copy with:

CHERYL WINN, IN HER INDIVIDUAL AND OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS DEAN AT GJHS at GREENSPUN MIDDLE SCHOOL, 140 N. VALLE VERDE DRIVE, HENDERSON, N 89074

A description of the Recipient, or other person served on behalf of the Recipient is as follows:

Sex	Color of skin/race	Color of hair	Age	Height	Weight	
Female	Caucasian	N/A	50's	5'7''	140 LBS.	
Other Features:						

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the degegoing is true and correct.

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Executed on: 05/20/2014 by ROGER PAYNE

ROGER PAYNE

Registration#: R-038809

Reno/Carson Messenger Service, Ind (Lic# 322) 185 Martin Street

No Notary is Required per NRS 53.045

Reno, NV 89509 775.322.2424





1 MARY BRYAN, ET AL

3 Plaintiff.

Case No: A-14-700018-C

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CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD); ET AL

Defendant

Declaration of Service

STATE OF NEVADA COUNTY OF CLARK

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ROGER PAYNE, being duly sworn says: That at all times herein affiant was and is a citizen of the United States over 18 years of age, not a party to nor interested in the proceedings in which this affidavit is made.

That affiant received copy(ies) of the SUMMONS; COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, AND DAMAGES; CIVIL COVER SHEET, on 05/15/2014 and served the same on 05/16/2014 at 11:30 AM by delivering and leaving a copy with:

PRINCIPAL WARREN P. MCKAY, IN HIS INDIVIDUAL AND OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS PRINCIPAL OF GJHS at HELEN C. CANNON JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, 5850 SOUTH EUCLID STREET, LAS VEGAS, NV 89120

A description of the Recipient, or other person served on behalf of the Recipient is as follows:

Sex	Color of skin/race	Color of hair	Age	Height	Weight
Male	Caucasian	N/A	40's	6'0''	180 LBS.
Other Features:					

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct.

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Executed on: 05/20/2014 by ROGER PAYNE

No Notary is Required per NRS 53.045

ROGER PAYNE

Registration#: R-038800

Reno/Carson Messenger Service, Inc. (Lic# 322)

185 Martin Street Reno,NV 89509 775.322.2424

Atty File#: BRYAN V. CCSD



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MARY BRYAN, ET AL

Plaintiff.

Case No: A-14-700018-C

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CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD); ET AL

Defendant

Declaration of Service

STATE OF NEVADA COUNTY OF CLARK

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ROGER PAYNE, being duly sworn says: That at all times herein affiant was and is a citizen of the United States over 18 years of age, not a party to nor interested in the proceedings in which this affidavit is made.

That affiant received copy(ies) of the SUMMONS; COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, AND DAMAGES; CIVIL COVER SHEET, on 05/15/2014 and served the same on 05/16/2014 at 10:45 AM by delivering and leaving a copy with:

LEONARD DEPIAZZA, IN HIS INDIVIDUAL AND OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL AT GJHS at FRANCIS H. CORTNEY MIDDLE SCHOOL, 5301 E. HACIENDA AVENUE, LAS VEGAS, NV 89122

A description of the Recipient, or other person served on behalf of the Recipient is as follows:

Sex	Color of skin/race	Color of hair	Age	Height	Weight	
Male	Caucasian	N/A	40's	5'8"	160 LBS.	
Other Features:						

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on: 05/20/2014 by ROGER PAYNE

ROGER PAYNE Registration#: R-088800

No Notary is Required per NRS 53.045

Reno/Carson Messenger Service Inc. (Lic# 322) 185 Martin Street

Reno, NV 89509 775.322.2424

Atty File#: BRYAN V. CCSD





MARY BRYAN, ET AL

2 Plaintiff,

Case No: A-14-700018-C

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W.

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD); ET AL

Defendant

#### AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

STATE OF NEVADA COUNTY OF CARSON CITY

SS.:



WADE MORLAN, being duly sworn says: That at all times herein affiant was and is a citizen of the United States over 18 years of age, not a party to nor interested in the proceedings in which this affidavit is made.

The affidant received copy(ies) of the SUMMONS; COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, AND DAMAGES; CIVIL COVER SHEET, on 05/15/2014 and served the same on 05/16/2014 at 10:55 AM by delivering and leaving a copy with:

AMANDA WHITE, OF THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL who stated he/she is authorized to accept service on behalf of KARA JENKINS IN HER INDIVIDUAL AND OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS COMMISSION ADMINISTRATOR OF NERC.

Service address: 100 N. CARSON ST NEVADA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE CARSON CITY, NV 89705

A description of AMANDA WHITE is as follows:

Sex	Color of skin/race	Color of hair	Age	Height	Weight	
Female	Caucasian	Blonde	20-30	5ft 6in	141-150lbs	
Other Features:						

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on: 05/19/2014 by WADE MORLAN

WANDEMORLAN Registration#: R-006823

Rend/Carson Messenger Service, Inc. (Lic# 322)

No Notary is Required per NRS 53.045 185 Mi

185 Martin Street Reno,NV 89509

775.322.2424 Atty File#: BRYAN V. CCSD



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MARY BRYAN, ET AL

Plaintiff.

Case No: A-14-700018-C

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CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD); ET AL

Defendant

#### AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

STATE OF NEVADA COUNTY OF CARSON CITY

SS.:



WADE MORLAN, being duly sworn says: That at all times herein affiant was and is a citizen of the United States over 18 years of age, not a party to nor interested in the proceedings in which this affidavit is made.

The affidant received copy(ies) of the SUMMONS; COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVÉ RELIEF, AND DAMAGES; CIVIL COVER SHEET, on 05/15/2014 and served the same on 05/16/2014 at 10:55 AM by delivering and leaving a copy with:

AMANDA WHITE, OF THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL who stated he/she is authorized to accept service on behalf of NEVADA EQUAL RIGHTS COMMISSION (NERC).

Service address: 100 N. CARSON ST NEVADA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE CARSON CITY, NV 89705

A description of AMANDA WHITE is as follows:

Sex	Color of skin/race	Color of hair	Age	Height	Weight	
Female	Caucasian	Blonde	20-30	5ft 6in	141-150lbs	
Other Features:						

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on: 05/19/2014 by WADE MORLAN

Régistration#: R-006823 Reno/Carson Messenger Service, Inc. (Lic# 322)

No Notary is Required per NRS 53.045

185 Martin Street Reno, NV 89509 775.322.2424

Atty File#: BRYAN V. CCSD

MARY BRYAN, ET AL \* Plaintiff. Case No: A-14-700018-C 3 4 CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD); ET AL X, ò Defendant 7 AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE Ŕ STATE OF NEVADA 9



COUNTY OF CARSON CITY

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WADE MORLAN, being duly sworn says: That at all times herein affiant was and is a citizen of the United States over 18 years of age, not a party to nor interested in the proceedings in which this affidavit is made.

The affidant received copy(ies) of the SUMMONS; COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, AND DAMAGES; CIVIL COVER SHEET, on 05/15/2014 and served the same on 05/16/2014 at 10:55 AM by delivering and leaving a copy with:

AMANDA WHITE, OF THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL who stated he/she is authorized to accept service on behalf of DENNIS PEREA, IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING, AND REHABILITATION (DETR)...

Service address: 100 N, CARSON ST NEVADA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE CARSON CITY, NV 89705

A description of AMANDA WHITE is as follows:

Sex	Color of skin/race	Color of hair	Age	Height	Weight	
Female	Caucasian	Blonde	20-30	5ft 6in	141-150lbs	
Other Features:						

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on: 05/19/2014 by WADE MORLAN 25

WADEMORLAN Registration#: R-006823

Reno/Carson Messenger Service, Inc. (Lic# 322)

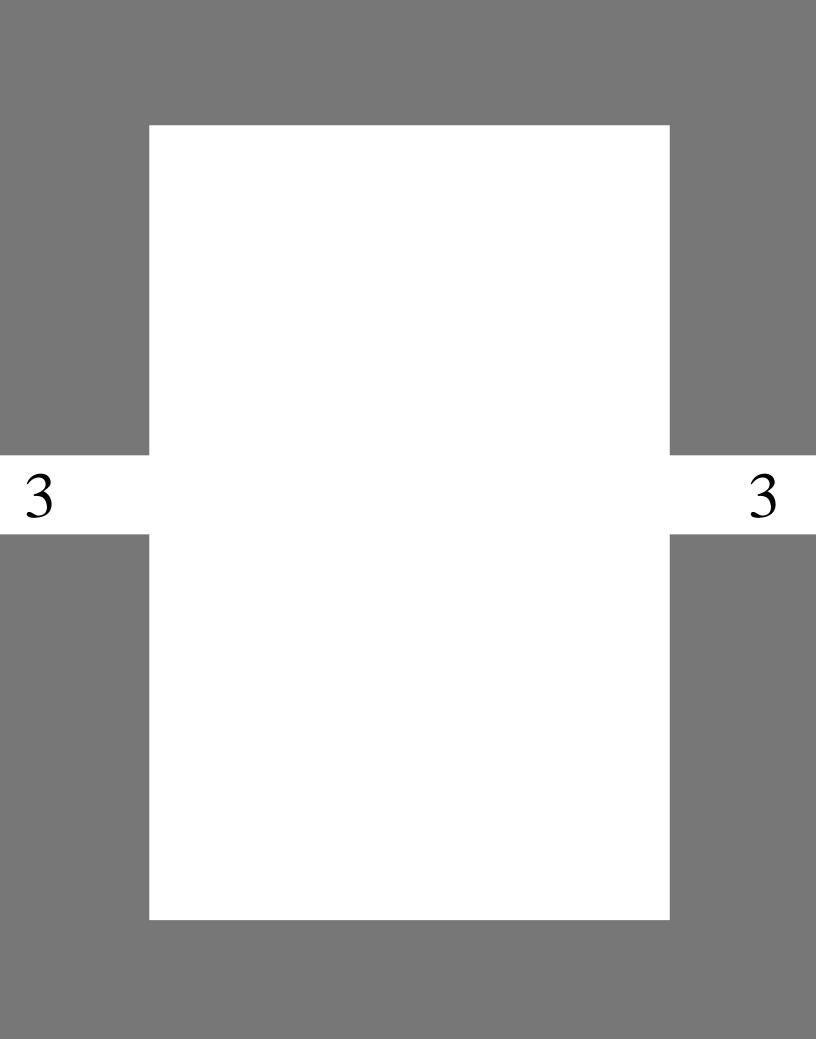
No Notary is Required per NRS 53.045

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Atty File#: BRYAN V. CCSD



**\*49262**\*



1 NEO Daniel F. Polsenberg (Bar No. 2376) 2 Dan R. Waite (State Bar No. 004078) CLERK OF THE COURT LEWIS ROCA ROTHGERBER LLP 3 3993 Howard Hughes Pkwy, Suite 600 Las Vegas, NV 89169-5996 4 Tel: 702.949.8200 Fax: 702.949.8398 5 DPolsenberg@lrrlaw.com DWaite@lrrlaw.com 6 Attorneys for Defendants CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL 7 DISTRICT (CCSD), Warren P. McKay, Leonard DePiazza, Cheryl Winn, John Halpin, Robert Beasley 8 DISTRICT COURT 9 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 10 MARY BRYAN, mother of ETHAN BRYAN; Case No. A-14-700018-C AIMEE HAIRR, mother of NOLAN HAIRR, 11 Dept. No. XXVII Plaintiffs, 12 NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER GRANTING IN PART AND DENYING VS. 13 IN PART DEFENDANTS CLARK CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT, 14 (CCSD); Pat Skorkowsky, in his official WILLIAM P. MCKAY, LEONARD capacity as CCSD superintendent; CCSD DEPIAZZA, CHERYL WINN, JOHN 15 BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; Erin A. HALPIN AND ROBERT BEASLEY'S Cranor, Linda E. Young, Patrice Tew, Stavan MOTION TO DISMISS 16 Corbett, Carolyn Edwards, Chris Garvey, Deanna Wright, in their official capacities as 17 CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; GREENSPUN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL 18 (GJHS); Principal Warren P. McKay, in his individual and official capacity as principal of 19 GJHS; Leonard DePiazza, in his individual and official capacity as assistant principal at GJHS; 20 Cheryl Winn, in her individual and official capacity as Dean at GJHS; John Halpin, in his 21 individual and official capacity as counselor at GJHS; Robert Beasley, in his individual and 22 official capacity as instructor at GJHS; NEVADA EQUAL RIGHTS COMMISSION 23 (NERC); Kara Jenkins in her individual and official capacity as Commission Administrator 24 of NERC; Dennis Perea, in his official capacity as Deputy Director or the NEVADA 25 DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT. TRAINING, AND REHABILITATION 26 (DETR), 27 Defendants. 28

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Order Granting In Part and Denying In Part Defendants Clark County School District, William P. McKay, Leonard DePiazza, Cheryl Winn, John Halpin and Robert Beasley's Motion to Dismiss has been entered on September 10, 2014. A copy of said Order is attached hereto.

DATED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2014.

LEWIS ROCA ROTHGER ER LLP

By:

Daniel F. Polsenberg (State Bar No. 2376) Dan R. Waite (State Bar No. 4078) 3993 Howard Hughes Pkwy, Suite 600 Las Vegas, NV 89169-5996

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# 3993 Howard Hughes Pkwy, Suite 600 Las Vegas, NV 89169-5996

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<b>CERTIFICATE</b>	OF SERVICE
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I hereby certify that pursuant to Nev. R. Civ. P. 5, service of Notice of Entry of Order
Granting In Part and Denying In Part Defendants Clark County School District, William P.
McKay, Leonard DePiazza, Cheryl Winn, John Halpin and Robert Beasley's Motion to
Dismiss was made by depositing a copy for mailing, first-class mail, postage prepaid, to the
following:

Staci Pratt, Esq.
Allen Lichtenstein, Esq.
ALLEN LICHTENSTEIN ATTORNEY AT LAW, LTD.
3315 Russell Road, No. 222
Las Vegas, Nevada 89120
Attorneys for Plaintiffs

DATED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2014.

An Employee of Lewis Roca Rothgerber LLP

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**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

ORD
Daniel F. Polsenberg (State Bar No. 2376)
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DISTRICT (CCSD), Warren P. McKay, Leonard DePiazza,
Cheryl Winn, John Halpin, Robert Beasley

### DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

MARY BRYAN, mother of ETHAN BRYAN; AIMEE HAIRR, mother of NOLAN HAIRR,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

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CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD); Pat Skorkowsky, in his official capacity as CCSD superintendent; CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; Erin A. Cranor, Linda E. Young, Patrice Tew, Stavan Corbett, Carolyn Edwards, Chris Garvey, Deanna Wright, in their official capacities as CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; GREENSPUN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL (GJHS); Principal Warren P. McKay, in his individual and official capacity as principal of GJHS; Leonard DePiazza, in his individual and official capacity as assistant principal at GJHS: Cheryl Winn, in her individual and official capacity as Dean at GJHS; John Halpin, in his individual and official capacity as counselor at GJHS; Robert Beasley, in his individual and official capacity as instructor at GJHS; NEVADA EQUAL RIGHTS COMMISSION (NERC); Kara Jenkins in her individual and official capacity as Commission Administrator of NERC; Dennis Perea, in his official capacity as Deputy Director or the NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING, AND REHABILITATION (DETR),

Defendants.

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Case No. A-14-700018-C

Dept. No. XXVII

ORDER GRANTING IN PART AND DENYING IN PART DEFENDANTS CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT, WILLIAM P. MCKAY, LEONARD DEPIAZZA, CHERYL WINN, JOHN HALPIN AND ROBERT BEASLEY'S MOTION TO DISMISS

Date of Hearing: August 21, 2014 Time of Hearing: 10:00 a.m.

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The Court having considered the Motion to Dismiss and based upon the pleadings and papers on file, the argument of counsel and good cause appearing, the motion is granted in part and denied in part as follows:

- 1. The defendant identified as Greenspun Junior High School is not an entity capable of being sued. Accordingly, Greenspun Junior High School is dismissed with prejudice from this action as to all causes of action. The caption of this action shall be reformed to remove reference to "GREENSPUN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL (GJHS)."
- 2. The Motion to Dismiss is GRANTED as to the First Cause of Action (Public Accommodation Discrimination). While the Court does not find at this point that it is impossible to state a claim for public accommodation discrimination, the Court expresses some doubt regarding whether this cause of action exists under Nevada law. Accordingly, the First Cause of Action is dismissed with leave to amend. Should Plaintiffs choose to amend, Plaintiffs are directed to identify the alleged duty imposed upon the CCSD Defendants as it relates to studenton-student discrimination.
- 3. The Motion to Dismiss is GRANTED as to the Second Cause of Action (Negligence Per Se) with leave to amend. Should plaintiffs choose to amend, plaintiffs are directed to identify the specific statute they allege was violated so the Court and defendants can analyze such in connection with the cause of action.
- 4. The Motion to Dismiss is GRANTED as to the Third Cause of Action (Violations of Title IX, 20 U.S.C. § 1681(A)) with leave to amend. Should plaintiffs choose to amend, plaintiffs are directed to clarify the factual allegations of (a) CCSD's actual knowledge of

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discrimination against Ethan Bryan and Nolan Hairr on the basis of sex, and (b) that CCSD's response constituted deliberate indifference to the known acts of discrimination.

- The Motion to Dismiss is GRANTED as to the Fourth Cause of Action (Violations of State and Federal Equal Protection Guarantees, 42 U.S.C. § 1983) with leave to amend. Should, plaintiffs choose to amend, plaintiffs are directed to clarify the factual allegations regarding CCSD's deliberate indifference and how the acts of alleged discrimination resulted from such.
- The Motion to Dismiss is DENIED as to the Fifth Cause of Action (Violations of the United States Constitution: Substantive Due Process, 42 U.S.C. § 1983). Plaintiffs have sufficiently pled deliberate inaction.
- 7. Any issues and arguments raised in the briefs and not addressed in this order are denied without prejudice.
- Plaintiffs shall file their amended complaint within 30 days from the date of notice 8. of entry of this order; otherwise, the action will proceed against the CCSD Defendants on plaintiffs' Fifth Cause of Action only.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED this \_9 day of September, 2014.

Nan en 1 A 1 C DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

Approved as to form and content:

Respectfully submitted by:

LEWIS ROCA ROTHGERBER LLP

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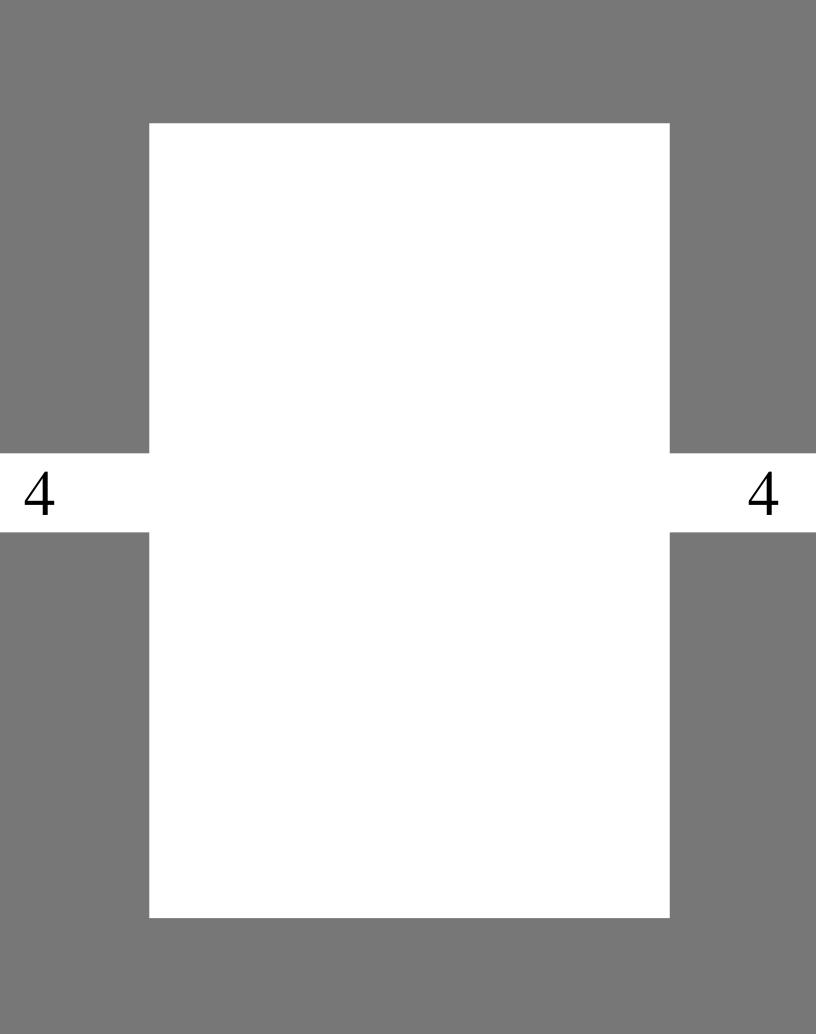
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CLERK OF THE COURT

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Attorneys for the Plaintiffs

EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

MARY BRYAN, mother of ETHAN BRYAN; AIMEE HAIRR, mother of NOLAN HAIRR,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD); Pat Skorkowsky, in his official capacity as CCSD superintendent; CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; Erin A. Cranor, Linda E. Young, Patrice Tew, Stavan Corbett, Carolyn Edwards, Chris Garvey, Deanna Wright, in their official capacities as CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; GREENSPUN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL (GJHS); Principal Warren P. McKay, in his individual and official capacity as principal of GJHS; Leonard DePiazza, in his individual and official capacity as assistant principal at GJHS; Cheryl Winn, in her individual and official capacity as Dean at GJHS; John Halpin, in his individual and official capacity as counselor at GJHS; Robert Beasley, in his

individual and official capacity as instructor at

Case No.:

FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, AND DAMAGES

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED EXEMPT FROM ARBITRATION

Come now Plaintiffs, by and through the undersigned attorneys, and file this Complaint for declaratory and injunctive relief ordering Defendants CCSD, Superintendent Skorkowski, CCSD Board of School Trustees, Trustee Cranor, Trustee Young, Trustee Tew, Trustee Corbett, Trustee Edwards, Trustee Garvey, Trustee Wright, Greenspun JHS, Principal McKay, Assistant Principal DePiazza, Dean Winn, Counselor Halpin, and Instructor Beasley (hereinafter "CCSD Defendants") to adopt, implement, and ensure compliance with policies and practices that ensure the safety of students faced with harassment and discrimination. These policies and practices include development of a safety plan, appropriate and timely investigations, timely and effective notice, independent monitoring of school officials, instituting an appeals process for parents and students who feel a school's actions to do not ensure a safe and respectful learning environments, and instituting disciplinary action against school officials who do not comply.

Plaintiffs also seek damages under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 for harm suffered as a result of CCSD Defendant's failure to maintain and follow a policy that prevents harassment and discrimination. Plaintiffs maintain claims for violation of Plaintiffs' rights under the equal protection clauses of the Nevada Constitution, Article 4, § 21, and the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution; for deliberate indifference to peer on peer sexual harassment as prohibited by the U.S. Constitution's Substantive Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment; sex discrimination under Title IX; for negligence; for negligence per se, as well as for denying Plaintiffs a safe and respectful learning environment free from harassment and discrimination.

#### STATEMENT OF THE CASE

Bryan-Hairr Complaint - 2

1. As alleged in greater particularity below, Plaintiffs assert that CCSD failed to ensure a safe and respectful learning environment, free from discrimination, harassment, and violence, for Ethan Bryan and Nolan Hairr, two 13-year-old students attending Greenspun JHS. Despite numerous attempts by Plaintiffs to contact and request the CCSD Defendants to end the persistent sexual and physical assaults, harassment, and discrimination based on perceived sexual orientation, to develop a safety plan to ensure students could benefit from the "full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, and accommodations" of their public school, (See N.R.S. § 651.110), they did not do so.

2. During a nearly six month period, Ethan and Nolan endured severe and pervasive discriminatory name-calling, such as "faggot," "fucking faggot," "fucking fat faggot," "gay wad," "gay," "gay boyfriend," "a big fat ass," "dumbass," and "tattle-tale," a stabbing in the genitals, and such alienation that one boy planned suicide to escape the suffering.

# JURISDICTIONAL STATEMENT

3. This action arises under the N.R.S., the Nevada State Constitution, and the U.S. Constitution, specifically the equal protection and substantive due process clauses, 42 U.S.C. § 1983. Nevada District Courts have general jurisdiction in civil matters. N.R.S. Const. Art 6, §

# **PARTIES**

- Plaintiff Ethan Bryan is a student at CCSD, and a former student at Greenspun Middle School. Mary Bryan is his mother.
- Plaintiff Nolan Hairr is a student at CCSD, and a former student at Greenspun Middle School. Aimee Hairr is his mother.
- Defendant CCSD is the district that encompasses all public schools in Las Vegas, Nevada and surrounding areas, including Greenspun Junior High School (Greenspun JHS).

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	7.	Defendant Pat Skorkowsky is the current superintendent of CCSD and is responsible for
v	erse	eeing school district staff.

- Defendant CCSD Board of School Trustees is the organization that oversees all schools part of CCSD.
- 9. Defendants Erin A. Cranor, Linda E. Young, Patrice Tew, Stavan Corbett, Carolyn Edwards, Chris Garvey, Deanna Wright are currently members of CCSD Board of School Trustees, and responsible for overseeing CCSD schools.
- 10. Defendant Warren P. McKay is the principal at Greenspun JHS, and is responsible for overseeing the staff and students at the school.
- 11. Defendant Leonard DePiazza is the assistant principal at Greenspun JHS and is responsible for overseeing staff and students at the school, and reporting to the principal.
- 12. Defendant Cheryl Winn is the Dean at Greenspun JHS, and is responsible for overseeing students and disciplinary matters at the school.
- 13. Defendant John Halpin is the guidance counselor at Greenspun JHS, and is responsible for overseeing students and ensuring their safety and success at the school.
- 14. Defendant Robert Beasley is an instructor of band class at Greenspun JHS, and is responsible for overseeing students in his class and ensuring a positive and safe learning environment.
- 15. Defendant Andre Long is the Academic Manager for the area of CCSD that incorporates Greenspun JHS. He is responsible for overseeing activities at the school and others within his area boundary.

# STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS AND TOLLING

16. Pursuant N.R.S. § 651.120, the statute of limitations for a civil action sounding in discrimination in a place of public accommodation is tolled during the pendency of a complaint filed with NERC. Any complaint filed within one year of the date of the occurrence is tolled during the pendency of the complaint. N.R.S. § 651.120. The "date of occurrence" is deemed any day up until the discrimination has concluded. NERC has yet to issue a final decision, so the complaint is still pending. N.A.C. § 233.050. A complaint is pending until times for an appeal of a final decision expires, or in a review until proceedings are complete. Id.

17. Each Plaintiff's complaint was timely filed in July 2012 with NERC, for discrimination that occurred up until February of 2012. The principals of equity support the tolling of all claims, therefore, these claims are timely.

#### FACTUAL BACKGROUND

- 18. On August 27, 2011, Plaintiffs began the sixth grade at Greenspun Junior High School.
- 19. From August 27, 2011 until or about February 9, 2012, several Greenspun students discriminated against and harassed both Plaintiffs based on their "perceived sexual orientation.," calling students slurs such as "faggot," "fucking faggot," "fucking fat faggot," "gay wad," "gay," "gay boyfriend," "a big fat ass," "dumbass," and "tattle-tale."
- 20. The main perpetrator was C.L., but Plaintiffs were also harassed and discriminated against by C.L.'s friend D.M., and other Greenspun students who were friends of C.L.
- 21. Initially Nolan bore the brunt of the harassment from C.L., but Ethan began being harassed when he attempted to verbally defend Nolan from C.L.
- 22. From approximately late August to mid-September, Nolan was subjected to most of the harassment and was assaulted several times, including unwanted touching, hair pulling,

elbowing, and pushing, by C.L. Nolan persistently asked his perpetrator to stop. C.L. refused to stop, causing Nolan to be deeply troubled. Ethan was also verbally harassed during this time.

- 23. Defendant Instructor Beasley acknowledged the bullying, which occurred pervasively in his band classroom, but would only request that C.L. and D.M stop. Nolan asked to be moved to a seat away from his perpetrators, but Defendant Beasley refused to reseat him. It took three months before Nolan was seated away from his perpetrators.
- 24. Despite a CCSD Policy requiring any employee who "witnesses, overhears, or receives a report, formal or informal, written or oral, of bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, and/or intimidation at school..." to report it to a principal or principal's designee no such report was made.
- 25. On September 13, 2011, C.L. stabbed Nolan's genitals with a pencil, which was witnessed by Ethan. Nolan became increasingly terrified of C.L., and no longer wanted to attend school. He was also afraid to report the event for fear of retaliation. He would ultimately see a doctor for these injuries.
- 26. On or near September 15, 2011, Mrs. Bryan learned of the stabbing incident and the pervasive bullying after overhearing Nolan and Ethan speak about it at her home. Mrs. Bryan immediately reported the harassment and assault in an email to Defendants Principal McKay, Counselor Halpin, and Teacher Beasley. She further identified C.L. and D.M. as the perpetrators, and elaborated on the stabbing of Nolan's genitals and the pervasive harassment. She also informed them of the incredible suffering being endured by Ethan and Nolan. She asked that the school move perpetrators, so that Ethan and Nolan could "...learn properly and have constructive school experiences." She urged the school to take swift action and for her complaint to be taken seriously, and for the Nolan and Ethan to be moved to a different seat.

27. CCSD Policies describe bullying as "a deliberate or intentional behavior using words or
actions intended to cause fear, intimidation, or fear." CCSD, P-5137(II)(A). Further, CCSD's
policy specifically defines behavior motivated by distinguishable characteristics such as "sexual
orientation," as bullying. Id. The definition includes: physical acts, such as assaults, kicking, or
punching; "indirect acts," such as "spreading cruel rumors, intimidation through gestures, social
exclusion, or sending insulting messages or pictures;" use of power imbalances, such as
physical or psychological dominance, or verbal threats such as "teasing and name calling,"
intimidation, punitive acts aimed at hurting or punishing a targeted individual, or repetitive,
systematic acts. CCSD, P-5137(II)(A)(1)-(6).

- 28. CCSD declares through its bullying policies that the district is "committed to providing a safe, secure, and respectful learning environment for all students..." CCSD claims that it "strives to consistently and vigorously address bullying, cyberbulling, harassment, and intimidation so that there is no disruption to the learning environment and learning process." CCSD, P-5137(I).
- 29. The school failed to respond to Mrs. Bryan. Nor did the school notify Mr. or Mrs. Hairr of the pervasive bullying, harassment, and discrimination based on perceived sexual orientation involving Nolan.
- 30. On September 16, 2011, Defendant Counselor Halpin met with Nolan to discuss the ongoing harassment, discrimination, and assaults. Halpin offered no safety plan, and Nolan felt Halpin simply "brush[ed]" off his complaints. Nolan did not feel safe going forward.
- 31. On September 19, 2011, Defendant Instructor Beasley moved Nolan's seat. However, instead of sitting next to C.L., Nolan was moved directly in front of C.L. C.L. continued to harass and assault Nolan.

32. On September 21, 2011, Mrs. Bryan notified Mrs. Hairr of the bullying endured by Nolan and Ethan. Mrs. Hairr learned for the first time that her son had been sexually assaulted, and had endured other forms of harassment, discrimination, and assault. Nolan had been too ashamed to report the incidents to her previously.

# Mrs. Hairr's Contacts with Greenspun JHS Administrators

- 33. The night of September 21, Mrs. Hairr spoke with Nolan regarding the ongoing harassment, assaults, including the stabbing of his genitals, and discrimination based on his perceived sexual orientation. Mrs. Hairr was grateful that Mrs. Bryan informed her of the bullying, but was frustrated and perplexed as to why the school had failed to notify her of such serious acts.
- 34. Mrs. Hairr called Greenspun JHS early the following morning to arrange a meeting regarding the pervasive harassment, discrimination, and the stabbing of her son's genitalia.
- 35. After receiving no response, Mrs. Hairr called Greenspun JHS again, and requested to speak directly with the Defendant Principal McKay regarding the treatment of her son and the administrators failed response to the situation. She was told to leave a message for Defendant Principal McKay, but her call was never returned.
- 36. Mrs. Hairr called again to initiate her own complaint process, and was transferred to Defendant Assistant Principal DePiazza. We offered no assistance to remedy the harassment, discrimination, and assaults, and he provided no safety plan. He persistently emphasized that Mrs. Hairr had "choices" in taking her son out of the school and enrolling him elsewhere. He referred Mrs. Hairr to Defendant Dean Winn, and the tenor of the conversation left Mrs. Hairr feeling helpless, in tears, and even more concerned for the safety of her son.

37. Later that day, Nolan and Mrs. Hairr met with Defendant Winn. Winn acknowledged that Nolan was in fact a victim of "bullying" in the form of harassment, discrimination, and physical assaults. Specifically, she was aware that Nolan had been stabbed in his genitals. When discussing disciplinary action, Winn cited the "progressive disciplinary system," meaning incidents would have to be documented, with disciplinary actions progressing gradually per each incident.

- 38. Defendant Dean Winn did not provide any safety plan to ensure Nolan experienced a safe and respectful learning environment, free of the harassment, assaults, and discrimination.
- 39. Mrs. Hairr did not feel comfortable with results of the conversation, but felt hopeful that the school would take appropriate action now that the management-level staff at the school were aware if her concerns. She did not file a police report at this time, assuming Greenspun JHS would take the appropriate actions.
- 40. Shortly after the meeting, the harassment nearly ceased in the band class, but Nolan was still pushed by C.L. as he would leave or return to the class, and called derogatory and discriminatory names. The incidents continued elsewhere in the school. Nolan now reported all incidents to his mother.
- 41. During approximately the last week of September, 2011, Mrs. Hairr continued to report these instances of assaults, harassment, and discriminatory language to Defendant Halpin.
- 42. Shortly thereafter, Mrs. Hairr met with Defendants Counselor Halpin, Dean Wynn, and Teacher Beasley. Defendants assured Mrs. Hairr that the "bullying" would cease. However, the result was only a seating change in band class, which resulting in Ethan, the other known victim, being placed close to C.L. while Nolan finally was seated further away.

	43. After the	seat change,	from abou	t late-Septemb	er to Decer	nber 2011,	Ethan	begar
ec	ceiving most o	f the harassm	ent, discrii	mination, and u	inwanted to	ouching.		

- 44. The discrimination and harassment by C.L. and other students included, over the period of several months, calling Plaintiffs a litany of homophobic and offensive slurs such as "faggot," "fucking faggot," "fucking fat faggot," "gay wad," "gay," "gay boyfriend," "a big fat ass," "dumbass," and "tattle-tale."
- 45. C.L. also accused the boys of "J.O. [jacking off] to each other," and that the boys would, "Put stuff up each other's butts for pleasure."
- 46. In December 2011, C.L. and his friends filmed Ethan while he ate during lunch hour, calling Ethan names and filming his reaction. The perpetrators threatened to post the camera phone video on Youtube.com. Ethan was deeply disturbed by the notion of the bullies publicizing this humiliating taunting and harassment based on his perceived sexual orientation.
- 47. The incidents of harassment, discrimination, and assaults occurred during band class, in hallways, the lunch room, and other areas of the school. Although Ethan was now the primary target, Nolan was targeted too when he was present.
- 48. In December of 2011, Ethan and Nolan witnessed C.L. sexually assaulting another student by groping the student's genitals in the hallway. Ethan and Nolan felt disturbed by the pervasive culture of harassment and sexual assaults tolerated by the school.

# Mrs. Bryan's Additional Contacts with Greenspun JHS Administrators

49. Mrs. Bryan repeatedly e-mailed Greenspun administrators to ask for help addressing the continued harassment of her son Ethan, but the school's response was tepid.

	50. On October 18, 2011, C.L, still sitting next to Ethan, repeatedly hit Ethan in the legs with
a p	piece of his trombone while calling him "big fat ass." Mrs. Bryan informed the staff that the
ph	ysical and verbal assaults were affecting her son and had to stop.

- 51. On October 19, 2011, Mrs. Bryan attempted again to end the bullying by emailing Defendants Principal McKay, Counselor Halpin, and other CCSD officials regarding the ongoing bullying, harassment and assaults. She informed CCSD Defendants of the assault using the trombone, and also that the name-calling has persisted. Mrs. Bryan sought confirmation that her complaints were being addressed.
- 52. The next day, on October 20, 2011, Mrs. Bryan called the school and met with Defendant Dean Winn face-to-face for the first time (after nearly two months of harassment had already taken place): when Dean Winn left Mrs. Bryan with no satisfactory safety plan to prevent the harassment, assaults, and discrimination based on perceived sexual orientation, Mrs. Bryan ultimately asked to volunteer as a monitor to the students, for which Defendant Dean Winn accepted.
- 53. From October 20, 2011 to December 12, 2011, however, Ethan's situation with C.L. did not improve: instead the harassment in band class occurred almost every day, and Ethan was beginning to be greatly affected by the tormenting by C.L. and his friends.
- 54. On December 16, 2011, Ethan witnessed D.M. pulling a Santa Claus hat off of another student. D.M. proceeded to slap the student in the head and threw the student's school materials all over the hallway floor, leaving the student teary-eyed and humiliated.
- 55. A couple of days after this incident, Mrs. Bryan brought the harassment to the attention of Defendant Dean Winn during an informal meeting. Mrs. Bryan summarized this and several other incidents of harassment suffered by Ethan and Nolan. Mrs. Bryan explicitly asked

Defendant Dean Winn why the harassing students C.L. and D.M were not expelled from	
Greenspun. Defendant Winn responded that she needed to keep documenting things so that th	OS
students' discipline could progress under Greenspun's progressive disciplinary system.	
Ultimately, Mrs. Bryan was concerned with the lack of a safety plan for Ethan, Nolan, and	
others.	

56. By January 11, 2012, Ethan had a final breakdown brought upon by the continuous discrimination and harassment he had endured. Ethan had recurring nightmares and needed to sleep with a night-light. Ethan admitted that he felt terrible and depressed, and revealed that he had planned his suicide.

57. On or before February 7, 2012, Mrs. Bryan filed a formal complaint with the CCSD Board of School Trustees regarding Greenspun's lack of effective response in addressing the harassment, assaults, and discrimination based on perceived sexual orientation. Towards Ethan and Nolan.

58. In retaliation, the next day Defendant Assistant Principal DePiazza physically ejected Mrs. Bryan off of the campus when she arrived to assume her volunteer duties for the day and told her she was not welcome there. The incident left Mrs. Bryan anxious, humiliated, ill, and no longer with the ability to monitor the discrimination and harassment suffered by students at the school.

- 59. Mrs. Bryan contacted Defendant Long, Academic Manager for Clark County School District, who assured her that something would be done to address the lack of a safety plan. Mrs. Bryan was given no indication that Mr. Long followed through with any action.
- 60. On February 9, 2012, Defendant Principal McKay called Mr. and Mrs. Bryan and left a voicemail message requesting a meeting. This was the Defendant Principal McKay's first

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attempt in contacting the Bryans since September when he was notified about Ethan and Nolan's harassment. Defendant Principal McKay stated he thought the harassment had ended in October, despite the persistent contact by Mrs. Bryan and Mrs. Hairr. Defendant McKay never followed up with Ethan or the Bryans regarding Ethan's safety from October 2011 until February 2012.

- 61. CCSD Defendants consistently failed to remedy the pervasive perceived sexual orientation discrimination, harassment, and physical and psychological pain Ethan and Nolan suffered. Plaintiffs were depressed and no longer wanted to attend school. Their educational outcomes began to suffer as a result.
- 62. The lack of a response that permeated Greenspun's administration and continued with the no help from CCSD was a blatant disregard and violation of Nolan and Ethan's rights as students in their school district.
- 63. On January 12, 2012, Mrs. Hairr decided to remove Nolan from Greenspun JHS. Only Defendant Dean Winn apologized for the suffering endured by Nolan.
  - 64. By February, Mrs. Bryan had also removed her son, Ethan, from Greenspun JHS.

#### Contacts with CCSD Police

65. Near the end of January, 2012, Mrs. Hairr attempted to file a police report with CCSD Police related to the pervasive harassment, assaults, and discrimination based on perceived sexual orientation. Officers never showed up to their scheduled appointment with Mrs. Hairr. CCSD Police followed up with a phone call discouraging Mrs. Hairr from filing a formal report. 66. On February 7, 2012, due to the numerous complaints of Mrs. Hairr and Mrs. Bryan, Defendants Trustee Young and Academic Manager Long met with the Hairrs and Bryans

regarding the incidents. Long did not provide the Plaintiffs with the assurance of a safety plan or

a plan to end the pervasive discrimination, and otherwise provided no assistance to the families.

Long explained that Mrs. Hairr or Mrs. Bryan could still volunteer if they needed.

- 67. After this meeting, CCSD Defendants never followed up with Plaintiffs or offered any support. When Plaintiffs attempted to reach Defendant Academic Manager Andre Long, they were told he could no longer assist them.
- 68. On February 9, 2012, Mrs. Bryan, Mrs. Hairr, Ethan, Nolan, along with another victim and mother, met with CCSD Police Officer Gervasi, to file a Crime Report. The officer discouraged filing the report, but Plaintiffs insisted and filed a report detailing the incidents that had occurred against Nolan and Ethan. CCSD Police indicated that the incidents were now part of a criminal investigation and "further investigation is warranted."
- 69. The Crime Report detailed the bullying and discriminatory conduct and language. [See Exhibit 1]. Plaintiffs detailed the sexual assault, harassment, inappropriate touching, and other actions endured by Plaintiffs. Each victim completed their own statements. Nolan wrote of the genital stabbing incident, him being called a "Fagot boy," among other language, and other acts. Nolan also detailed the many Greenspun JHS staff he reported to, but how the harassment did not stop. Ethan spoke of his reporting a well, and the retaliation he faced, such as being stabbed by C.L. with a trombone. He also reported being called "gay" among other names. He revealed his desire to leave the school out of fear.
- 70. Officer Gervasi was dismissive to Plaintiffs, and commented, "If I had to file a report every time a girl's boob was grabbed, I'd be filing reports all day."
- 71. CCSD Police responded to the report with no action. Plaintiffs again felt CCSD was unwilling to take their complaints seriously.

# Contacts with Nevada Equal Rights Commission (NERC)

72.	In an effort to	find a meaning	ful avenue of	oversight.	Plaintiffs apr	roached NERC.
	*** **** *** ***	Transact or rest or every	water and arrange my		Transfer of L	Total and Timerro.

73. The legislature has declared a strong public policy towards the obligation of NERC to "protect the welfare, prosperity, health and peace of all the people of the State, and to foster the right of all persons to seek and be granted the services in places of public accommodation without discrimination, distinction, or restriction because of [...] sexual orientation..." N.R.S. § 233.010(2). Sexual orientation is defined as "having or being perceived as having an orientation of heterosexuality, homosexuality or bisexuality." N.R.S. § 233.020(6).

74. In order to facilitate this public policy, NERC's administrator is authorized to "investigate tensions, practices of discrimination and acts of prejudice against any person or group" because of sexual orientation. N.R.S. § 233.150(1)(a). Further, NERC has the authority and obligation pursuant Nevada's strong public policy to remedy discrimination to mediate between parties, and in the course of an investigation or hearing, issue subpoenas to witnesses, order the production of documents or other tangible evidence. N.R.S. § 233.150(2),(3).

75. NERC must accept "any complaint alleging unlawful discriminatory practice over which it has jurisdiction..." N.R.S. § 233.157. NERC must also ensure that a process is in place to address these complaints. Id.

76. When attempting to mediate after an investigation and finding of probable cause, NERC must hold a meeting between parties to attempt to achieve a resolution, and ensure the respondent will cease the discriminatory activity. N.A.C. § 233.130(1). This must be followed by a disposition of the case in writing, and notice to all parties involved. Id.

77. Further, NERC may hold a public hearing if attempts to mediate or conciliate between parties fail, and after such a hearing may order a party to cease and desist unlawful practices.

N.R.S. § 233.170 (3),(3)(b)(1). NERC has wide ranging authority in conducting such a hearing

to come to a determination or decision. This authority includes, but is not limited to, calling and
examining witnesses, issuing subpoenas (and applying to the district court for enforcement),
taking depositions and obtaining discovery, regulating the hearing itself, and holding
conferences, N.A.C. § 233.160

- 78. NERC regulations mandate a liberal construction of its rule of practice to secure just, speedy and economical determination of all issues before it." N.A.C. § 233.020(1) (emphasis added).
- 79. According to the plain language of the NERC enabling statute and Nevada Supreme Court's interpretation of N.R.S. § 651.050(3)(k), discrimination in public school is prohibited because public schools are places of public accommodation.
- 80. The definition of "place of public accommodation" includes "[a]ny nursery, private school or university or other place of education." N.R.S. § 651.050(3)(k) (emphasis added). Public schools clearly qualify as a place of education based on a plain reading of the statute.
- 81. The Nevada Supreme Court has unequivocally determined that NERC's jurisdiction extends to public schools in Clark County Sch. Dist. v. Buchanan, 924 P.2d 716 (1996). The case specifically cites N.R.S. § 651.050(3)(k) in finding a public school (CCSD) is in fact a place of public accommodation and therefore an individual in that setting was entitled to protections under the statute. Id. at 719.
- 82. NERC's mandate extends to violations pursuant N.R.S. § 651.110, which states that "[a]ny person who believes he or she has been denied full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages and accommodations of any place of public accommodation because of discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin,

disability, sexual orientation, sex, gender identity or expression may file a complaint to that equal effect with the Nevada Equal Rights Commission."

83. NERC has a responsibility to act as an avenue of redress for discrimination in public accommodations. Thus, a student should be able to complain when he or she has been denied full and equal enjoyment of goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages and accommodations of any place of public accommodation," such as public schools, "because of discrimination or segregation based on race, color religion, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, sex, gender identity or expression." N.R.S. § 651.110.

84. In a letter dated July 18, 2012, Plaintiffs detailed the discrimination endured at Greenspun JHS, the non-responsiveness of CCSD Plaintiffs, and their desire to file a complaint with NERC based on these events. The letter sought confirmation that the case would be accepted, and enclosed were Plaintiffs' filled-out "Charge of Public Accommodation Complaint Form[s]" and a detailed outline of discriminatory acts and requests for assistance.

85. In letters dated August 31, 2012, NERC scheduled Nolan and Ethan for "In Person appointment[s]": on Tuesday, September 18, 2012 for both Nolan and Ethan. The letters stated this appointment was designed to "determine whether the allegations of your client's complaint fall within the jurisdiction of the Commission." The letters further stated that, "[s]hould your client's complaint be deemed non-jurisdictional, you will receive a dismissal letter."

- 86. Based on these September 18 meetings, NERC accepted Plaintiffs filed complaints of public accommodation discrimination based on perceived sexual orientation.
- 87. In letters dated September 26, 2012, NERC provided copies of Plaintiffs' complaints along with proposed remedies for Plaintiffs' signature. The complaints included the allegations of public accommodation discrimination, including Greenspuns JHS and CCSD's failure to act.

The remedies included requests that respondents alter their procedural practices to comport with existing state law and CCSD policy. Further, Plaintiffs requested specific changes to ensure proper implementation, such as annual trainings by NERC, weekly meetings regarding contemporaneous discrimination and harassment incidents, and annual meetings with Greenspun JHS students to teach about bullying, harassment, and discrimination. The remedies also included a request for actual damages, damages awarding costs related to litigation, attorney's fees, and other monetary relief deemed appropriate pursuant N.R.S. § 651.090.

- 88. Plaintiffs timely signed the documents and returned to them NERC.
- 89. In letters dated October 15, 2012, NERC informed Plaintiffs of two scheduled "Informal Settlement Meetings" [ISMs]. The letter in regards to Nolan's complaint scheduled the ISM for 8:30AM on Thursday, November 29th. The letter regarding Ethan's complaint scheduled his ISM for 2PM that same day.
- 90. NERC cancelled Nolan's ISM. NERC stated that the meeting would be rescheduled for December, 2012. They told Mrs. Hairr she would receive another notice letter with an exact date and time of the rescheduled meeting.
- 91. Ethan's scheduled ISM did occur via telephone conference. The meeting included the Dennis Maginot, NERC Commission Administrator, Scott Greenburg, Carlos McDade, CCSD attorney, Mrs. Bryan and Ethan, and Katrina Rogers, staff attorney at ACLU of Nevada. Mr. Maginot openly stated that NERC should and does have jurisdiction over the schools, but hesitated to fully commit to a thorough investigation. This was very disheartening to Mrs. Bryan and Ethan, who began to feel the agency would not adequately address their matter.
- 92. The ISM yielded no results, but NERC agreed to be continue to engage in settlement and advised Plaintiffs to draft a proposed remedy.

93. Maginot stated that it would take two to three months before the case wou	ıld be assigned
to an investigator, and approximately an additional six months to investigate. Acc	cording to
NERC's representations. Plaintiffs expected a decision by September, 2013.	

- 94. NERC never contacted Mrs. Hairr to reschedule their cancelled November 29 ISM.
- 95. In a letter dated February 13, 2013, Plaintiffs supplied proposed changes, at NERC's request, to CCSD policies and implementation, along with new enforcement mechanisms to remedy the failure of the part of school officials and the district to appropriately handle Plaintiffs' complaints, and requested money damages.
- 96. In June 10, 2013, NERC responded that the since the informal settlement conferences yielded no result (even though Mrs. Hairr and Nolan never participated in an ISM), an investigator, Lila Vizcarra, would now be assigned to an investigation. (NERC's original two to three month timeline to assign an investigator had been extended to **over six months**).
- 97. The letters also summarized CCSD and GJHS' position. The district and school denied the allegations of discrimination, and they stated they responded appropriately to both Nolan and Ethan's incidents. They also stated that at no time were they aware of harassment discriminatory in nature. Further, respondents attempted to draw a distinction between official reporting versus more informal reporting. In sum, they attested that they had an effective bullying policy that was implemented appropriately.
- 98. The response from CCSD and GJHS spanned about a page, with only conclusory statements pointing to no wrongdoing some of which were in direct contradiction to recorded accounts.
- 99. NERC requested a detailed response from Plaintiffs and various documents, such as telephone records spanning several months, all emails between Plaintiffs and school officials,

report cards, police reports, contact information for all witnesses, along with a summary of their testimony, and any other relevant information.

- 100. NERC requested the information by June 25, 2013, only fifteen days from the date of the letter.
- 101. In letters dated July 26, 2013, Plaintiffs responded to Greenspun JHS and CCSD's position. In addition to providing NERC with all the requested documents, Plaintiffs detailed the assaults, harassment, and discrimination faced by Nolan and Ethan, and they explained that the lack of information claimed by the CCSD Defendants in their response illustrates the failed reporting system and unwillingness to ensure a safe and respectful learning environment.
- 102. Further, Plaintiffs detailed CCSD's own bullying policy, which does not require formal reporting, but instead states that any CCSD employee who "witnesses, overhears, or receives a report, formal or informal, [...] shall report it to the principal or principal designee." See CCSD Policy P-5137(IV)(A)(2).
- 103. Further, Plaintiffs detailed several communications with the school regarding the safety of the students, and how many of these emails should have resulted in immediate involvement of the principal, but did not.
- 104. Plaintiffs took issue with the enormous burden the respondent put on Ethan specifically to report the sensitive and embarrassing harassment details, and essentially using this as a reason not to investigate.
- 105. The responses also detailed the issues Plaintiffs faced when filing a police report, reporting generally, retaliation faced by Mrs. Bryan, among other issues.

106.	Further, the responses detailed several remedies the Plaintiffs expected – including a
referenc	ce to the New Jersey Anti-Bullying Act as a model to highlight deficiencies in CCSD'
current	policies and procedures.

107. Plaintiffs requested, pursuant N.R.S. § 233.190(3)(a), that NERC ask for consent from Greenspun JHS and CCSD to disclose information gathered in the course of investigation, including records of communication at Greenspun JHS and CCSD regarding the bullying of Ethan and Nolan, and Mrs. Bryan's ejection, all documentation related to the investigation, and all documentation of meetings with Plaintiffs.

108. Plaintiffs never received any response regarding their request for documents and information gathered during the course of the investigation. Plaintiffs were never informed as to whether CCSD and Greenspun JHS were asked or gave consent for the disclosure of these materials.

109. Several months later, on November 5, 2013, Plaintiffs requested via email from NERC an update on the status of the investigation. Specifically, Plaintiffs sought timelines for the conclusion of the investigation and any remedial action. NERC's initial estimate for a final decision of the case, September 2013, had passed. Plaintiffs were concerned that NERC had failed to take any action, and Plaintiffs informed Ms. Vizcarra that they may need to evaluate other forms of redress.

110. In an email dated the same day, Defendant Kara Jenkins, NERC Commission

Administrator, responded stating that Ms. Vizcarra was on leave and when she gets back in, "I

will get back to you first thing." No timeline was given as to when Ms. Vizcarra would return,

nor was any timeline or update given on the status of the case.

111.	Further, Ms. Jenkins stated	"You may still proceed to advocate for your clients; our
nvestig	gation is "not adversarial."	

- 112. Troubled by this assertion, Plaintiffs responded via email later that same day. Plaintiffs explained that although fact-finding should be inherently objective, NERC has not only the authority, but the obligation, to address, remedy, and eliminate unlawful discrimination. To respond to an email requesting an update on the timeline and the possibility of remedial measures with an assertion that investigation are "not adversarial" raised flags about the dedication of NERC to the Plaintiffs' complaint.
- 113. Further, Plaintiffs reminded NERC that it was expressly created to prevent and address a broad range of unlawful acts and practices. NERC has the authority and obligation to eliminate discrimination in Nevada. N.R.S. § 233.010(2).
- 114. In a call dated February 25, 2014, Plaintiffs again sought an update from NERC on the status of a case, and requested a timeline for a conclusion to the investigation.
- 115. Defendant Commission Administrator Jenkins stated that "just because Plaintiffs had ACLU attorneys, that did not mean they would be given special treatment." She also felt that Plaintiffs' emails that expressed frustration as to the lack of information and timeline, and seemingly lack of commitment by NERC, were unwelcome
- 116. When asked about a timeline, she stated, "I need to manage your expectations. These cases can take over two years." Plaintiffs attempted to affirm this timeline. Ms. Jenkins promptly corrected herself stating that every case is different, and there is no guarantee this investigation would be completed in two years. She said she would only say "the case is moving forward," but all other information was confidential.

117. Most troubling, was her closing statement in which she said, "You have to understand, NERC has a complicated relationship with CCSD."

118. Plaintiffs were forced to file the present action due to NERC's capricious unwillingness to pursue the investigation of serious and pervasive harassment and discrimination of Ethan and Nolan.

119. NERC took no action, issued no final decision, and failed to do anything to protect these and other students over the course of nearly two years. As a result, Plaintiffs were forced to file the present action.

#### CLAIMS FOR RELIEF: CCSD DEFENDANTS

## CLAIM FOR RELIEF I NEGLIGENCE

- 120. All allegations set forth in this Complaint are hereby incorporated by reference.
- 121. The standards to establish a negligence claim were set forth by the Nevada Supreme Court in, Foster v. Costco Wholesale Corp., 291 P.3d 150 (2012); DeBoer v. Sr. Bridges of Sparks Fam. Hosp., 282 P.3d 727, 732 (2012); see also, Scialabba v. Brandise Const. Co., 921 P.2d 928, 930 (Nev.1996). [A] plaintiff must demonstrate that (1) the defendant owed the plaintiff a duty of care, (2) the defendant breached that duty, (3) the breach was the legal cause of the plaintiff's injuries, and (4) the plaintiff suffered damages.
- 122. The Nevada Supreme Court has expressly stated that a special duty exists between teachers and students in Lee v. GNLVCorp., 117 Nev. 291, 22 P.3d 209 (2001).

In Nevada, as under the common law, strangers are generally under no duty to aid those in peril. See Sims v. General Telephone & Electronics, 107 Nev. 516, 525, 815 P.2d 151, 157 (1991) (overruled on other grounds in Tucker v. Action Equipment and Scaffold Co., Inc., 113 Nev. 1349, 951 P.2d 1027 (Nev. 1997)). This court, however, has stated that, where a special relationship exists between the parties, such as with an innkeeper-guest, teacher-student or

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v. at 296, 22 P.3d at 212. See also, Beckman v. Match.com, No. 2:13 CV 97 JCM NJK.2013 WL 2355512 at \*8 (D.Nev., May 29, 2013).

employer-employee, an affirmative duty to aid others in peril is imposed by law.

See Sims, at 526, 815 P.2d at 157-58 (citing W. Page Keeton et al., Prosser and

Keeton on the Law of Torts, § 56, at 376).

123. In our sister state, the California Supreme Court explained the rationale behind the special teacher-student relationship, and basis for the duty of schools, school districts and school personnel to protect students placed in their care.

In addition, a school district and its employees have a special relationship with the district's pupils, a relationship arising from the mandatory character of school attendance and the comprehensive control over students exercised by school personnel, "analogous in many ways to the relationship between parents and their children .- (Hoff v. Vacaville Unified School Dist. (1998) 19 Cal.4th 925, 935, 80 Cal.Rptr.2d 811, 968 P.2d 522, see M.W. v. Panama Buena Vista Union School Dist. (2003) 110 Cal.App.4th 508, 517, 1 Cal.Rptr.3d 673; Leger v. Stockton Unified School Dist., (1988) 202 Cal.App.3d at 1448,1458-1459, 249 Cal.Rptr. 688.) Because of this special relationship, imposing obligations beyond what each person generally owes others under Civil Code section 1714, the duty of care owed by school personnel includes the duty to use reasonable measures to protect students from foreseeable injury at the hands of third parties acting negligently or intentionally.FN3 This principle has been applied in cases of employees' alleged negligence resulting in injury to a student by another student (J.H. v. Los Angeles Unified School Dist. (2010) 183 Cal.App.4th 123, 128-129, 141-148, . . .

C.A. v. William S. Hart Union High School Dist., 53 Cal.4th 861, 270 P.3d 699 (2012), 53Cal.4th at 869-870, 270 P. 2d at 704-705.

124. The William S. Hart Union High School Dist. Court explained that the special duty to students at school stated that the duty is in accord with public policy set forth in, Cal. Const., art. I, § 28, subd. (a)(7) (students have the right to be safe and secure in their persons); and Cal. Ed.Code, §§ 32228-32228.5, 35294.10-35294.15 (establishing various school safety and violence prevention programs). 53 Cal.4th at 870, 270 P. 2d at 705. In Nevada, the statutory parallel appears in NRS Chapter 388. In both Nevada and California, the legislatures have made

a clear and unmistakable statement that school districts have an unequivocal responsibility to protect the students placed in their care, particularly when they have been made aware of a specific danger to specific students.

- 125. Defendants breached their duty to Ethan and Nolan by failing to adequately protect them after they learned of the bullying the boy had endured and were enduring, thereby depriving them of a safe and respectful learning environment; by failing to adequately investigate the bullying she endured, and by failing to adequately address the discrimination, harassment, and pervasive bullying Ethan and Nolan faced at Truman White Middle School.
- 126. As a proximate result of CCSD Defendants' negligence, practices, acts and omissions, Ehan and Nolan suffered immediate and irreparable injury, including physical, psychological and emotional injury, including her own death.
- 127. As a proximate result of CCSD Defendants' negligence, practices, acts and omissions, Ethan and Nolan suffered immediate and irreparable injury, including physical, psychological and emotional injury.

## CLAIM FOR RELIEF II NEGLIGENCE PER SE: VIOLATIONS OF N.R.S. AND CCSD POLICIES

- 128. All allegations set forth in this Complaint are hereby incorporated by reference.
- 129. Defendant's failure to ensure the safety of Plaintiffs also violated statutes designed to protect the class of individuals to which Ethan and Nolan belong, namely students in the public school system. See N.R.S. Chapter 392 Pupils, et seq. The failure of CCSD Defendants to implement appropriate disciplinary and safety strategies in protecting Ethan and

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Nolan, as	s required by	school and d	istrict policies.	and regulations.	and Nevada	state law	amounts
o a negli	igence per se						

- 130. In Barnes v. Delta Lines, 669 P.2d 709, 710 (1983), the Nevada Supreme Court held that "when a defendant violates a statute which was designed to protect a class of persons to which the plaintiff belongs, and thereby proximately causes injury to the plaintiff, such a violation constitutes negligence per se." See also, Brannan v. Nevada Rock & Sand Co., 108 Nev. 23, 27, 823 P.2d 291, 293 (1992); Atkinson v. MGM Grand Hotel, 120 Nev. 639, 643 98 P.3d 678, 680 (2004).
- 131. In NRS § 388.132, entitled "Legislative declaration concerning safe and respectful learning environment" the Legislature declared that:
  - A learning environment that is safe and respectful is essential for the pupils enrolled in the public schools in this State to achieve academic success and meet this State's high academic standards:
  - 2. Any form of bullying or cyber-bullying seriously interferes with the ability of teachers to teach in the classroom and the **ability of pupils** to learn; (emphasis added)
- 132. As pupils enrolled in the CCSD school system, Ethan and Nolan fit squarely within the class that the NRS § 388.132 was designed to protect.
  - 133. NRS § 388.132 (4) states that:

The intended goal of the Legislature is to ensure that:

- (a) The public schools in this State provide a safe and respectful learning environment in which persons of differing beliefs, characteristics and backgrounds can realize their full academic and personal potential;
- (b) All administrators, principals, teachers and other personnel of the school districts and public schools in this State demonstrate appropriate behavior on the premises of any public school by treating other persons, including, without limitation, pupils, with civility and respect and by refusing to tolerate bullying and cyber-bullying; (emphasis added)
- 134. Defendants did not "refuse to tolerate" the bullying of Ethan and Nolan.

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	135.	This failure to	"refuse to tolerate	"the bullying that	they were well	aware of
r	oxima	tely caused con	tinued injury to Et	han and Nolan.		

- 136. Defendants' violation of NRS § 388.132 through the failure to adequately act to protect Ethan and Nolan, thus allowing the harassment and discrimination to continue, constitutes negligence per se.
- 137. N.R.S. § 392.915 prohibits the use in public schools of language or other means to knowingly threaten the use of bodily harm through with the intent to "[i]ntimidate, harass, frighten, alarm or distress a pupil."
- 138. N.R.S. § 392.910(1) prohibits any person from disturbing the peace in a public school "by using vile or indecent language within the building or grounds of the school."

  Further, it is unlawful for a person to assault a pupil on school grounds pursuant this statute.

  N.R.S. 392.910 (2)(a).
- 139. N.R.S. § 392.4645 requires that a plan be developed which provides for the temporary removal of a pupil if, in the judgment of a teacher, the pupil seriously interferes with the teacher's ability to teach or a student's ability to learn.
  - 140. No such plan was developed in the case of the bullying of Ethan and Nolan.
- 141. N.R.S. § 392.4647 requires the establishment of a committee, consisting of the school principal and two teachers who are selected for membership by a majority of the school's teachers, in order to review the temporary alternative placement of pupils.
- 142. No such committee was established in the case of the bullying of Ethan and Nolan.

143.	The injuries suffered by Et	than and Nolan are of the very type the NRS Chapter
392 provisio	ons were designed to prevent,	See Vega v. Eastern Courtyard Associates, 24 P.3d
219, 221 (20	001).	

- 144. Defendants' violation of the aforementioned provisions of NRS § Chapter 291, through the failure to take the proper steps to protect Ethan and Nolan, thus allowing the harassment and discrimination to continue, constitutes negligence per se.
- 145. Clark County School District policy P-5137 prohibits violence, threats of violence, and harassment, were not implemented.
- 146. The failure of the CCSD Defendants to provide a safe and respectful learning environment for all students, regardless of their "perceived sexual orientation," constitutes a violation of their statutory duties. Further, their inaction, resulted in a school setting that more than tolerated bullying.
- 147. CCSD Defendants failed to train and/or require the training of CCSD personnel, failed to review associated policies, failed to enforce statutory and school district policies related to securing a safe and respectful learning environment, or take other actions that could have avoided the injuries to Ethan and Nolan.
- 148. As a proximate result of CCSD Defendants negligence, practices, acts and omissions, Ethan and Nolan suffered immediate and irreparable injury, including physical, psychological and emotional injury.
- 149. Defendants' violation of the aforementioned CCSD policies resulting in the failure to adequately act to protect Ethan and Nolan, thus allowing the harassment and discrimination to continue, constitutes negligence per se.

## CCSD ONLY - CLAIM FOR RELIEF III VIOLATIONS OF TITLE IX, 20 USC § 1681(A)

150.	All allegations set	forth in this C	Complaint are hereby	y incorporated by reference

- 151. CCSD receives federal funds
- 152. Based on the receipt of federal funds, CCSD is subject to Title IX requirements. 20 USC § 1681(a).
- 153. Section 901(a) of Title IX provides, "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

  20 USC § 1681(a).
- 154. Under Title IX, student on student harassment and bullying based upon perceived sexual orientation is actionable. See, Ray v. Antioch School District, 107 F.Supp.2d 1165, 1170 (N.D.Cal. 2000); Montgomery v. Independent School Dist. No. 709, 109 F.Supp.2d 10811090-1091 (D.Minn. 2000).
- Liability under Title IX for student-student sexual harassment: (1) the school district "must exercise substantial control over both the harasser and the context in which the known harassment occurs", (2) the plaintiff must suffer "sexual harassment ... that is so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it can be said to deprive the victims of access to the educational opportunities or benefits provided by the school", (3) the school district must have "actual knowledge of the harassment", and (4) the school district's "deliberate indifference subjects its students to harassment". See, Henkle v. Gregory, 150 F.Supp.2d 1067, 107701978 (D. Nev. 2001).
- 156. Deliberate indifference is "the conscious or reckless disregard of the consequences of ones acts or omissions." Henkle v. Gregory, 150 F.Supp.2 at 1078.

157.	Defendants exercised substantial control over both the harassers of Ethan and
Nolan, as w	rell as the context in which the known harassment occurred.

- 158. The harassment of Ethan and Nolan is so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it can be said to deprive the victims of access to the educational opportunities or benefits provided by the school", as evidenced by physical, psychological injuries that required them both to be transferred to a different school in order to escape the bullying.
- 159. CCSD had actual knowledge of the sexual harassment endured by Ethan and Nolan, as evidenced by the numerous complaints and contacts made to Defendants by Ethan and Nolan's parents.
  - 160. The harassment was "severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive."
- As a whole, and/or as individual school administrators, Defendants responded to the harassment with deliberate indifference, as they demonstrated "the conscious or reckless disregard" of the consequences of their acts or omissions in the form of a failure to take the necessary steps to end the bullying, and to adhere to the requirements of statue and of CCSD's own policies.
- 162. An implied private right of action exists to enforce Title IX mandates, through which a Plaintiff may obtain both injunctive relief and damages. Cannon v. University of Chicago, 441 U.S. 677, 717 (1979); Franklin v. Gwinnett County Public Schools, 503 U.S. 60, 76 (1992).
- 163. Punitive damages may be warranted for a Title XI violation. Henkle v. Gregory,150 F.Supp.2 at 1078.

## CLAIM FOR RELIEF IV VIOLATIONS OF STATE AND FEDERAL EQUAL PROTECTION GUARANTEES 42 U.S.C. § 1983

164. All allegations set forth in this Complaint are hereby incorporated by referer	164.	All allegations set forth i	in this Comp	laint are hereby	incorporated by	y reference
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- 165. N.R.S. Const. Art. 4, § 21 states that "...all laws shall be general and of uniform operation throughout the State."
- 166. The standard for testing claims made under N.R.S. Const. Art. 4, § 21 is the same as under the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution. See, In re Candelaria, 245 P.3d 518, 523 (2010).
- 167. Nevada looks to the federal equal protection clause for guidance on interpretation.
  Laakonen v. Eighth Judicial Dist. Ct., 538 P. 2d 574 (1975).
- 168. Under the federal interpretation, an equal protection violation occurs when Defendants "act[] under color of state law, discriminate[] against [plaintiffs] as members of an identifiable class and [] the discrimination was intentional." See Flores v. Morgan Hill Unified School Dist., 324 F.3d 1130, 1134 (9th Cir. 2010) (students perceived as LGBT sued regarding school's lack of response to complaints of harassment).
- 169. "Equal Protection allows different classifications of treatment, but the classifications must be reasonable." Flamingo Paradise Gaming, LLC v, Chanos, 125 Nev. 502, 520, 217 P.3d 546, 558 (2009).
- 170. Members of an identifiable class based on sexual orientation are protected from discrimination under the Equal Protection Clause. Id.
- 171. Ethan and Nolan were students at Greenspun Junior High School, who were entitled to the same level of protection from bullying and harassment as all other children attending school within the Clark County School District.

172.	Classifications on the basis of sexual orientation are subject to heightened
scrutiny un	der the Equal Protection Clause. See, Latta v. Otter, F.3d , Nos. 14-35420,
14–35421,	12–17668, 2014 WL 4977682 at *4 (9 <sup>th</sup> Cir. Oct. 7 2014).
173.	The disparate treatment of Ethan and Nolan being bullied based on perceived
sexual orie	ntation, and Defendants allowing the bullying in school to continue unabated, until
their paren	ts finally removed them from the school, in order to insure their safety, resulted in
different tre	eatment based on a suspect class.
174.	The standard and requisite actions that a school personnel is mandated to take is
set forth in	the District's policies concerning matters of bullying of students, as set forth above.
175.	Such normal and mandated procedures were not followed in the case of Ethan an
Nolan.	
176.	When a Defendants treat complaints of harassment based on sexual orientation
differently	than other complaints, for example by not following school district disciplinary anti-
harassment	and anti-discrimination policies, plaintiffs can establish a violation of their rights
under the e	equal protection clause. Flores, 324 F.3d at 1134.
177.	As an independent equal protection challenge, Plaintiffs observe that Defendants
displayed o	deliberate indifference, which means defendants were "clearly unreasonable" in their
response to	peer harassment. Davis v. Monroe County Bd. of Educ., 526 U.S. 629, 649, 119 S.C.

1661, 143 L.Ed.2d 839 (1999) (Fifth grade student sued school board under Title IX for failure to address peer sexual harassment).

Despite a complete and thorough record of notice, Defendants failed to follow-up 178. and investigate the incidents. They did not follow their own District policies, nor state law

related to discrimination and harassment at public schools. They further prohibited Mrs. Bryan from volunteering and monitoring the harassment herself.

- 179. Defendants were deliberately indifferent to the harm suffered by Plaintiffs, and thus violated Ethan and Nolan rights. Defendants were aware of the continuing nature of the bullying and harassment of Ethan and Nolan.
- 180. Yet Defendants did not physically separate Ethan and Nolan from their tormentors, even though it would have been easy for Defendants to do.
- 181. Defendants also chose not to develop safety plans, but instead left withdrawal from school as the only safe alternative.
- Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983, a student may raise constitutional claims against a school district, its governing board and superintendent, for an inadequate response to peer on peer sexual harassment. Fitzgerald v. Barnstable School Committee, 555 U.S. 246 (2009). The 42 U.S.C. § 1983 claims are applicable to the federal claims.
- 183. Deliberate indifference is established when a state actor "disregarded a known or obvious consequence of his action." Patel, 648 F.3d at 974, quoting Bryan Cnty. v. Brown, 520 U.S. 397, 410, 117 S.Ct. 1382, 137 L.Ed.2d 626 (1997).
- 184. On numerous and documented occasions, Defendants were notified as to the harassment and injuries endured by the Plaintiffs. By forcing Nolan and Ethan to sit next to their harasser, and otherwise not developing a safety plan to ensure the safety of Plaintiffs, Defendants were deliberately indifferent to the risk and knew the result would be further harassment and physical harm.
- 185. Because of this disparate treatment, Defendants violated Plaintiffs' rights to equal protection under both Nevada and the United States Constitutions.

# CLAIM FOR RELIEF V VIOLATIONS OF UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION: SUBSTANTIVE DUE PROCESS 42 USC § 1983

186. All allegations set forth in this Complaint are hereby incorporated by reference.

187. When a state actor engages in "affirmative conduct" that places a plaintiff in danger and acts with "deliberate indifference" to a "known and obvious danger," the state actor has violated a plaintiff's substantive due process right under the state created danger doctrine under the Fourteenth Amendment Due Process Clause of the U.S. Constitution. Patel v. Kent School Dist., 648 F.3d 965, 974 (9th Cir. 2011).

- 188. Deliberate indifference is established when a state actor "disregarded a known or obvious consequence of his action." Patel, 648 F.3d at 974, quoting Bryan Cnty. v. Brown, 520 U.S. 397, 410, 117 S.Ct. 1382, 137 L.Ed.2d 626 (1997).
- 189. On numerous and documented occasions, Defendants were notified as to the harassment and injuries endured by the Plaintiffs.
- 190. By forcing Nolan and Ethan to sit next to their harasser, and otherwise not developing a safety plan to ensure the safety of Plaintiffs, Defendants CCSD, Trustees, and Greenspun JHS were deliberately indifferent to the risk and knew the result would be further harassment and physical harm.
- 191. Further, by prohibiting Mrs. Bryan from volunteering, Defendants at Greenspun JHS were aware of the immediate danger and were indifferent to parental efforts to mitigate it.
- 192. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983, a student may raise constitutional claims against a school district, its governing board and superintendent, for an inadequate response to peer on peer sexual harassment. Fitzgerald v. Barnstable School Committee, 555 U.S. 246 (2009).

## PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Wherefore Plaintiffs respectfully requests this Court:

- For declaratory judgment that Defendants' policies, practices and conduct as alleged herein were/are in violation of Plaintiffs' rights under the United States Constitution, and Nevada law;
- 2. For injunctive relief;
- 3. For damages in an amount according to proof;
- 4. Punitive damages;
- 5. For attorneys' fees as provided by law;
- 6. For costs of suit; and
- 7. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

## JURY TRIAL DEMAND

Plaintiffs hereby demand that this matter be tried by a jury, pursuant the Seventh Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, as to all claims for damages.

Dated this 10<sup>th</sup> day of October 2014 Respectfully submitted by:

/s/ Allen Lichtenstein
Allen Lichtenstein, Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 3992
Staci Pratt, Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 12630
Allen Lichtenstein, Ltd.
3315 Russell Road, No. 222
Las Vegas, NV 89120
Tel: 702-433-2666
Fax: 702-433-9591
allaw@lvcoxmail.com
staciipratt@gmail.com

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Attorneys for Plaintiffs

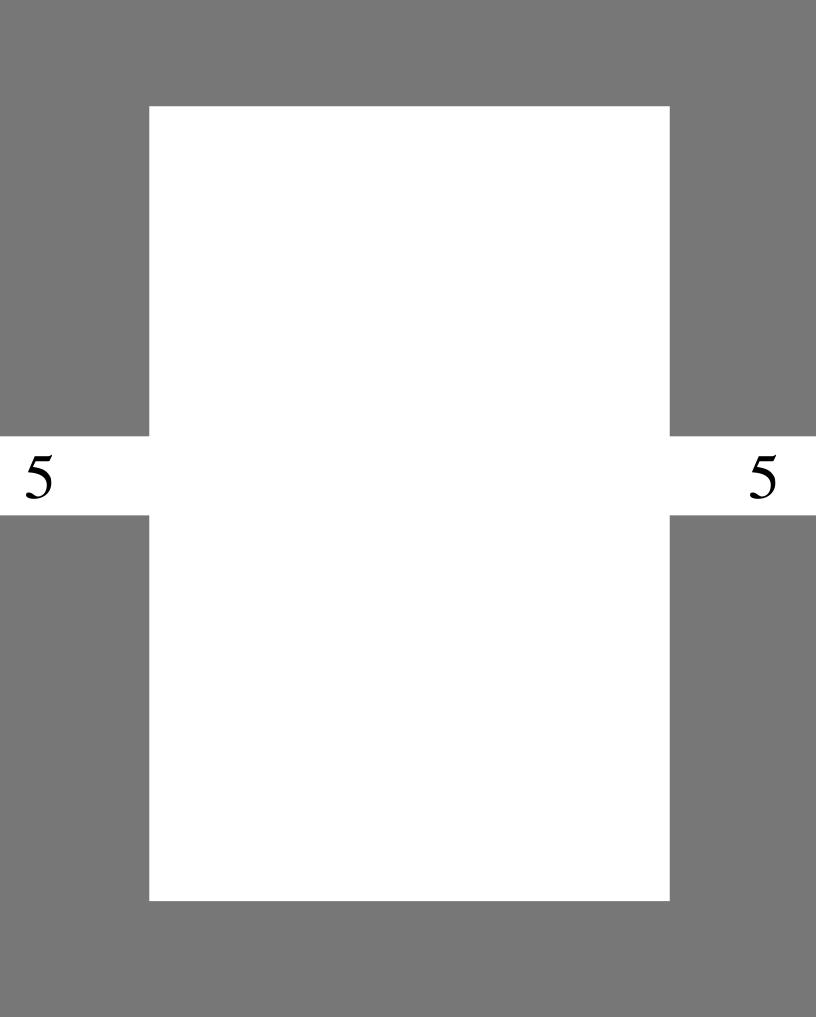
Bryan-Hairr Complaint - 35

 CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I served the foregoing Amended Complaint to the following, via email and United States Mail, postage prepaid from Las Vegas, Nevada, on this 10th day of October 2014.

Daniel Polsenberg, Esq. Lewis Roca Rothgerber, LLP 3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 600 Las Vegas, NV 89169-5996

/s/ Allen Lichtenstein



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**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

**EXH** 

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1 Allen Lichtenstein, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 3992 2

Staci Pratt, Esq. 3

Nevada Bar 12630

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Las Vegas, NV 89120

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stacijpratt@gmail.com

Attorneys for the Plaintiffs

#### EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

#### CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

MARY BRYAN, mother of ETHAN BRYAN; AIMEE HAIRR, mother of NOLAN HAIRR,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD); Pat Skorkowsky, in his official capacity as CCSD superintendent; CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; Erin A. Cranor, Linda E. Young, Patrice Tew, Stavan Corbett, Carolyn Edwards, Chris Garvey, Deanna Wright, in their official capacities as CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; GREENSPUN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL (GJHS); Principal Warren P. McKay, in his individual and official capacity as principal of GJHS; Leonard DePiazza, in his individual and official capacity as assistant principal at GJHS; Cheryl Winn, in her individual and official capacity as Dean at GJHS; John Halpin, in his individual and official capacity as counselor at GJHS; Robert Beasley, in his individual and official capacity as instructor at GJHS.

Case No.: A-14-700018-C

**EXHIBIT TO FIRST AMENDED** COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, AND DAMAGES

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED EXEMPT FROM ARBITRATION

Bryan-Hairr Complaint - 1

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Come now Plaintiffs, by and through the undersigned attorneys, and file this Exhibit to the Amended Complaint.

Dated this 10<sup>th</sup> day of October 2014

Respectfully submitted by:

/s/ Allen Lichtenstein Allen Lichtenstein, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 3992 Staci Pratt, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 12630 Allen Lichtenstein, Ltd. 3315 Russell Road, No. 222 Las Vegas, NV 89120 Tel: 702-433-2666 Fax: 702-433-9591 allaw@lvcoxmail.com stacijpratt@gmail.com

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I served the foregoing Exhibit to the Amended Complaint to the following, via email and United States Mail, postage prepaid from Las Vegas, Nevada, on this 10th day of October 2014.

Daniel Polsenberg, Esq. Lewis Roca Rothgerber, LLP 3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 600 Las Vegas, NV 89169-5996

/s/ Allen Lichtenstein

DR# /202-010;

## CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICE DEPARTMENT

## STATEMENT REPORT

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## CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICE DEPARTMENT

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## CRIME REPORT - NARRATIVE

1202-01070

Narrative:

n 02/02/2012 at or about 1943 Hrs a suspicious incident was reported to police by a concerned parent at Greenspun M.S., regarding student grabbing at other students. The incident occurred in Sept of 2011. The parent of the alleged victim reported the situation to school administration however they did not report the incident to police. Mrs. Hairr did not wish to have a crime report filed in this matter until she had talked to her husband. SEE OFFICERS REPORT WITH SAME DR# 1202-01070.

Due to new information that has come to light, this incident has now become a criminal investigation with the following having been recently reported.

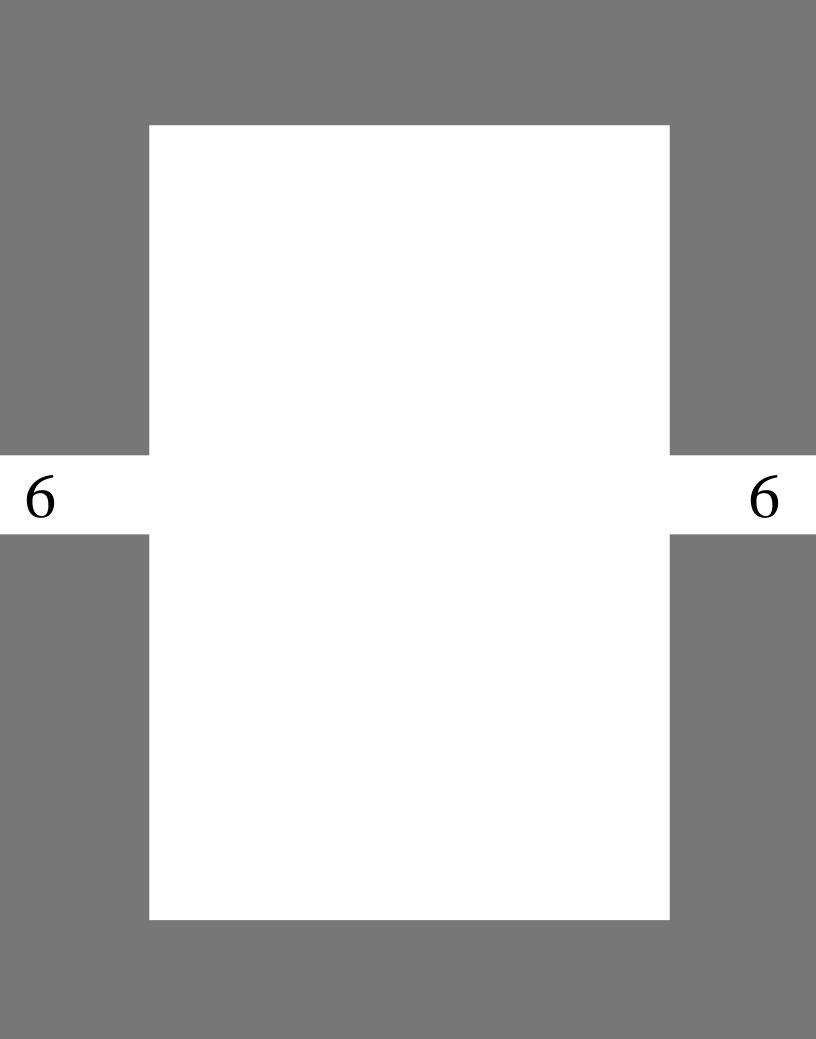
On 02/06/2012 at or about 2230 Hrs, Officer Dove P# 277 and Officer Markiewicz P# 530 responded to McDr niel E.S. and were contacted by three students from Greenspun M.S. and their parents. All three students (Victims) (Bryan, and Hairr) told responding officers that they had been builted and or battered by another student named

Suspect s is a Greenspun student. All three victims completed stater and alleged unit and suspect in this case poked/jabbed at them, pulled hair, harassed and teased them as well as stabbed them a pencil in their genitals. All victims indicated that this activity of bulling has been occurring from the middle part of September 2011. SEE SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT BY OFFICER DOVE AND STATEMENTS.

Based on the statements provided by the victims in this case, further investigation is warranted. Due to the length of time in reporting this incident no surveillance cameras were reviewed at the school. The suspect in this case has not yet been interviewed. Note: Per the parent of victim Hairr, her primary concern before filing a police report was that the staff at Greenspun M.S. would not tell her what actions they were taking regarding the juvenile suspect in this case. Based on all evidence provided this report is to be forwarded to CCSD Police Detective unit for follow-up investigation and possible charging of the alleged suspect. End of report.



डल्ट साम्माक्षरः **१**८५माः



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**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

**COMP** 1 Allen Lichtenstein, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 3992 2 Staci Pratt, Esq. 3 Nevada Bar 12630 Allen Lichtenstein, Ltd. 4 3315 Russell Road, No. 222 Las Vegas, NV 89120 5 Tel: 702-433-2666 6 Fax: 702-433-9591 allaw@lvcoxmail.com 7 stacijpratt@gmail.com 8

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Attorneys for the Plaintiffs

## EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

#### CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Case No.:

**ERRATA** 

MARY BRYAN, mother of ETHAN BRYAN; AIMEE HAIRR, mother of NOLAN HAIRR,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD); Pat Skorkowsky, in his official capacity as CCSD superintendent; CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; Erin A. Cranor, Linda E. Young, Patrice Tew, Stavan Corbett, Carolyn Edwards, Chris Garvey, Deanna Wright, in their official capacities as CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; Principal Warren P. McKay, in his individual and official capacity as principal of GJHS; Leonard DePiazza, in his individual and official capacity as assistant principal at GJHS; Cheryl Winn, in her individual and official capacity as Dean at GJHS; John Halpin, in his individual and official capacity as counselor at GJHS; Robert Beasley, in his individual and official capacity as instructor at GJHS.

Dated this 11<sup>th</sup> day of November 2014

Bryan-Hairr Complaint - 1

Please note the following Errata have been corrected in the First Amended Complaint.

Identified page and line numbers refer to cite locations in the First Amended Complaint, as filed on October 10, 2014.

- Greenspun Junior High School has been removed from the caption as a named
   Defendant. (1: 21-22).
- 2. The phrase "including her own death," has been deleted from paragraph 126 of the Complaint. (25: 13).
- 3. "Boy" has been corrected to read "boys" in paragraph 125 of the Complaint. (25: 6)

  In the same paragraph, "she" has been corrected to read "they." (25: 9)
- 4. The reference to "Truman White Middle School" in paragraph 125 of the Complaint has been corrected to reference "Greenspun Junior High School." (25: 9).
- 5. The verb "is" contained in paragraph 158 of the Complaint has been corrected to "was." (30: 3).

Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of November 2014

Respectfully submitted by:

/s/ Allen Lichtenstein
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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I served the foregoing Amended Complaint to the following, via email and United States Mail, postage prepaid from Las Vegas, Nevada, on this 14th day of November 2014.

Daniel Polsenberg, Esq. Lewis Roca Rothgerber, LLP 3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 600 Las Vegas, NV 89169-5996

/s/ Allen Lichtenstein

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### EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

#### CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

MARY BRYAN, mother of ETHAN BRYAN; AIMEE HAIRR, mother of NOLAN HAIRR,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD); Pat Skorkowsky, in his official capacity as CCSD superintendent; CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; Erin A. Cranor, Linda E. Young, Patrice Tew, Stavan Corbett, Carolyn Edwards, Chris Garvey, Deanna Wright, in their official capacities as CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; Principal Warren P. McKay, in his individual and official capacity as principal of Greenspun Junior High School (GJHS); Leonard DePiazza, in his individual and official capacity as assistant principal at GJHS; Cheryl Winn, in her individual and official capacity as Dean at GJHS; John Halpin, in his individual and official capacity as counselor at GJHS; Robert Beasley, in his individual and official capacity as instructor at GJHS.

Case No.:

FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, AND DAMAGES (WITH ERRATA)

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED EXEMPT FROM ARBITRATION

Come now Plaintiffs, by and through the undersigned attorneys, and file this Complaint for declaratory and injunctive relief ordering Defendants CCSD, Superintendent Skorkowski, CCSD Board of School Trustees, Trustee Cranor, Trustee Young, Trustee Tew, Trustee Corbett, Trustee Edwards, Trustee Garvey, Trustee Wright, Greenspun JHS, Principal McKay, Assistant Principal DePiazza, Dean Winn, Counselor Halpin, and Instructor Beasley (hereinafter "CCSD Defendants") to adopt, implement, and ensure compliance with policies and practices that ensure the safety of students faced with harassment and discrimination. These policies and practices include development of a safety plan, appropriate and timely investigations, timely and effective notice, independent monitoring of school officials, instituting an appeals process for parents and students who feel a school's actions to do not ensure a safe and respectful learning environments, and instituting disciplinary action against school officials who do not comply.

Plaintiffs also seek damages under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 for harm suffered as a result of CCSD Defendant's failure to maintain and follow a policy that prevents harassment and discrimination. Plaintiffs maintain claims for violation of Plaintiffs' rights under the equal protection clauses of the Nevada Constitution, Article 4, § 21, and the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution; for deliberate indifference to peer on peer sexual harassment as prohibited by the U.S. Constitution's Substantive Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment; sex discrimination under Title IX; for negligence; for negligence per se, as well as for denying Plaintiffs a safe and respectful learning environment free from harassment and discrimination.

### STATEMENT OF THE CASE

1. As alleged in greater particularity below, Plaintiffs assert that CCSD failed to ensure a safe and respectful learning environment, free from discrimination, harassment, and violence, for Ethan Bryan and Nolan Hairr, two 13-year-old students attending Greenspun JHS. Despite numerous attempts by Plaintiffs to contact and request the CCSD Defendants to end the persistent sexual and physical assaults, harassment, and discrimination based on perceived sexual orientation, to develop a safety plan to ensure students could benefit from the "full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, and accommodations" of their public school, (See N.R.S. § 651.110), they did not do so.

2. During a nearly six month period, Ethan and Nolan endured severe and pervasive discriminatory name-calling, such as "faggot," "fucking faggot," "fucking fat faggot," "gay wad," "gay," "gay boyfriend," "a big fat ass," "dumbass," and "tattle-tale," a stabbing in the genitals, and such alienation that one boy planned suicide to escape the suffering.

## **JURISDICTIONAL STATEMENT**

3. This action arises under the N.R.S., the Nevada State Constitution, and the U.S. Constitution, specifically the equal protection and substantive due process clauses, 42 U.S.C. § 1983. Nevada District Courts have general jurisdiction in civil matters. N.R.S. Const. Art 6, §

### **PARTIES**

- 4. Plaintiff Ethan Bryan is a student at CCSD, and a former student at Greenspun Middle School. Mary Bryan is his mother.
- 5. Plaintiff Nolan Hairr is a student at CCSD, and a former student at Greenspun Middle School. Aimee Hairr is his mother.
- 6. Defendant CCSD is the district that encompasses all public schools in Las Vegas, Nevada and surrounding areas, including Greenspun Junior High School (Greenspun JHS).

7.	7. Defendant Pat Skorkowsky is	the current superin	ntendent of CCSD	and is responsible for
	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1			
vers	seeing school district staff.			

- 8. Defendant CCSD Board of School Trustees is the organization that oversees all schools part of CCSD.
- 9. Defendants Erin A. Cranor, Linda E. Young, Patrice Tew, Stavan Corbett, Carolyn Edwards, Chris Garvey, Deanna Wright are currently members of CCSD Board of School Trustees, and responsible for overseeing CCSD schools.
- 10. Defendant Warren P. McKay is the principal at Greenspun JHS, and is responsible for overseeing the staff and students at the school.
- 11. Defendant Leonard DePiazza is the assistant principal at Greenspun JHS and is responsible for overseeing staff and students at the school, and reporting to the principal.
- 12. Defendant Cheryl Winn is the Dean at Greenspun JHS, and is responsible for overseeing students and disciplinary matters at the school.
- 13. Defendant John Halpin is the guidance counselor at Greenspun JHS, and is responsible for overseeing students and ensuring their safety and success at the school.
- 14. Defendant Robert Beasley is an instructor of band class at Greenspun JHS, and is responsible for overseeing students in his class and ensuring a positive and safe learning environment.
- 15. Defendant Andre Long is the Academic Manager for the area of CCSD that incorporates Greenspun JHS. He is responsible for overseeing activities at the school and others within his area boundary.

## STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS AND TOLLING

16. Pursuant N.R.S. § 651.120, the statute of limitations for a civil action sounding in discrimination in a place of public accommodation is tolled during the pendency of a complaint filed with NERC. Any complaint filed within one year of the date of the occurrence is tolled during the pendency of the complaint. N.R.S. § 651.120. The "date of occurrence" is deemed any day up until the discrimination has concluded. NERC has yet to issue a final decision, so the complaint is still pending. N.A.C. § 233.050. A complaint is pending until times for an appeal of a final decision expires, or in a review until proceedings are complete. Id.

17. Each Plaintiff's complaint was timely filed in July 2012 with NERC, for discrimination that occurred up until February of 2012. The principals of equity support the tolling of all claims, therefore, these claims are timely.

## FACTUAL BACKGROUND

- 18. On August 27, 2011, Plaintiffs began the sixth grade at Greenspun Junior High School.
- 19. From August 27, 2011 until or about February 9, 2012, several Greenspun students discriminated against and harassed both Plaintiffs based on their "perceived sexual orientation.," calling students slurs such as "faggot," "fucking faggot," "fucking fat faggot," "gay wad," "gay," "gay boyfriend," "a big fat ass," "dumbass," and "tattle-tale."
- 20. The main perpetrator was C.L., but Plaintiffs were also harassed and discriminated against by C.L.'s friend D.M., and other Greenspun students who were friends of C.L.
- 21. Initially Nolan bore the brunt of the harassment from C.L., but Ethan began being harassed when he attempted to verbally defend Nolan from C.L.
- 22. From approximately late August to mid-September, Nolan was subjected to most of the harassment and was assaulted several times, including unwanted touching, hair pulling,

elbowing, and pushing, by C.L. Nolan persistently asked his perpetrator to stop. C.L. refused to stop, causing Nolan to be deeply troubled. Ethan was also verbally harassed during this time.

- 23. Defendant Instructor Beasley acknowledged the bullying, which occurred pervasively in his band classroom, but would only request that C.L. and D.M stop. Nolan asked to be moved to a seat away from his perpetrators, but Defendant Beasley refused to reseat him. It took three months before Nolan was seated away from his perpetrators.
- 24. Despite a CCSD Policy requiring any employee who "witnesses, overhears, or receives a report, formal or informal, written or oral, of bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, and/or intimidation at school…" to report it to a principal or principal's designee no such report was made.
- 25. On September 13, 2011, C.L. stabbed Nolan's genitals with a pencil, which was witnessed by Ethan. Nolan became increasingly terrified of C.L., and no longer wanted to attend school. He was also afraid to report the event for fear of retaliation. He would ultimately see a doctor for these injuries.
- 26. On or near September 15, 2011, Mrs. Bryan learned of the stabbing incident and the pervasive bullying after overhearing Nolan and Ethan speak about it at her home. Mrs. Bryan immediately reported the harassment and assault in an email to Defendants Principal McKay, Counselor Halpin, and Teacher Beasley. She further identified C.L. and D.M. as the perpetrators, and elaborated on the stabbing of Nolan's genitals and the pervasive harassment. She also informed them of the incredible suffering being endured by Ethan and Nolan. She asked that the school move perpetrators, so that Ethan and Nolan could "...learn properly and have constructive school experiences." She urged the school to take swift action and for her complaint to be taken seriously, and for the Nolan and Ethan to be moved to a different seat.

27. CCSD Policies describe bullying as "a deliberate or intentional behavior using words or
actions intended to cause fear, intimidation, or fear." CCSD, P-5137(II)(A). Further, CCSD's
policy specifically defines behavior motivated by distinguishable characteristics such as "sexual
orientation," as bullying. Id. The definition includes: physical acts, such as assaults, kicking, or
punching; "indirect acts," such as "spreading cruel rumors, intimidation through gestures, social
exclusion, or sending insulting messages or pictures;" use of power imbalances, such as
physical or psychological dominance, or verbal threats such as "teasing and name calling,"
intimidation, punitive acts aimed at hurting or punishing a targeted individual, or repetitive,
systematic acts. CCSD, P-5137(II)(A)(1)-(6).

28. CCSD declares through its bullying policies that the district is "committed to providing a safe, secure, and respectful learning environment for all students..." CCSD claims that it "strives to consistently and vigorously address bullying, cyberbulling, harassment, and intimidation so that there is no disruption to the learning environment and learning process." CCSD, P-5137(I).

- 29. The school failed to respond to Mrs. Bryan. Nor did the school notify Mr. or Mrs. Hairr of the pervasive bullying, harassment, and discrimination based on perceived sexual orientation involving Nolan.
- 30. On September 16, 2011, Defendant Counselor Halpin met with Nolan to discuss the ongoing harassment, discrimination, and assaults. Halpin offered no safety plan, and Nolan felt Halpin simply "brush[ed]" off his complaints. Nolan did not feel safe going forward.
- 31. On September 19, 2011, Defendant Instructor Beasley moved Nolan's seat. However, instead of sitting next to C.L., Nolan was moved directly in front of C.L. C.L. continued to harass and assault Nolan.

32. On September 21, 2011, Mrs. Bryan notified Mrs. Hairr of the bullying endured by Nolan and Ethan. Mrs. Hairr learned for the first time that her son had been sexually assaulted, and had endured other forms of harassment, discrimination, and assault. Nolan had been too ashamed to report the incidents to her previously.

## Mrs. Hairr's Contacts with Greenspun JHS Administrators

- 33. The night of September 21, Mrs. Hairr spoke with Nolan regarding the ongoing harassment, assaults, including the stabbing of his genitals, and discrimination based on his perceived sexual orientation. Mrs. Hairr was grateful that Mrs. Bryan informed her of the bullying, but was frustrated and perplexed as to why the school had failed to notify her of such serious acts.
- 34. Mrs. Hairr called Greenspun JHS early the following morning to arrange a meeting regarding the pervasive harassment, discrimination, and the stabbing of her son's genitalia.
- 35. After receiving no response, Mrs. Hairr called Greenspun JHS again, and requested to speak directly with the Defendant Principal McKay regarding the treatment of her son and the administrators failed response to the situation. She was told to leave a message for Defendant Principal McKay, but her call was never returned.
- 36. Mrs. Hairr called again to initiate her own complaint process, and was transferred to Defendant Assistant Principal DePiazza. We offered no assistance to remedy the harassment, discrimination, and assaults, and he provided no safety plan. He persistently emphasized that Mrs. Hairr had "choices" in taking her son out of the school and enrolling him elsewhere. He referred Mrs. Hairr to Defendant Dean Winn, and the tenor of the conversation left Mrs. Hairr feeling helpless, in tears, and even more concerned for the safety of her son.

37. Later that day, Nolan and Mrs. Hairr met with Defendant Winn. Winn acknowledged
that Nolan was in fact a victim of "bullying" in the form of harassment, discrimination, and
physical assaults. Specifically, she was aware that Nolan had been stabbed in his genitals.
When discussing disciplinary action, Winn cited the "progressive disciplinary system," meaning
incidents would have to be documented, with disciplinary actions progressing gradually per each
incident

- 38. Defendant Dean Winn did not provide any safety plan to ensure Nolan experienced a safe and respectful learning environment, free of the harassment, assaults, and discrimination.
- 39. Mrs. Hairr did not feel comfortable with results of the conversation, but felt hopeful that the school would take appropriate action now that the management-level staff at the school were aware if her concerns. She did not file a police report at this time, assuming Greenspun JHS would take the appropriate actions.
- 40. Shortly after the meeting, the harassment nearly ceased in the band class, but Nolan was still pushed by C.L. as he would leave or return to the class, and called derogatory and discriminatory names. The incidents continued elsewhere in the school. Nolan now reported all incidents to his mother.
- 41. During approximately the last week of September, 2011, Mrs. Hairr continued to report these instances of assaults, harassment, and discriminatory language to Defendant Halpin.
- 42. Shortly thereafter, Mrs. Hairr met with Defendants Counselor Halpin, Dean Wynn, and Teacher Beasley. Defendants assured Mrs. Hairr that the "bullying" would cease. However, the result was only a seating change in band class, which resulting in Ethan, the other known victim, being placed close to C.L. while Nolan finally was seated further away.

4	3. After th	ne seat o	change,	from	about	late-S	Septem	ber to	Dece	ember	2011,	Ethan	began
ecei	ving most	of the	harassm	ent, d	liscrim	ninatio	on, and	l unwa	nted	touch	ing.		

- 44. The discrimination and harassment by C.L. and other students included, over the period of several months, calling Plaintiffs a litany of homophobic and offensive slurs such as "faggot," "fucking faggot," "fucking fat faggot," "gay wad," "gay," "gay boyfriend," "a big fat ass," "dumbass," and "tattle-tale."
- 45. C.L. also accused the boys of "J.O. [jacking off] to each other," and that the boys would, "Put stuff up each other's butts for pleasure."
- 46. In December 2011, C.L. and his friends filmed Ethan while he ate during lunch hour, calling Ethan names and filming his reaction. The perpetrators threatened to post the camera phone video on Youtube.com. Ethan was deeply disturbed by the notion of the bullies publicizing this humiliating taunting and harassment based on his perceived sexual orientation.
- 47. The incidents of harassment, discrimination, and assaults occurred during band class, in hallways, the lunch room, and other areas of the school. Although Ethan was now the primary target, Nolan was targeted too when he was present.
- 48. In December of 2011, Ethan and Nolan witnessed C.L. sexually assaulting another student by groping the student's genitals in the hallway. Ethan and Nolan felt disturbed by the pervasive culture of harassment and sexual assaults tolerated by the school.

## Mrs. Bryan's Additional Contacts with Greenspun JHS Administrators

49. Mrs. Bryan repeatedly e-mailed Greenspun administrators to ask for help addressing the continued harassment of her son Ethan, but the school's response was tepid.

50. On October 18, 2011, C.L, still sitting next to Ethan, repeatedly hit Ethan in the legs with
a piece of his trombone while calling him "big fat ass." Mrs. Bryan informed the staff that the
physical and verbal assaults were affecting her son and had to stop.

- 51. On October 19, 2011, Mrs. Bryan attempted again to end the bullying by emailing Defendants Principal McKay, Counselor Halpin, and other CCSD officials regarding the ongoing bullying, harassment and assaults. She informed CCSD Defendants of the assault using the trombone, and also that the name-calling has persisted. Mrs. Bryan sought confirmation that her complaints were being addressed.
- 52. The next day, on October 20, 2011, Mrs. Bryan called the school and met with Defendant Dean Winn face-to-face for the first time (after nearly two months of harassment had already taken place): when Dean Winn left Mrs. Bryan with no satisfactory safety plan to prevent the harassment, assaults, and discrimination based on perceived sexual orientation, Mrs. Bryan ultimately asked to volunteer as a monitor to the students, for which Defendant Dean Winn accepted.
- 53. From October 20, 2011 to December 12, 2011, however, Ethan's situation with C.L. did not improve: instead the harassment in band class occurred almost every day, and Ethan was beginning to be greatly affected by the tormenting by C.L. and his friends.
- 54. On December 16, 2011, Ethan witnessed D.M. pulling a Santa Claus hat off of another student. D.M. proceeded to slap the student in the head and threw the student's school materials all over the hallway floor, leaving the student teary-eyed and humiliated.
- 55. A couple of days after this incident, Mrs. Bryan brought the harassment to the attention of Defendant Dean Winn during an informal meeting. Mrs. Bryan summarized this and several other incidents of harassment suffered by Ethan and Nolan. Mrs. Bryan explicitly asked

Defendant Dean Winn why the harassing students C.L. and D.M were not expelled from Greenspun. Defendant Winn responded that she needed to keep documenting things so that those students' discipline could progress under Greenspun's progressive disciplinary system.

Ultimately, Mrs. Bryan was concerned with the lack of a safety plan for Ethan, Nolan, and others.

- 56. By January 11, 2012, Ethan had a final breakdown brought upon by the continuous discrimination and harassment he had endured. Ethan had recurring nightmares and needed to sleep with a night-light. Ethan admitted that he felt terrible and depressed, and revealed that he had planned his suicide.
- 57. On or before February 7, 2012, Mrs. Bryan filed a formal complaint with the CCSD Board of School Trustees regarding Greenspun's lack of effective response in addressing the harassment, assaults, and discrimination based on perceived sexual orientation. Towards Ethan and Nolan.
- 58. In retaliation, the next day Defendant Assistant Principal DePiazza physically ejected Mrs. Bryan off of the campus when she arrived to assume her volunteer duties for the day and told her she was not welcome there. The incident left Mrs. Bryan anxious, humiliated, ill, and no longer with the ability to monitor the discrimination and harassment suffered by students at the school.
- 59. Mrs. Bryan contacted Defendant Long, Academic Manager for Clark County School District, who assured her that something would be done to address the lack of a safety plan. Mrs. Bryan was given no indication that Mr. Long followed through with any action.
- 60. On February 9, 2012, Defendant Principal McKay called Mr. and Mrs. Bryan and left a voicemail message requesting a meeting. This was the Defendant Principal McKay's first

attempt in contacting the Bryans since September when he was notified about Ethan and Nolan's harassment. Defendant Principal McKay stated he thought the harassment had ended in October, despite the persistent contact by Mrs. Bryan and Mrs. Hairr. Defendant McKay never followed up with Ethan or the Bryans regarding Ethan's safety from October 2011 until February 2012.

- 61. CCSD Defendants consistently failed to remedy the pervasive perceived sexual orientation discrimination, harassment, and physical and psychological pain Ethan and Nolan suffered. Plaintiffs were depressed and no longer wanted to attend school. Their educational outcomes began to suffer as a result.
- 62. The lack of a response that permeated Greenspun's administration and continued with the no help from CCSD was a blatant disregard and violation of Nolan and Ethan's rights as students in their school district.
- 63. On January 12, 2012, Mrs. Hairr decided to remove Nolan from Greenspun JHS. Only Defendant Dean Winn apologized for the suffering endured by Nolan.
  - 64. By February, Mrs. Bryan had also removed her son, Ethan, from Greenspun JHS.

#### **Contacts with CCSD Police**

- 65. Near the end of January, 2012, Mrs. Hairr attempted to file a police report with CCSD Police related to the pervasive harassment, assaults, and discrimination based on perceived sexual orientation. Officers never showed up to their scheduled appointment with Mrs. Hairr. CCSD Police followed up with a phone call discouraging Mrs. Hairr from filing a formal report.
- 66. On February 7, 2012, due to the numerous complaints of Mrs. Hairr and Mrs. Bryan,
  Defendants Trustee Young and Academic Manager Long met with the Hairrs and Bryans
  regarding the incidents. Long did not provide the Plaintiffs with the assurance of a safety plan or

a plan to end the pervasive discrimination, and otherwise provided no assistance to the families.

Long explained that Mrs. Hairr or Mrs. Bryan could still volunteer if they needed.

67. After this meeting, CCSD Defendants never followed up with Plaintiffs or offered any support. When Plaintiffs attempted to reach Defendant Academic Manager Andre Long, they were told he could no longer assist them.

68. On February 9, 2012, Mrs. Bryan, Mrs. Hairr, Ethan, Nolan, along with another victim and mother, met with CCSD Police Officer Gervasi, to file a Crime Report. The officer discouraged filing the report, but Plaintiffs insisted and filed a report detailing the incidents that had occurred against Nolan and Ethan. CCSD Police indicated that the incidents were now part of a criminal investigation and "further investigation is warranted."

69. The Crime Report detailed the bullying and discriminatory conduct and language. [See Exhibit 1]. Plaintiffs detailed the sexual assault, harassment, inappropriate touching, and other actions endured by Plaintiffs. Each victim completed their own statements. Nolan wrote of the genital stabbing incident, him being called a "Fagot boy," among other language, and other acts. Nolan also detailed the many Greenspun JHS staff he reported to, but how the harassment did not stop. Ethan spoke of his reporting a well, and the retaliation he faced, such as being stabbed by C.L. with a trombone. He also reported being called "gay" among other names. He revealed his desire to leave the school out of fear.

- 70. Officer Gervasi was dismissive to Plaintiffs, and commented, "If I had to file a report every time a girl's boob was grabbed, I'd be filing reports all day."
- 71. CCSD Police responded to the report with no action. Plaintiffs again felt CCSD was unwilling to take their complaints seriously.

#### **Contacts with Nevada Equal Rights Commission (NERC)**

- 72. In an effort to find a meaningful avenue of oversight, Plaintiffs approached NERC.
- 73. The legislature has declared a strong public policy towards the obligation of NERC to "protect the welfare, prosperity, health and peace of all the people of the State, and to foster the right of all persons to seek and be granted the services in places of public accommodation without discrimination, distinction, or restriction because of [...] sexual orientation..." N.R.S. § 233.010(2). Sexual orientation is defined as "having or being perceived as having an orientation of heterosexuality, homosexuality or bisexuality." N.R.S. § 233.020(6).
- 74. In order to facilitate this public policy, NERC's administrator is authorized to "investigate tensions, practices of discrimination and acts of prejudice against any person or group" because of sexual orientation. N.R.S. § 233.150(1)(a). Further, NERC has the authority and obligation pursuant Nevada's strong public policy to remedy discrimination to mediate between parties, and in the course of an investigation or hearing, issue subpoenas to witnesses, order the production of documents or other tangible evidence. N.R.S. § 233.150(2),(3).
- 75. NERC must accept "any complaint alleging unlawful discriminatory practice over which it has jurisdiction..." N.R.S. § 233.157. NERC must also ensure that a process is in place to address these complaints. Id.
- 76. When attempting to mediate after an investigation and finding of probable cause, NERC must hold a meeting between parties to attempt to achieve a resolution, and ensure the respondent will cease the discriminatory activity. N.A.C. § 233.130(1). This must be followed by a disposition of the case in writing, and notice to all parties involved. Id.
- 77. Further, NERC may hold a public hearing if attempts to mediate or conciliate between parties fail, and after such a hearing may order a party to cease and desist unlawful practices.

  N.R.S. § 233.170 (3),(3)(b)(1). NERC has wide ranging authority in conducting such a hearing

to come to a determination or decision. This authority includes, but is not limited to, calling and examining witnesses, issuing subpoenas (and applying to the district court for enforcement), taking depositions and obtaining discovery, regulating the hearing itself, and holding conferences. N.A.C. § 233.160

- 78. NERC regulations mandate a liberal construction of its rule of practice to secure just, speedy and economical determination of all issues before it." N.A.C. § 233.020(1) (emphasis added).
- 79. According to the plain language of the NERC enabling statute and Nevada Supreme Court's interpretation of N.R.S. § 651.050(3)(k), discrimination in public school is prohibited because public schools are places of public accommodation.
- 80. The definition of "place of public accommodation" includes "[a]ny nursery, private school or university or other place of education." N.R.S. § 651.050(3)(k) (emphasis added). Public schools clearly qualify as a place of education based on a plain reading of the statute.
- 81. The Nevada Supreme Court has unequivocally determined that NERC's jurisdiction extends to public schools in Clark County Sch. Dist. v. Buchanan, 924 P.2d 716 (1996). The case specifically cites N.R.S. § 651.050(3)(k) in finding a public school (CCSD) is in fact a place of public accommodation and therefore an individual in that setting was entitled to protections under the statute. Id. at 719.
- 82. NERC's mandate extends to violations pursuant N.R.S. § 651.110, which states that "[a]ny person who believes he or she has been denied full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages and accommodations of any place of public accommodation because of discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin,

disability, sexual orientation, sex, gender identity or expression may file a complaint to that equal effect with the Nevada Equal Rights Commission."

83. NERC has a responsibility to act as an avenue of redress for discrimination in public accommodations. Thus, a student should be able to complain when he or she has been denied full and equal enjoyment of goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages and accommodations of any place of public accommodation," such as public schools, "because of discrimination or segregation based on race, color religion, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, sex, gender identity or expression." N.R.S. § 651.110.

84. In a letter dated July 18, 2012, Plaintiffs detailed the discrimination endured at Greenspun JHS, the non-responsiveness of CCSD Plaintiffs, and their desire to file a complaint with NERC based on these events. The letter sought confirmation that the case would be accepted, and enclosed were Plaintiffs' filled-out "Charge of Public Accommodation Complaint Form[s]" and a detailed outline of discriminatory acts and requests for assistance.

85. In letters dated August 31, 2012, NERC scheduled Nolan and Ethan for "In Person appointment[s]": on Tuesday, September 18, 2012 for both Nolan and Ethan. The letters stated this appointment was designed to "determine whether the allegations of your client's complaint fall within the jurisdiction of the Commission." The letters further stated that, "[s]hould your client's complaint be deemed non-jurisdictional, you will receive a dismissal letter."

- 86. Based on these September 18 meetings, NERC accepted Plaintiffs filed complaints of public accommodation discrimination based on perceived sexual orientation.
- 87. In letters dated September 26, 2012, NERC provided copies of Plaintiffs' complaints along with proposed remedies for Plaintiffs' signature. The complaints included the allegations of public accommodation discrimination, including Greenspuns JHS and CCSD's failure to act.

The remedies included requests that respondents alter their procedural practices to comport with existing state law and CCSD policy. Further, Plaintiffs requested specific changes to ensure proper implementation, such as annual trainings by NERC, weekly meetings regarding contemporaneous discrimination and harassment incidents, and annual meetings with Greenspun JHS students to teach about bullying, harassment, and discrimination. The remedies also included a request for actual damages, damages awarding costs related to litigation, attorney's fees, and other monetary relief deemed appropriate pursuant N.R.S. § 651.090.

- 88. Plaintiffs timely signed the documents and returned to them NERC.
- 89. In letters dated October 15, 2012, NERC informed Plaintiffs of two scheduled "Informal Settlement Meetings" [ISMs]. The letter in regards to Nolan's complaint scheduled the ISM for 8:30AM on Thursday, November 29th. The letter regarding Ethan's complaint scheduled his ISM for 2PM that same day.
- 90. NERC cancelled Nolan's ISM. NERC stated that the meeting would be rescheduled for December, 2012. They told Mrs. Hairr she would receive another notice letter with an exact date and time of the rescheduled meeting.
- 91. Ethan's scheduled ISM did occur via telephone conference. The meeting included the Dennis Maginot, NERC Commission Administrator, Scott Greenburg, Carlos McDade, CCSD attorney, Mrs. Bryan and Ethan, and Katrina Rogers, staff attorney at ACLU of Nevada. Mr. Maginot openly stated that NERC should and does have jurisdiction over the schools, but hesitated to fully commit to a thorough investigation. This was very disheartening to Mrs. Bryan and Ethan, who began to feel the agency would not adequately address their matter.
- 92. The ISM yielded no results, but NERC agreed to be continue to engage in settlement and advised Plaintiffs to draft a proposed remedy.

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93. Maginot stated that it would take <b>two to three months</b> before the case would be assigned
to an investigator, and approximately an additional six months to investigate. According to
NERC's representations. Plaintiffs expected a decision by September, 2013.

- 94. NERC never contacted Mrs. Hairr to reschedule their cancelled November 29 ISM.
- 95. In a letter dated February 13, 2013, Plaintiffs supplied proposed changes, at NERC's request, to CCSD policies and implementation, along with new enforcement mechanisms to remedy the failure of the part of school officials and the district to appropriately handle Plaintiffs' complaints, and requested money damages.
- 96. In June 10, 2013, NERC responded that the since the informal settlement conferences yielded no result (even though Mrs. Hairr and Nolan never participated in an ISM), an investigator, Lila Vizcarra, would now be assigned to an investigation. (NERC's original two to three month timeline to assign an investigator had been extended to **over six months**).
- The letters also summarized CCSD and GJHS' position. The district and school denied 97. the allegations of discrimination, and they stated they responded appropriately to both Nolan and Ethan's incidents. They also stated that at no time were they aware of harassment discriminatory in nature. Further, respondents attempted to draw a distinction between official reporting versus more informal reporting. In sum, they attested that they had an effective bullying policy that was implemented appropriately.
- The response from CCSD and GJHS spanned about a page, with only conclusory statements pointing to no wrongdoing – some of which were in direct contradiction to recorded accounts.
- 99. NERC requested a detailed response from Plaintiffs and various documents, such as telephone records spanning several months, all emails between Plaintiffs and school officials,

report cards, police reports, contact information for all witnesses, along with a summary of their testimony, and any other relevant information.

- 100. NERC requested the information by June 25, 2013, only fifteen days from the date of the letter.
- 101. In letters dated July 26, 2013, Plaintiffs responded to Greenspun JHS and CCSD's position. In addition to providing NERC with all the requested documents, Plaintiffs detailed the assaults, harassment, and discrimination faced by Nolan and Ethan, and they explained that the lack of information claimed by the CCSD Defendants in their response illustrates the failed reporting system and unwillingness to ensure a safe and respectful learning environment.
- 102. Further, Plaintiffs detailed CCSD's own bullying policy, which does not require formal reporting, but instead states that any CCSD employee who "witnesses, overhears, or receives a report, formal or informal, [...] shall report it to the principal or principal designee." See CCSD Policy P-5137(IV)(A)(2).
- 103. Further, Plaintiffs detailed several communications with the school regarding the safety of the students, and how many of these emails should have resulted in immediate involvement of the principal, but did not.
- 104. Plaintiffs took issue with the enormous burden the respondent put on Ethan specifically to report the sensitive and embarrassing harassment details, and essentially using this as a reason not to investigate.
- 105. The responses also detailed the issues Plaintiffs faced when filing a police report, reporting generally, retaliation faced by Mrs. Bryan, among other issues.

106. Further, the responses detailed several remedies the Plaintiffs expected – including a reference to the New Jersey Anti-Bullying Act as a model to highlight deficiencies in CCSD's current policies and procedures.

107. Plaintiffs requested, pursuant N.R.S. § 233.190(3)(a), that NERC ask for consent from Greenspun JHS and CCSD to disclose information gathered in the course of investigation, including records of communication at Greenspun JHS and CCSD regarding the bullying of Ethan and Nolan, and Mrs. Bryan's ejection, all documentation related to the investigation, and all documentation of meetings with Plaintiffs.

108. Plaintiffs never received any response regarding their request for documents and information gathered during the course of the investigation. Plaintiffs were never informed as to whether CCSD and Greenspun JHS were asked or gave consent for the disclosure of these materials.

109. Several months later, on November 5, 2013, Plaintiffs requested via email from NERC an update on the status of the investigation. Specifically, Plaintiffs sought timelines for the conclusion of the investigation and any remedial action. NERC's initial estimate for a final decision of the case, September 2013, had passed. Plaintiffs were concerned that NERC had failed to take any action, and Plaintiffs informed Ms. Vizcarra that they may need to evaluate other forms of redress.

110. In an email dated the same day, Defendant Kara Jenkins, NERC Commission

Administrator, responded stating that Ms. Vizcarra was on leave and when she gets back in, "I will get back to you first thing." No timeline was given as to when Ms. Vizcarra would return, nor was any timeline or update given on the status of the case.

111.	Further, 1	Ms. Jenkins	stated "Y	You may stil	proceed to	advocate f	for your	clients;	oui
nvestig	ation is "r	not adversar	ial."						

- 112. Troubled by this assertion, Plaintiffs responded via email later that same day. Plaintiffs explained that although fact-finding should be inherently objective, NERC has not only the authority, but the obligation, to address, remedy, and eliminate unlawful discrimination. To respond to an email requesting an update on the timeline and the possibility of remedial measures with an assertion that investigation are "not adversarial" raised flags about the dedication of NERC to the Plaintiffs' complaint.
- 113. Further, Plaintiffs reminded NERC that it was expressly created to prevent and address a broad range of unlawful acts and practices. NERC has the authority and obligation to eliminate discrimination in Nevada. N.R.S. § 233.010(2).
- 114. In a call dated February 25, 2014, Plaintiffs again sought an update from NERC on the status of a case, and requested a timeline for a conclusion to the investigation.
- 115. Defendant Commission Administrator Jenkins stated that "just because Plaintiffs had ACLU attorneys, that did not mean they would be given special treatment." She also felt that Plaintiffs' emails that expressed frustration as to the lack of information and timeline, and seemingly lack of commitment by NERC, were unwelcome
- 116. When asked about a timeline, she stated, "I need to manage your expectations. These cases can take over two years." Plaintiffs attempted to affirm this timeline. Ms. Jenkins promptly corrected herself stating that every case is different, and there is no guarantee this investigation would be completed in two years. She said she would only say "the case is moving forward," but all other information was confidential.

117. Most troubling, was her closing statement in which she said, "You have to understand,"NERC has a complicated relationship with CCSD."118. Plaintiffs were forced to file the present action due to NERC's capricious unwillingness

to pursue the investigation of serious and pervasive harassment and discrimination of Ethan and Nolan.

119. NERC took no action, issued no final decision, and failed to do anything to protect these and other students over the course of nearly two years. As a result, Plaintiffs were forced to file the present action.

#### **CLAIMS FOR RELIEF: CCSD DEFENDANTS**

#### CLAIM FOR RELIEF I NEGLIGENCE

- 120. All allegations set forth in this Complaint are hereby incorporated by reference.
- The standards to establish a negligence claim were set forth by the Nevada Supreme Court in, Foster v. Costco Wholesale Corp., 291 P.3d 150 (2012); DeBoer v. Sr. Bridges of Sparks Fam. Hosp., 282 P.3d 727, 732 (2012); see also, Scialabba v. Brandise Const. Co., 921 P.2d 928, 930 (Nev.1996). [A] plaintiff must demonstrate that (1) the defendant owed the plaintiff a duty of care, (2) the defendant breached that duty, (3) the breach was the legal cause of the plaintiff's injuries, and (4) the plaintiff suffered damages.
- 122. The Nevada Supreme Court has expressly stated that a special duty exists between teachers and students in Lee v. GNLV Corp., 117 Nev. 291, 22 P.3d 209 (2001).

In Nevada, as under the common law, strangers are generally under no duty to aid those in peril. See Sims v. General Telephone & Electronics, 107 Nev. 516, 525, 815 P.2d 151, 157 (1991) (overruled on other grounds in Tucker v. Action Equipment and Scaffold Co., Inc., 113 Nev. 1349, 951 P.2d 1027 (Nev. 1997)). This court, however, has stated that, where a special relationship exists between the parties, such as with an innkeeper-guest, teacher-student or

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employer-employee, an affirmative duty to aid others in peril is imposed by law. See Sims, at 526, 815 P.2d at 157-58 (citing W. Page Keeton et al., Prosser and Keeton on the Law of Torts, § 56, at 376).

v. at 296, 22 P.3d at 212. See also, Beckman v. Match.com, No. 2:13 CV 97 JCM NJK.2013 WL 2355512 at \*8 (D.Nev., May 29, 2013).

In our sister state, the California Supreme Court explained the rationale behind 123. the special teacher-student relationship, and basis for the duty of schools, school districts and school personnel to protect students placed in their care.

In addition, a school district and its employees have a special relationship with the district's pupils, a relationship arising from the mandatory character of school attendance and the comprehensive control over students exercised by school personnel, "analogous in many ways to the relationship between parents and their children .- (Hoff v. Vacaville Unified School Dist. (1998) 19 Cal.4th 925, 935, 80 Cal.Rptr.2d 811, 968 P.2d 522, see M.W. v. Panama Buena Vista Union School Dist. (2003) 110 Cal.App.4th 508, 517, 1 Cal.Rptr.3d 673; Leger v. Stockton Unified School Dist., (1988) 202 Cal.App.3d at 1448,1458-1459, 249 Cal.Rptr. 688.) Because of this special relationship, imposing obligations beyond what each person generally owes others under Civil Code section 1714, the duty of care owed by school personnel includes the duty to use reasonable measures to protect students from foreseeable injury at the hands of third parties acting negligently or intentionally.FN3 This principle has been applied in cases of employees' alleged negligence resulting in injury to a student by another student (J.H. v. Los Angeles Unified School Dist. (2010) 183 Cal.App.4th 123, 128-129, 141-148, . . .

C.A. v. William S. Hart Union High School Dist., 53 Cal.4th 861, 270 P.3d 699 (2012), 53 Cal.4th at 869-870, 270 P. 2d at 704-705.

124. The William S. Hart Union High School Dist. Court explained that the special duty to students at school stated that the duty is in accord with public policy set forth in, Cal. Const., art. I, § 28, subd. (a)(7) (students have the right to be safe and secure in their persons); and Cal. Ed.Code, §§ 32228-32228.5, 35294.10-35294.15 (establishing various school safety and violence prevention programs). 53 Cal.4th at 870, 270 P. 2d at 705. In Nevada, the statutory parallel appears in NRS Chapter 388. In both Nevada and California, the legislatures have made

a clear and unmistakable statement that school districts have an unequivocal responsibility to protect the students placed in their care, particularly when they have been made aware of a specific danger to specific students.

- 125. Defendants breached their duty to Ethan and Nolan by failing to adequately protect them after they learned of the bullying the boys had endured and were enduring, thereby depriving them of a safe and respectful learning environment; by failing to adequately investigate the bullying they endured, and by failing to adequately address the discrimination, harassment, and pervasive bullying Ethan and Nolan faced at Greenspun Junior High School.
- 126. As a proximate result of CCSD Defendants' negligence, practices, acts and omissions, Ethan and Nolan suffered immediate and irreparable injury, including physical, psychological and emotional injury.
- 127. As a proximate result of CCSD Defendants' negligence, practices, acts and omissions, Ethan and Nolan suffered immediate and irreparable injury, including physical, psychological and emotional injury.

### CLAIM FOR RELIEF II NEGLIGENCE PER SE: VIOLATIONS OF N.R.S. AND CCSD POLICIES

- 128. All allegations set forth in this Complaint are hereby incorporated by reference.
- 129. Defendant's failure to ensure the safety of Plaintiffs also violated statutes designed to protect the class of individuals to which Ethan and Nolan belong, namely students in the public school system. See N.R.S. Chapter 392 Pupils, et seq. The failure of CCSD Defendants to implement appropriate disciplinary and safety strategies in protecting Ethan and

Nolan, as required by school and district policies, and regulations, and Nevada state law amounts to a negligence per se.

- 130. In Barnes v. Delta Lines, 669 P.2d 709, 710 (1983), the Nevada Supreme Court held that "when a defendant violates a statute which was designed to protect a class of persons to which the plaintiff belongs, and thereby proximately causes injury to the plaintiff, such a violation constitutes negligence per se." See also, Brannan v. Nevada Rock & Sand Co., 108 Nev. 23, 27, 823 P.2d 291, 293 (1992); Atkinson v. MGM Grand Hotel, 120 Nev. 639, 643 98 P.3d 678, 680 (2004).
- 131. In NRS § 388.132, entitled "Legislative declaration concerning safe and respectful learning environment" the Legislature declared that:
  - 1. A learning environment that is safe and respectful is essential **for the pupils enrolled in the public schools** in this State to achieve academic success and meet this State's high academic standards:
  - 2. Any form of bullying or cyber-bullying seriously interferes with the ability of teachers to teach in the classroom and the **ability of pupils** to learn; (emphasis added)
- 132. As pupils enrolled in the CCSD school system, Ethan and Nolan fit squarely within the class that the NRS § 388.132 was designed to protect.
  - 133. NRS § 388.132 (4) states that:

The intended goal of the Legislature is to ensure that:

- (a) The public schools in this State provide a safe and respectful learning environment in which persons of differing beliefs, characteristics and backgrounds can realize their full academic and personal potential;
- (b) All administrators, principals, teachers and other personnel of the school districts and public schools in this State demonstrate appropriate behavior on the premises of any public school by treating other persons, including, without limitation, pupils, with civility and respect **and by refusing to tolerate bullying** and cyber-bullying; (emphasis added)
- 134. Defendants did not "refuse to tolerate" the bullying of Ethan and Nolan.

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135.	This failure to	"refuse to tolerate	e" the bullying	that they we	ere well aw	are of
proximate	ely caused con	tinued injury to E	than and Nola	n.		

- 136. Defendants' violation of NRS § 388.132 through the failure to adequately act to protect Ethan and Nolan, thus allowing the harassment and discrimination to continue, constitutes negligence per se.
- N.R.S. § 392.915 prohibits the use in public schools of language or other means to 137. knowingly threaten the use of bodily harm through with the intent to "[i]ntimidate, harass, frighten, alarm or distress a pupil."
- 138. N.R.S. § 392.910(1) prohibits any person from disturbing the peace in a public school "by using vile or indecent language within the building or grounds of the school." Further, it is unlawful for a person to assault a pupil on school grounds pursuant this statute. N.R.S. 392.910 (2)(a).
- 139. N.R.S. § 392.4645 requires that a plan be developed which provides for the temporary removal of a pupil if, in the judgment of a teacher, the pupil seriously interferes with the teacher's ability to teach or a student's ability to learn.
  - 140. No such plan was developed in the case of the bullying of Ethan and Nolan.
- 141. N.R.S. § 392.4647 requires the establishment of a committee, consisting of the school principal and two teachers who are selected for membership by a majority of the school's teachers, in order to review the temporary alternative placement of pupils.
- 142. No such committee was established in the case of the bullying of Ethan and Nolan.

143.	The injuries suffered by Et	than and Nolan are of	the very type the NRS	Chapter
392 provisions	s were designed to prevent.	See Vega v. Eastern	Courtyard Associates, 2	24 P.3d
219, 221 (200)	1).			

- 144. Defendants' violation of the aforementioned provisions of NRS § Chapter 291, through the failure to take the proper steps to protect Ethan and Nolan, thus allowing the harassment and discrimination to continue, constitutes negligence per se.
- 145. Clark County School District policy P-5137 prohibits violence, threats of violence, and harassment, were not implemented.
- 146. The failure of the CCSD Defendants to provide a safe and respectful learning environment for all students, regardless of their "perceived sexual orientation," constitutes a violation of their statutory duties. Further, their inaction, resulted in a school setting that more than tolerated bullying.
- 147. CCSD Defendants failed to train and/or require the training of CCSD personnel, failed to review associated policies, failed to enforce statutory and school district policies related to securing a safe and respectful learning environment, or take other actions that could have avoided the injuries to Ethan and Nolan.
- 148. As a proximate result of CCSD Defendants negligence, practices, acts and omissions, Ethan and Nolan suffered immediate and irreparable injury, including physical, psychological and emotional injury.
- 149. Defendants' violation of the aforementioned CCSD policies resulting in the failure to adequately act to protect Ethan and Nolan, thus allowing the harassment and discrimination to continue, constitutes negligence per se.

#### <u>CCSD ONLY - CLAIM FOR RELIEF III</u> VIOLATIONS OF TITLE IX, 20 USC § 1681(A)

1	150.	All allegations set forth in this Complaint are hereby incorporated by reference.
1 2 3	151.	CCSD receives federal funds
4		Based on the receipt of federal funds, CCSD is subject to Title IX requirements.
5	20 USC § 168	31(a).
6	153.	Section 901(a) of Title IX provides, "No person in the United States shall, on the

- 153. Section 901(a) of Title IX provides, "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." 20 USC § 1681(a).
- 154. Under Title IX, student on student harassment and bullying based upon perceived sexual orientation is actionable. See, Ray v. Antioch School District, 107 F.Supp.2d 1165, 1170 (N.D.Cal. 2000); Montgomery v. Independent School Dist. No. 709, 109 F.Supp.2d 10811090-1091 (D.Minn. 2000).
- Liability under Title IX for student-student sexual harassment: (1) the school district "must exercise substantial control over both the harasser and the context in which the known harassment occurs", (2) the plaintiff must suffer "sexual harassment ... that is so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it can be said to deprive the victims of access to the educational opportunities or benefits provided by the school", (3) the school district must have "actual knowledge of the harassment", and (4) the school district's "deliberate indifference subjects its students to harassment". See, Henkle v. Gregory, 150 F.Supp.2d 1067, 107701978 (D. Nev. 2001).
- 156. Deliberate indifference is "the conscious or reckless disregard of the consequences of ones acts or omissions." Henkle v. Gregory, 150 F.Supp.2 at 1078.

157.	Defendants exercised substantial control over both the harassers of Ethan and
Nolan, as we	ell as the context in which the known harassment occurred.

- 158. The harassment of Ethan and Nolan was so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it can be said to deprive the victims of access to the educational opportunities or benefits provided by the school", as evidenced by physical, psychological injuries that required them both to be transferred to a different school in order to escape the bullying.
- 159. CCSD had actual knowledge of the sexual harassment endured by Ethan and Nolan, as evidenced by the numerous complaints and contacts made to Defendants by Ethan and Nolan's parents.
  - 160. The harassment was "severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive."
- 161. As a whole, and/or as individual school administrators, Defendants responded to the harassment with deliberate indifference, as they demonstrated "the conscious or reckless disregard" of the consequences of their acts or omissions in the form of a failure to take the necessary steps to end the bullying, and to adhere to the requirements of statue and of CCSD's own policies.
- 162. An implied private right of action exists to enforce Title IX mandates, through which a Plaintiff may obtain both injunctive relief and damages. Cannon v. University of Chicago, 441 U.S. 677, 717 (1979); Franklin v. Gwinnett County Public Schools, 503 U.S. 60, 76 (1992).
- 163. Punitive damages may be warranted for a Title XI violation. Henkle v. Gregory, 150 F.Supp.2 at 1078.

## CLAIM FOR RELIEF IV VIOLATIONS OF STATE AND FEDERAL EQUAL PROTECTION GUARANTEES 42 U.S.C. § 1983

1	164.	All allegations set forth in this Complaint are hereby incorporated by reference.
2	165.	N.R.S. Const. Art. 4, § 21 states that "all laws shall be general and of uniform
3	operation thr	roughout the State."
4	166.	The standard for testing claims made under N.R.S. Const. Art. 4, § 21 is the same
5	as under the	Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States
6 7	Constitution.	See, In re Candelaria, 245 P.3d 518, 523 (2010).
8	167.	Nevada looks to the federal equal protection clause for guidance on interpretation.
9	Laakonen v.	Eighth Judicial Dist. Ct., 538 P. 2d 574 (1975).
10	168.	Under the federal interpretation, an equal protection violation occurs when
11	Defendants '	'act[] under color of state law, discriminate[] against [plaintiffs] as members of an
12	identifiable o	class and [] the discrimination was intentional." See Flores v. Morgan Hill Unified
14	School Dist.,	324 F.3d 1130, 1134 (9th Cir. 2010) (students perceived as LGBT sued regarding
15	school's lack	s of response to complaints of harassment).
16	169.	"Equal Protection allows different classifications of treatment, but the
17 18	classification	ns must be reasonable." Flamingo Paradise Gaming, LLC v, Chanos, 125 Nev. 502,
19	520, 217 P.3	d 546, 558 (2009).
20	170.	Members of an identifiable class based on sexual orientation are protected from
21	discrimination	on under the Equal Protection Clause. Id.
22	171.	Ethan and Nolan were students at Greenspun Junior High School, who were
23	entitled to th	e same level of protection from bullying and harassment as all other children
24		

attending school within the Clark County School District.

172.	Classifications on the basis of sexual orientation are subjective.	ect to heightened
scrutiny unde	er the Equal Protection Clause. See, Latta v. Otter, F.3d	, Nos. 14–35420.
14–35421, 12	2–17668, 2014 WL 4977682 at *4 (9 <sup>th</sup> Cir. Oct. 7 2014).	

- 173. The disparate treatment of Ethan and Nolan being bullied based on perceived sexual orientation, and Defendants allowing the bullying in school to continue unabated, until their parents finally removed them from the school, in order to insure their safety, resulted in different treatment based on a suspect class.
- 174. The standard and requisite actions that a school personnel is mandated to take is set forth in the District's policies concerning matters of bullying of students, as set forth above.
- 175. Such normal and mandated procedures were not followed in the case of Ethan and Nolan.
- 176. When a Defendants treat complaints of harassment based on sexual orientation differently than other complaints, for example by not following school district disciplinary anti-harassment and anti-discrimination policies, plaintiffs can establish a violation of their rights under the equal protection clause. Flores, 324 F.3d at 1134.
- 177. As an independent equal protection challenge, Plaintiffs observe that Defendants displayed deliberate indifference, which means defendants were "clearly unreasonable" in their response to peer harassment. Davis v. Monroe County Bd. of Educ., 526 U.S. 629, 649, 119 S.Ct. 1661, 143 L.Ed.2d 839 (1999) (Fifth grade student sued school board under Title IX for failure to address peer sexual harassment).
- 178. Despite a complete and thorough record of notice, Defendants failed to follow-up and investigate the incidents. They did not follow their own District policies, nor state law

related to discrimination and harassment at public schools. They further prohibited Mrs. Bryan from volunteering and monitoring the harassment herself.

- 179. Defendants were deliberately indifferent to the harm suffered by Plaintiffs, and thus violated Ethan and Nolan rights. Defendants were aware of the continuing nature of the bullying and harassment of Ethan and Nolan.
- 180. Yet Defendants did not physically separate Ethan and Nolan from their tormentors, even though it would have been easy for Defendants to do.
- 181. Defendants also chose not to develop safety plans, but instead left withdrawal from school as the only safe alternative.
- Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983, a student may raise constitutional claims against a school district, its governing board and superintendent, for an inadequate response to peer on peer sexual harassment. Fitzgerald v. Barnstable School Committee, 555 U.S. 246 (2009). The 42 U.S.C. § 1983 claims are applicable to the federal claims.
- Deliberate indifference is established when a state actor "disregarded a known or obvious consequence of his action." Patel, 648 F.3d at 974, quoting Bryan Cnty. v. Brown, 520 U.S. 397, 410, 117 S.Ct. 1382, 137 L.Ed.2d 626 (1997).
- 184. On numerous and documented occasions, Defendants were notified as to the harassment and injuries endured by the Plaintiffs. By forcing Nolan and Ethan to sit next to their harasser, and otherwise not developing a safety plan to ensure the safety of Plaintiffs, Defendants were deliberately indifferent to the risk and knew the result would be further harassment and physical harm.
- 185. Because of this disparate treatment, Defendants violated Plaintiffs' rights to equal protection under both Nevada and the United States Constitutions.

# CLAIM FOR RELIEF V VIOLATIONS OF UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION: SUBSTANTIVE DUE PROCESS 42 USC § 1983

186. All allegations set forth in this Complaint are hereby incorporated by reference.

187. When a state actor engages in "affirmative conduct" that places a plaintiff in danger and acts with "deliberate indifference" to a "known and obvious danger," the state actor has violated a plaintiff's substantive due process right under the state created danger doctrine under the Fourteenth Amendment Due Process Clause of the U.S. Constitution. Patel v. Kent School Dist., 648 F.3d 965, 974 (9th Cir. 2011).

Deliberate indifference is established when a state actor "disregarded a known or obvious consequence of his action." Patel, 648 F.3d at 974, quoting Bryan Cnty. v. Brown, 520 U.S. 397, 410, 117 S.Ct. 1382, 137 L.Ed.2d 626 (1997).

- 189. On numerous and documented occasions, Defendants were notified as to the harassment and injuries endured by the Plaintiffs.
- 190. By forcing Nolan and Ethan to sit next to their harasser, and otherwise not developing a safety plan to ensure the safety of Plaintiffs, Defendants CCSD, Trustees, and Greenspun JHS were deliberately indifferent to the risk and knew the result would be further harassment and physical harm.
- 191. Further, by prohibiting Mrs. Bryan from volunteering, Defendants at Greenspun JHS were aware of the immediate danger and were indifferent to parental efforts to mitigate it.
- 192. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983, a student may raise constitutional claims against a school district, its governing board and superintendent, for an inadequate response to peer on peer sexual harassment. Fitzgerald v. Barnstable School Committee, 555 U.S. 246 (2009).

<b>PRA</b>	YER	<b>FOR</b>	REL	<b>JEF</b>
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Wherefore Plaintiffs respectfully requests this Court:

- For declaratory judgment that Defendants' policies, practices and conduct as alleged herein were/are in violation of Plaintiffs' rights under the United States Constitution, and Nevada law;
- 2. For injunctive relief;
- 3. For damages in an amount according to proof;
- 4. Punitive damages;
- 5. For attorneys' fees as provided by law;
- 6. For costs of suit; and
- 7. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

#### JURY TRIAL DEMAND

Plaintiffs hereby demand that this matter be tried by a jury, pursuant the Seventh Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, as to all claims for damages.

Dated this 10<sup>th</sup> day of October 2014 Respectfully submitted by:

/s/ Allen Lichtenstein
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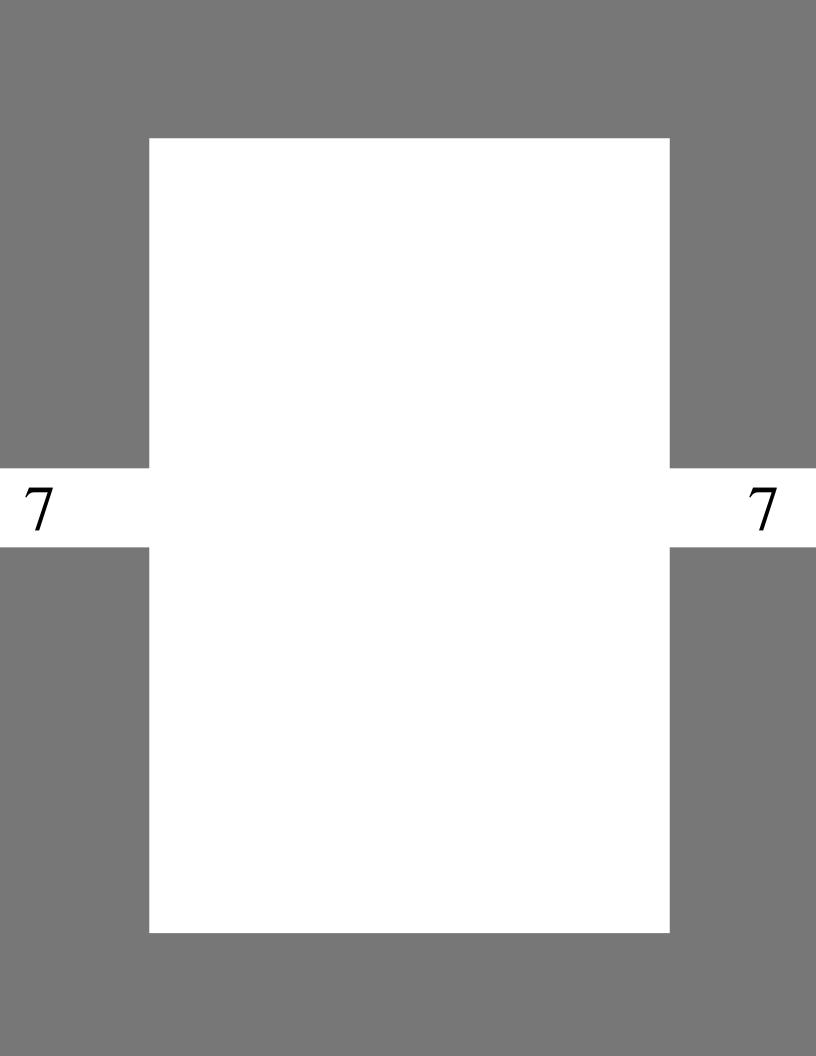
Attorneys for Plaintiffs

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I served the foregoing Amended Complaint to the following, via email and United States Mail, postage prepaid from Las Vegas, Nevada, on this 10th day of October 2014.

Daniel Polsenberg, Esq. Lewis Roca Rothgerber, LLP 3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 600 Las Vegas, NV 89169-5996

/s/ Allen Lichtenstein



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**ORDR** 

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tun b. Sh CLERK OF THE COURT

DISTRICT COURT **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA** 

MARY BRYAN, mother of ETHAN BRYAN; AIMEE HAIRR, mother of NOLAN HAIRR,

Plaintiffs,

Defendants.

CASE NO: A-14-700018

**DEPARTMENT 27** 

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD); Pat Skorkowsky, in his official capacity as CCSD superintendent; CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; Erin A. Cranor, Linda E. Young, Patrice Tew, Stavan Corbett, Carolyn Edwards, Chris Garvey, Deanna Wright, in their official capacities as CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; GREENSPUN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL (GJHS); Principal Warren P. McKay, in his individual and official capacity as principal of GJHS; Leonard DePiazza, in his individual and official capacity as assistant principal at GJHS; Cheryl Winn, in her individual and official capacity as Dean at GJHS; John Halpin, in his individual and official capacity as counselor at GJHS; Robert Beasley, in his individual and official capacity as instructor at GJHS;

**DECISION AND ORDER GRANTING IN PART AND DENYING IN PART DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISS AND DENYING PLAINTIFFS' COUNTERMOTION TO STRIKE** 

These matters having come on for hearing before Judge Allf on the 29th day of January, 2015; Allen Lichtenstein, Esq. appearing for and on behalf of Plaintiffs Mary Bryan and Aimee Hairr, (hereinafter "Plaintiffs"); Daniel Polsenberg, Esq., Dan Waite, Esq., and Carlos McDade, Esq. appearing for and on behalf of Defendants Clark County School District (CCSD), Warren P. McKay, Leonard DePiazza, Cheryl Winn, John Halpin and Robert Beasley (hereinafter "Defendants"); and the Court having heard arguments of counsel, and being fully advised in the premises:

COURT FINDS after review Nevada is a notice pleading jurisdiction, and "[t]he test for determining whether the allegations of a cause of action are sufficient to assert a claim for relief is whether the allegations give fair notice of the nature of the basis of the claim and the relief requested." Ravera v. City of Reno, 100 Nev. 68,70, 675 P.2d 407, 408 (1984). When considering a Motion to Dismiss under NRCP 12(b)(5), the Court should not test the quality of the facts, only determine whether a relief can be pled. Dismissal is only appropriate when "it appears beyond a doubt that [the plaintiffs] could prove no set of facts, which, if true, would entitle [the plaintiffs] to relief." Buzz Stew, LLC v. City of North Las Vegas, 124 Nev. 224, 228, 181 P.3d 670, 672 (2008).

COURT FURTHER FINDS after review discretionary immunity limits tort liability against political subdivisions and their officers, so long as the alleged torts arise within the scope of a person's public duties. NRS 41.0337. This covers both actions and inaction by individuals. NRS 41.032. To determine whether discretionary immunity applies to a particular set of facts, the court must look first to whether the decision involved an element of individual judgment or choice and then whether the decision was based on consideration of social, economic, or political policy. Martinez v. Maruszczak, 123 Nev. 433, 446-47, 168 P.3d 720, 729 (2007). Here, the Defendants' actions involved an element of individual judgment when they chose how to respond to information provided to them by Plaintiffs; they had discretion, within the policies and procedures of CCSD to act, or choose not to act. These actions were governed by considerations relating to the management of the school, and balancing of the needs of the entire student population. As such, the First Cause of Action, Negligence, and the Second Cause of Action, Negligence Per Se, are covered under the Martinez standard for discretionary immunity and must be dismissed.

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	1	COURT FURTHER FINDS after review of the pleadings that Plaintiffs have
	2	pled sufficient facts so that it is legally possible to put Defendants on notice of
	3	discrimination based on perceived sexual orientation. Under the <u>Buzz Stew</u> standard, the
	4	Third and Fourth causes of action are sufficiently pled to state a cause of action.
	5	COURT FURTHER FINDS after review that the court previously decided on
	6 7	August 21, 2014, the Plaintiffs have pled sufficient facts to support the fifth cause of
	8	action.
	9	COURT ORDERS for good cause appearing and after review the Motion to
	10	Dismiss as to the First and Second causes of actions is GRANTED because the acts or
	- 11	failure to act were covered by discretionary immunity.
	12	COURT FURTHER ORDERS for good cause appearing and after review the
	13	Motion to Dismiss as to the Third and Fourth causes of action is DENIED.
	14	COURT FURTHER ORDERS for good cause appearing and after review of the
	15	
	16	additional arguments set forth by Defendants, the Motion to Dismiss the Fifth cause of
	17	action is DENIED because the court had already determined the Fifth cause of action was
	18	sufficiently pled.
	19	COURT FURTHER ORDERS for good cause appearing and after review the
	20	Countermotion to Strike is DENIED without prejudice.
	21	
	22	Dated: February 5, 2015
	23	Nancy ALLE
	24	DISTRICT COURT JUDGE
	25	
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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** 

I hereby certify that on or about the date signed I caused the foregoing document to be electronically served pursuant to EDCR 8.05(a) and 8.05(f), through the Eighth Judicial District Court's electronic filing system, with the date and time of the electronic service substituted for the date and place of deposit in the mail and by Fax transmission to:

Lewis Roca Rothergerber LLP - Daniel Polsenberg, Esq. - <a href="mailto:dpolsenberg@lrrlaw.com">dpolsenberg@lrrlaw.com</a>

FAX: 702-949-8398

Allen Lichtenstein, Esq. - allaw@lvcoxmail.com

FAX: 702-433-2666

Karen Lawrence

Judicial Executive Assistant

#### TRANSMISSION VERIFICATION REPORT

TIME NAME FAX 02/06/2015 16:19 DC 27 7023661404 FAX : TEL : SER.# : 7026713629 U63274E4J696965

DATE, TIME FAX NO./NAME DURATION PAGE(S) RESULT MODE

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### **FACSIMILE COVER SHEET**

TO:

Daniel Polsenberg, Esq. FAX: 702-949-8398

Allen Lichtenstein, Esq. FAX: 702-433-2666

FROM:

**DEPARTMENT 27** 

DATE:

**February 6, 2015** 

**PAGES:** 

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### **FACSIMILE COVER SHEET**

TO:

Daniel Polsenberg, Esq. FAX: 702-949-8398

Allen Lichtenstein, Esq. FAX: 702-433-2666 959 /

FROM:

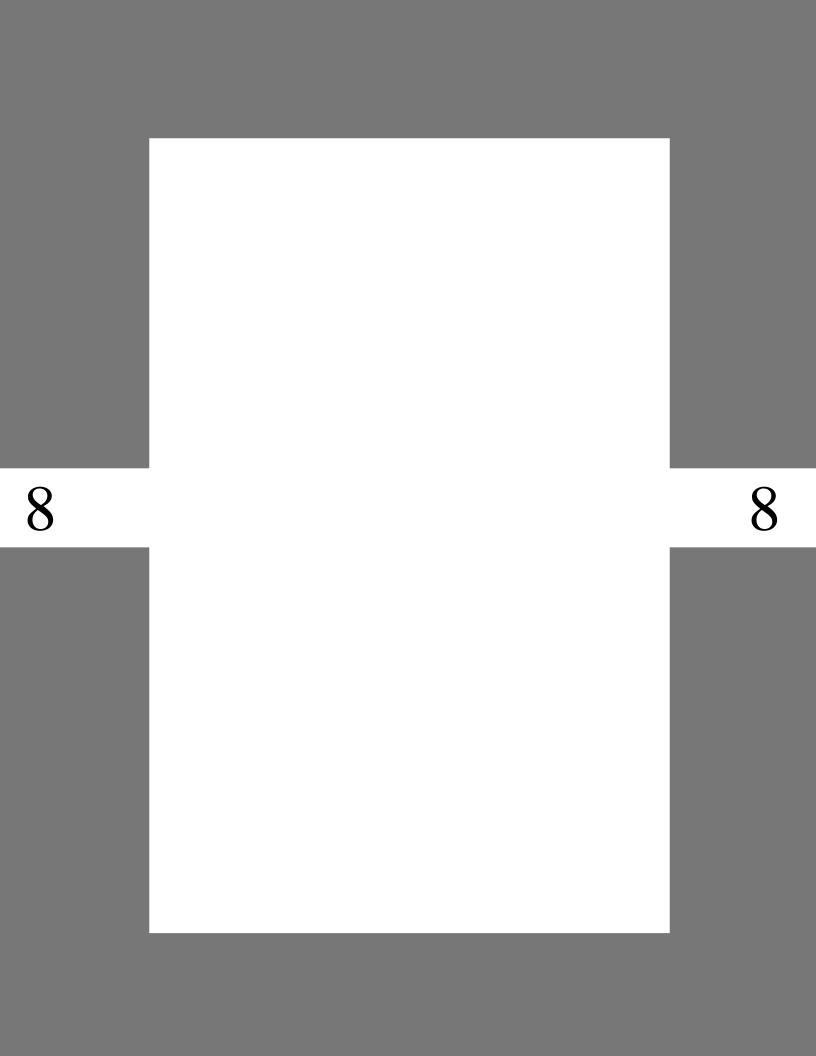
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3993 Howard Hughes Pkwy, Suite 600 Las Vegas, NV 89169-5996

1	ANS	Alm to Chum
2	Dan R. Waite (State Bar No. 004078) Matthew W. Park (State Bar No. 12062)	
	Jennifer Hostetler (State Bar No. 11994)	CLERK OF THE COURT
3	LEWIS ROCA ROTHGERBER LLP 3993 Howard Hughes Pkwy, Suite 600	
4	Las Vegas, NV 89169-5996	
5	Tel: 702.949.8200 Fax: 702.949.8398	
	DWaite@lrrlaw.com	
6	Mpark@lrrlaw.com Jhostetler@lrrlaw.com	
7		voor
8	Attorneys for Defendants CLARK COUNTY SCH DISTRICT (CCSD), Warren P. McKay, Leonard Cheryl Winn, John Halpin, Robert Beasley	
9	,	T COURT
10		T COURT NTY, NEVADA
11	MARY BRYAN, mother of ETHAN BRYAN; AIMEE HAIRR, mother of NOLAN HAIRR,	Case No. A-14-700018-C
12		Dept. No. XXVII
13	Plaintiffs,	
14	VS.	DEFENDANTS CCSD WADDEN D
	CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT	DEFENDANTS CCSD, WARREN P. MCKAY, LEONARD DEPIAZZA,
15	(CCSD); Pat Skorkowsky, in his official capacity as CCSD superintendent; CCSD	CHERYL WINN, JOHN HALPIN AND ROBERT BEASLEY'S ANSWER TO
16	BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; Erin A.	PLAINTIFFS' FIRST AMENDED
17	Cranor, Linda E. Young, Patrice Tew, Stavan Corbett, Carolyn Edwards, Chris Garvey,	COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, AND
10	Deanna Wright, in their official capacities as	DAMAGES (WITH ERRATA)
18	CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; GREENSPUN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL	
19	(GJHS); Principal Warren P. McKay, in his individual and official capacity as principal of	
20	GJHS; Leonard DePiazza, in his individual and official capacity as assistant principal at GJHS;	
21	Cheryl Winn, in her individual and official	
22	capacity as Dean at GJHS; John Halpin, in his individual and official capacity as counselor at	
	GJHS; Robert Beasley, in his individual and	
23	official capacity as instructor at GJHS	
24	Defendants.	
25		
26	The Clark County School District ("CCSI	D"), Principal Warren P. McKay, Leonard
27	DePiazza, Cheryl Winn, John Halpin, and Robert	Beasley (collectively the "Defendants"), by and
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through their undersigned counsel, answer Plaintiffs' First Amended Complaint (the "Amended Complaint") as follows:

#### STATEMENT OF THE CASE

- 1. Answering paragraph 1 of Plaintiffs' Amended Complaint, this paragraph states legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- 2. Answering paragraph 2, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.

#### JURISDICTIONAL STATEMENT

3. Answering paragraph 3, this paragraph states legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.

#### **PARTIES**

- 4. Answering paragraph 4, Defendants admit that "Plaintiff Ethan Bryan is a student at CCSD, and a former student at Greenspun Middle School." Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the remaining allegations and therefore denies the remaining allegations.
- 5. Answering paragraph 5, Defendants admit that "Plaintiff Nolan Hairr is a student at CCSD, and a former student at Greenspun Middle School." Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the remaining allegations and therefore denies the remaining allegations.
- 6. Answering paragraph 6, Defendants admit that CCSD is a political subdivision of the State of Nevada, and it encompasses the public schools in Clark County, Nevada, including Greenspun Junior High School ("GJHS").
  - Answering paragraph 7, Defendants admit the allegations contained therein. 7.

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8. Answering paragraph 8, Defendants admit the allegations contained therein.

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- 9. Answering paragraph 9, Defendants admit the allegations contained therein except the allegation that Stavan Corbett is currently a member of the CCSD Board of Trustees, which allegation is denied.
  - 10. Answering paragraph 10, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
  - 11. Answering paragraph 11, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- 12. Answering paragraph 12, Defendants admit that Cheryl Winn is a Dean at GJHS, and is responsible for overseeing students and disciplinary matters at the school.
- 13. Answering paragraph 13, Defendants admit that John Halpin is a guidance counselor at GJHS, and is responsible for overseeing 7<sup>th</sup> grade students and ensuring their safety and success at the school.
  - 14. Answering paragraph 14, Defendants admit the allegations contained therein.
  - 15. Answering paragraph 15, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.

#### STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS AND TOLLING

- 16. Answering paragraph 16, this paragraph states legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- 17. Answering paragraph 17, this paragraph states legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.

### FACTUAL BACKGROUND

- 18. Answering paragraph 18, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 19. Answering paragraph 19, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 20. Answering paragraph 20, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 21. Answering paragraph 21, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.

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- 23. Answering paragraph 23, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 24. Answering paragraph 24, Defendants admit that CCSD Policy P-5137(IV)(B) requires employees to report incidents of bullying as defined in the Policy. Defendants deny all remaining allegations in this paragraph.
- 25. Answering paragraph 25, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 26. Answering paragraph 26, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 27. Answering paragraph 27, Defendants deny that the allegations accurately quote current CCSD Policy P-5137. Defendants deny all remaining allegations in this paragraph.
- 28. Answering paragraph 28, Defendants admit that "CCSD declares through its bullying policies [e.g., CCSD Policy P-5137] that the district 'is committed to providing a safe, secure, and respectful learning environment for all students..." but that paragraph 28 is an incomplete quotation of that Policy. Defendants deny all remaining allegations in this paragraph.
  - 29. Answering paragraph 29, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- 30. Answering paragraph 30, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 31. Answering paragraph 31, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegation that the described events occurred "[o]n September 19, 2011," and therefore deny them. Defendants admit that Defendant Beasley moved Nolan's seat. Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the remaining allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 32. Answering paragraph 32, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.

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35.	Answering paragraph 35, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to		
form a belief	as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.		
36.	Answering paragraph 36, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to		
form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.			
37.	Answering paragraph 37, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to		

38. Answering paragraph 38, Defendants deny the allegations contained the	therein
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Answering paragraph 33, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to

Answering paragraph 34, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to

form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.

form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.

form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.

- 39. Answering paragraph 39, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 40. Answering paragraph 40, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
  - 41. Answering paragraph 41, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- 42. Answering paragraph 42, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 43. Answering paragraph 43, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 44. Answering paragraph 44, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 45. Answering paragraph 45, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 46. Answering paragraph 46, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 47. Answering paragraph 47, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.

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- 48. Answering paragraph 48, Defendants deny there was a "pervasive culture of harassment and sexual assaults tolerated by the school." Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the remaining allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
  - 49. Answering paragraph 49, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- 50. Answering paragraph 50, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 51. Answering paragraph 51, Defendants admit Ms. Bryan sent an email dated October 19, 2011. Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the remaining allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- Answering paragraph 52, Defendants admit that "Mrs. Bryan ultimately asked to 52. volunteer as a monitor to the students." Defendants deny "for which Defendant Dean Winn accepted." Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the remaining allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 53. Answering paragraph 53, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 54. Answering paragraph 54, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 55. Answering paragraph 55, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 56. Answering paragraph 56, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 57. Answering paragraph 57, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 58. Answering paragraph 58, Defendants deny that "[i]n retaliation, the next day Defendant Assistant Principal DePiazza physically ejected Mrs. Bryan off of the campus when she arrived to assume her volunteer duties for the day and told her she was not welcome there."

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- 59. Answering paragraph 59, Defendants deny that Long is a Defendant in this case. Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the remaining allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 60. Answering paragraph 60, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 61. Answering paragraph 61, Defendants deny that "CCSD Defendants consistently failed to remedy the pervasive perceived sexual orientation discrimination, harassment, and physical and psychological pain Ethan and Nolan suffered." Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the remaining allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
  - 62. Answering paragraph 62, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- 63. Answering paragraph 63, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
  - 64. Answering paragraph 64, Defendants admit the allegations contained therein.
- 65. Answering paragraph 65, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 66. Answering paragraph 66, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 67. Answering paragraph 67, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 68. Answering paragraph 68, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 69. Answering paragraph 69, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them. To the extent paragraph 69 attempts to describe the contents of Exhibit 1 attached to the Amended Complaint, that document speaks for itself.

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- 71. Answering paragraph 71, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them.
- 72. Paragraphs 72-119 of the Amended Complaint are no longer relevant with Plaintiffs' abandonment of all claims against the Nevada Equal Rights Commission Defendants and therefore require no response. To the extent a response is necessary, answering paragraphs 72, 84-101, 103-112, and 114-119, Defendants lack sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained therein and therefore deny them and, answering paragraphs 73-83, 102, and 113, these paragraphs state legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required to paragraphs 73-83, 102 and 113, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.

#### **CLAIMS FOR RELIEF I & II**

Pursuant to the Court's February 10, 2015 Order Granting in Part and Denying in Part Defendants' Motion to Dismiss, Plaintiffs' Claims I and II were dismissed with prejudice. Accordingly, paragraphs 120-149 of the Amended Complaint are inoperative and require no response.

#### **CLAIM FOR RELIEF III** Violations of Title IX, 20 USC § 1681(A) 42 USC § 1983

- 150. Answering paragraph 150, Defendants expressly incorporate by reference all prior responses as if fully set forth herein.
  - 151. Answering paragraph 151, Defendants admit the allegations contained therein.
- 152. Answering paragraph 152, this paragraph states legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- 153. Answering paragraph 153, this paragraph states legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants state that the quoted language from 20 USC § 1681(a) is accurate but very incomplete.

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155. Answering paragraph 155, this paragraph states legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein. However, the following citations contradict Plaintiffs' legal conclusions: Title IX requires the actionable behavior be "on the basis of sex," and "not merely tinged with offensive sexual connotations." Frazier v. Fairhaven Sch. Comm., 276 F.3d 52, 66 (1st Cir. 2002); Patterson v. Hudson Area Schools, 724 F.Supp.2d 682, 692 (E.D. Mich. 2010) (student called "gay," "fag," "queer," and "man boobs," but such did not violate Title IX because it was not due to his "sex, sexual orientation, or perceived sexual orientation"); Courts have found "the conduct that allegedly put the administration on notice and the conduct ultimately at issue in the litigation

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156. Answering paragraph 156, this paragraph states legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein. However, the following citations contradict Plaintiffs' legal conclusions: Doe on Behalf of Doe v. Dallas Indep. Sch. Dist., 153 F.3d 211, 219 (5th Cir. 1998) ("[t]he deliberate indifference standard is a high one. Actions and decisions by officials that are merely inept, erroneous, ineffective, or negligent do not amount to deliberate indifference ...."); Fitzgerald v. Barnstable School Comm., 504 F.3d 165 (1st Cir. 2007), rev'd on other grounds, 555 U.S. 246 (2009) (Title IX does not require a school district to take heroic measures, to perform flawless investigations, to craft perfect solutions, or to adopt strategies advocated by parents); Hawkins v. Sarasota Cnty. Sch. Bd., 322 F.3d 1279, 1288 (11th Cir. 2003) ("The real world of school discipline is a rough-and-tumble place where students practice newly learned vulgarities, erupt with anger, tease and embarrass each other, share offensive notes, flirt, push and shove in the halls, grab and offend"); Wilson v. Beaumont Indep. Sch. Dist., 144 F. Supp. 2d 690, 694 (E.D. Tex. 2001) ("Even assuming, however, that Defendants could have taken swifter and more appropriate action, there is no legal requirement of perfection.")

- Answering paragraph 157, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- Answering paragraph 158, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- 159. Answering paragraph 159, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- 160. Answering paragraph 160, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- 161. Answering paragraph 161, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.

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163. Answering paragraph 163, this paragraph states legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein. However, the following citations contradict Plaintiffs' legal conclusions: Alston v. N. Carolina A & T State Univ., 304 F. Supp. 2d 774, 784 (M.D.N.C. 2004) ("punitive damages are not an available remedy under Title IX"); E.N. v. Susquehanna Twp. Sch. Dist., 2010 WL 4853700, at \*20–21, (M.D. Pa. 2010) (holding that punitive damages were not available against a school district in private actions to enforce Title IX); see also Dawn L. v. Grater Johnstown Sch. Dist., 586 F. Supp. 2d 332, 383 (W.D. Pa. 2008) (punitive damages not available for violations of Title IX); Doe 20 v. Bd. of Educ. of Cmty Unit Sch. Dist. No. 5, 680 F. Supp. 2d 957, 995 (C.D. Ill. 2010) (same); Hooper v. North Carolina, 379 F. Supp. 2d 804, 811 (M.D.N.C. 2005) (same); See, e.g., Landon v. Oswego Unit School Dist. No. 308, 143 F. Supp. 2d 1011 (N.D. Ill. 2001) (citing Barnes v. Gorman, 536 U.S. 181, 122 S.Ct. 2097, 2100 (2002), holding that punitive damages are not available against a school district under Title IX).

#### **CLAIM FOR RELIEF IV**

#### Violations of State and Federal Equal Protection Guarantees 42 USC § 1983

- 164. Answering paragraph 164, Defendants expressly incorporate by reference all prior responses as if fully set forth herein.
- 165. Answering paragraph 165, this paragraph states legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants state that the quoted citation to N.R.S. Const. Art. 4 § 21 is accurate but very incomplete.

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Title IX legislation is viewed "much in the nature of a contract: in return for federal funds, the [recipients] agree to comply with federally imposed conditions," therefore "even though Title IX 'contains no express remedies,' compensatory damages and injunctive relief, which are traditional remedies for breach of contract, are nonetheless available. By contrast, punitive damages, which are not traditionally available in cases of breach of contract and, moreover, are of 'indeterminate magnitude,' i.e., unpredictable, are also not available for violations of Title IX." *Id.* at 383 (citing *Barnes*, 536 U.S. at 187).

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- 167. Answering paragraph 167, this paragraph states legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- 168. Answering paragraph 168, this paragraph states legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein. However, the following citations contradict Plaintiffs' legal conclusions: "Although the Equal Protection Clause ensures similarly situated persons are treated alike, it does not ensure absolute equality." See Bruce v. Ylst, 351 F.3d 1283, 1288 (9th Cir. 2003). "To establish a § 1983 equal protection violation...plaintiff[s] must show that the defendants, acting under color of state law, discriminated against [Ethan and Nolan] as members of an identifiable class and that the discrimination was intentional" or resulted from "deliberate indifference." Flores v. Morgan Hill Unified Sch. Dist., 324. F.3d 1130, 1134 (9th Cir. 2003). A showing of "deliberate indifference, however, still requires that Plaintiffs demonstrate that the school acted with a discriminatory intent when it failed to respond to student-on-student harassment." Vidovic v. Mentor City Sch. Dist., 921 F. Supp. 2d 775, 794 (N.D. Ohio 2013) (citing Williams v. Port Huron Sch. Dist., 455 Fed. App'x. 612, 618 (6th Cir. 2012)).
- 169. Answering paragraph 169, this paragraph states legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- 170. Answering paragraph 170, this paragraph states legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- 171. Answering paragraph 171, Defendants admit that Ethan and Nolan were students at GJHS. The remaining allegations in paragraph 171 state legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.

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- 173. Answering paragraph 173, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- 174. Answering paragraph 174, this paragraph states legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein. However, the following citations contradict Plaintiffs' legal conclusions: There is no allegation that a "policy, custom, or practice" caused a violation of Plaintiffs' constitutional rights. See Skinner v. Clark Cnty. Sch. Dist., No. 2:12-CV-1730 JCM NJK, 2013 WL 1501460, at \*2 (D. Nev. Apr. 10, 2013) (dismissing a plaintiff's § 1983 claims against the Clark County School District where the plaintiff failed to identify any policy that caused a violation of the plaintiff's constitutional rights).
  - 175. Answering paragraph 175, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- Answering paragraph 176, this paragraph states legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein. However, the following citations contradict Plaintiffs' legal conclusions: Flores v. Morgan Hill Unified Sch. Dist., 324 F.3d 1130, 1137 (9th Cir. 2003) (the Equal Protection Clause is implicated only where "defendants treat plaintiffs' complaints of harassment differently from other types of harassment") (emphasis added). "[T]he guarantee of equal protection . . . requires the defendants to enforce District policies in cases of peer harassment of homosexual students in the same way that they enforce those policies in cases of peer harassment of heterosexual students." See Flores, 324 F.3d at 1137.
- 177. Answering paragraph 177, this paragraph states legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein. However, the following citations contradict Plaintiffs' legal conclusions: "[T]he guarantee of equal protection does not itself prescribe specific duties. It requires the defendants to enforce District policies in cases of peer harassment of homosexual students in the same way that

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- Answering paragraph 178, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- 179. Answering paragraph 179, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- 180. Answering paragraph 180, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- Answering paragraph 181, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- Answering paragraph 182, this paragraph states legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- 183. Answering paragraph 183, this paragraph states legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein. However, the following citations contradict Plaintiffs' legal conclusions: Deliberate indifference is a "stringent standard of fault" which requires a showing that a state actor "recognizes an unreasonable risk and actually intends to expose the plaintiff to such risks without regard to the consequences to the plaintiff." Patel v. Kent Sch. Dist., 648 F.3d 965, 974 (9th Cir. 2011) (quoting L.W. v. Grubbs, 92 F.3d 894, 899 (9th Cir.1996)). The standard is "higher than gross negligence" and "requires a culpable mental state." Id. In the specific context of a school administrator's failure to investigate or discipline harassment at school, a defendant acts with deliberate indifference when he or she responds to known harassment in a manner that is clearly unreasonable. Flores, 324. F.3d at 1135. See also Vidovic v. Mentor City Sch. Dist., 921 F. Supp. 2d 775, 794 (N.D. Ohio 2013) (citing Williams v. Port Huron Sch. Dist., 455 Fed. App'x. 612, 618 (6th Cir. 2012)) (explaining that "deliberate indifference . . . still requires that Plaintiffs demonstrate that the school acted with a discriminatory intent when it failed to respond to studenton-student harassment").
  - Answering paragraph 184, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
  - 185. Answering paragraph 185, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.

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#### CLAIM FOR RELIEF V

#### Violations of United States Constitution: Substantive Due Process 42 USC § 1983

186. Answering paragraph 186, Defendants expressly incorporate by reference all prior responses as if fully set forth herein.

187. Answering paragraph 187, this paragraph states legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein. However, the following citations contradict Plaintiffs' legal conclusions: "[N]othing in the language of the Due Process Clause itself requires the State to protect the life, liberty, and property of its citizens against invasion by private actors." DeShaney v. Winnebago County Dept. of Social Services, 489 U.S. 189, 195 (1989) (emphasis added). In other words, the purpose of substantive due process is "to protect the people from the State, not to ensure that the State protected them from each other." 489 U.S. at 196. "As a general matter, then, we conclude that a State's failure to protect an individual against private violence simply does not constitute a violation of the Due Process Clause." 489 U.S. at 197 (emphasis added); accord, L.W. v. Grubbs, 974 F.2d 119, 121 (9th Cir. 1992) ("As a general rule, members of the public have no constitutional right to sue state employees who fail to protect them against harm inflicted by third parties."). In order to prove a state-created danger existed, plaintiff must demonstrate the state actor's affirmative conduct "left the person in a situation that was more dangerous than the one in which they found him." Kennedy v. City of Ridgefield, 439 F.3d 1035, 1062-63 (9th Cir. 2006); Munger v. City of Glasgow Police Dept., 227 F.3d 1082, 1086 (9th Cir. 2000). "In other words, a state actor cannot affirmatively place an individual in danger merely by failing to act, regardless of how reprehensible that failure may be; substantive due process is violated only when a state actor engages in affirmative conduct that enhances the danger to which an individual . . . is exposed." J.K. v. Arizona Board of Regents, 2008 WL 4446712 \*5 (D. Ariz. 2008).

Answering paragraph 188, this paragraph states legal conclusions to which no 188. response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein. However, the following citations contradict Plaintiffs' legal conclusions: "[A] state actor [violates] a plaintiff's substantive due process right under the state created danger

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- 189. Answering paragraph 189, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- 190. Answering paragraph 190, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- 191. Answering paragraph 191, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.
- 192. Answering paragraph 192, this paragraph states legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the allegations contained therein.

#### **GENERAL DENIAL**

193. Any allegations of any paragraph in the Amended Complaint which are not specifically admitted above are expressly denied. Defendants reserve the right to amend these responses to conform to the evidence as it becomes known through the discovery process.

#### ANSWER TO PLAINTIFFS' PRAYER FOR RELIEF

194. To the extent that the allegations contained in Plaintiffs' Prayer for Relief require a response, Defendants deny that they should be liable for any damages in this matter, and therefore deny the allegations in each paragraph. With respect to Plaintiffs' prayer for punitive damages, Defendants affirmatively state: The United States Supreme Court definitively declared in Kentucky v. Graham, 473 U.S. 159, 167 n.13 (1985) that "punitive damages are not available under § 1983 from a municipality, but are available in a suit against an official personally." Punitive damages are also not available against governmental officials sued in their official capacity and many federal courts have so ruled. See, e.g., Beem v. Kansas, 2012 WL 1534592 n.1 (D. Kan. 2012) ("under § 1983, punitive damages are not available against governmental authorities or individuals sued in their official capacities."); DeBellis v. Kulp, 166 F. Supp. 2d at 255, 281-82 (E.D. Pa. 2001) ("Punitive damages are also not available under Section 1983 against

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local officials in their official capacity."). Furthermore, CCSD, and all Defendants acting in their official capacities, are immune from state tort claim punitive damages via NRS 41.035(1).

#### <u>AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES</u>

Defendants assert the following defenses without admitting any obligations concerning the burden of proof:

#### FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs' claims are barred by the applicable statute of limitations.

#### SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs have failed to state a legal claim upon which relief may be granted.

#### THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs' injuries and damages, if any, were caused in whole or in part by persons or entities other than Defendants, who were not acting on behalf of Defendants and over whom Defendants had no control.

#### FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Any damage claims by Plaintiffs are speculative, not supported by proof and not compensable as a matter of law.

#### FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs' claims may be barred in whole or in part by the doctrines of estoppel, release, waiver, and/or preemption.

#### SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs' state law claims are barred by the doctrine of discretionary immunity, and Plaintiffs' federal law claims are barred by the doctrine of qualified immunity.

### SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

To the extent Plaintiffs seek prospective relief, each and every cause of action is moot such that it is not justiciable.

## EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs' injuries and damages, if any, may have been the result, in whole or in part, of Plaintiffs' own acts, including but not limited to failure to mitigate their damages, and Plaintiffs

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3993 Howard Hugnes Pkwy, Suite .as Vegas, NV 89169-5996 recovery, if any, should be barred or reduced thereby.

#### NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

If Plaintiffs experienced any damages or loss, which allegation is expressly denied, then the damages or losses were caused by and attributed to superseding and/or intervening causes, events, facts, occurrences or conditions which were not caused by Defendants and for which Defendants are not responsible.

#### **TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Defendants deny that they are liable at all, but if a court or jury determines otherwise, each Defendant is only severally liable for the fault imputed to him/her by a judge or jury pursuant to NRS 41.141.

#### **ELEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Defendants affirmatively state and allege that if Plaintiffs suffered damages, the same were caused by another's negligent acts and/or omissions, who were not agents, servants or otherwise acting for Defendants, and no damage or injury was caused by the acts or omissions of the Defendants.

#### TWELFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

At all times relevant herein, Defendants acted diligently and with due care in the performance of any duty owed to Plaintiffs, if any.

#### THIRTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Defendants were not the proximate cause of the alleged injuries or damages, if any, sustained by Plaintiffs.

#### FOURTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Defendants deny any conduct for which punitive or exemplary damages could or should be awarded and denies that Plaintiffs have produced evidence sufficient to support or sustain the imposition of punitive damages against Defendants pursuant to the applicable standard(s) of proof.

#### FIFTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Permitting recovery of punitive or exemplary damages in this case would be

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unconstitutionally vague and/or overbroad and would violate Defendants' constitutional rights as secured by the Fifth and Seventh Amendments to the United States Constitution, would violate their rights to due process and equal protection under the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution and the prohibition against excessive fines in the United States Constitution, and would contravene other provisions of the United States and Nevada Constitutions.

#### SIXTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs cannot recover punitive or exemplary damages against Defendants because such an award, which is penal in nature, would violate Defendants' constitutional rights under the United States Constitution and State of Nevada constitution, unless Defendants are afforded the same procedural safeguards as are criminal defendants including, but not limited to, the right to avoid self-incrimination, the right to forego production and disclosure of incriminating documents and the right to the requirement of a level of proof beyond a reasonable doubt.

#### SEVENTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Any award of punitive or exemplary damages against Defendants is barred to the extent that it is inconsistent with the standards and limitations set forth by the United States Supreme Court.

#### EIGHTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

No act or omission of Defendants caused or contributed to Plaintiff's alleged injuries or damages. Further, no act or omission of Defendants was fraudulent, oppressive, or malicious. No act or omission of Defendants was made with actual malicious, gross negligence, or willful, wanton, or reckless disregard for the safety of others, or an evil mind. Therefore, Plaintiffs' Complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted for punitive or exemplary damages. Plaintiffs' Complaint seeks damages in excess of those permitted by law. Defendants assert any statutory or judicial protection from punitive or exemplary damages that is available under the applicable law, and any award of punitive or exemplary damages is barred.

#### **NINETEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Defendants incorporate by reference each and every affirmative defense set forth in NRCP 8(c) as if fully set forth herein.

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All possible affirmative defenses may not have been alleged herein insofar as sufficient information was not available upon reasonable inquiry at the time of filing this answer. Defendants reserve the right to amend its Answer to allege additional affirmative defenses if subsequent investigation warrants, as permitted by the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure.

WHEREFORE, Defendants pray for judgment as follows:

- 1. Plaintiffs take nothing by reason of the Complaint on file herein;
- 2. Dismiss Plaintiffs' action in its entirety with prejudice;
- 3. Award Defendants their costs, attorneys' fees and expenses of suit; and
- 4. Award such other and further relief as this Court deems just and reasonable.

DATED this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015.

#### LEWIS ROCA ROTHGERBER LLP

By: /s/ Matthew W. Park

Dan R. Waite (State Bar No. 004078) Matthew W. Park (State Bar No. 12062) Jennifer Hostetler (State Bar No. 11994) 3993 Howard Hughes Pkwy, Suite 600 Las Vegas, NV 89169-5996

Tel: 702.949.8200 Fax: 702.949.8398

Attorneys for Defendants CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD), Warren P. McKay, Leonard DePiazza, Cheryl Winn, John Halpin, Robert Beasley

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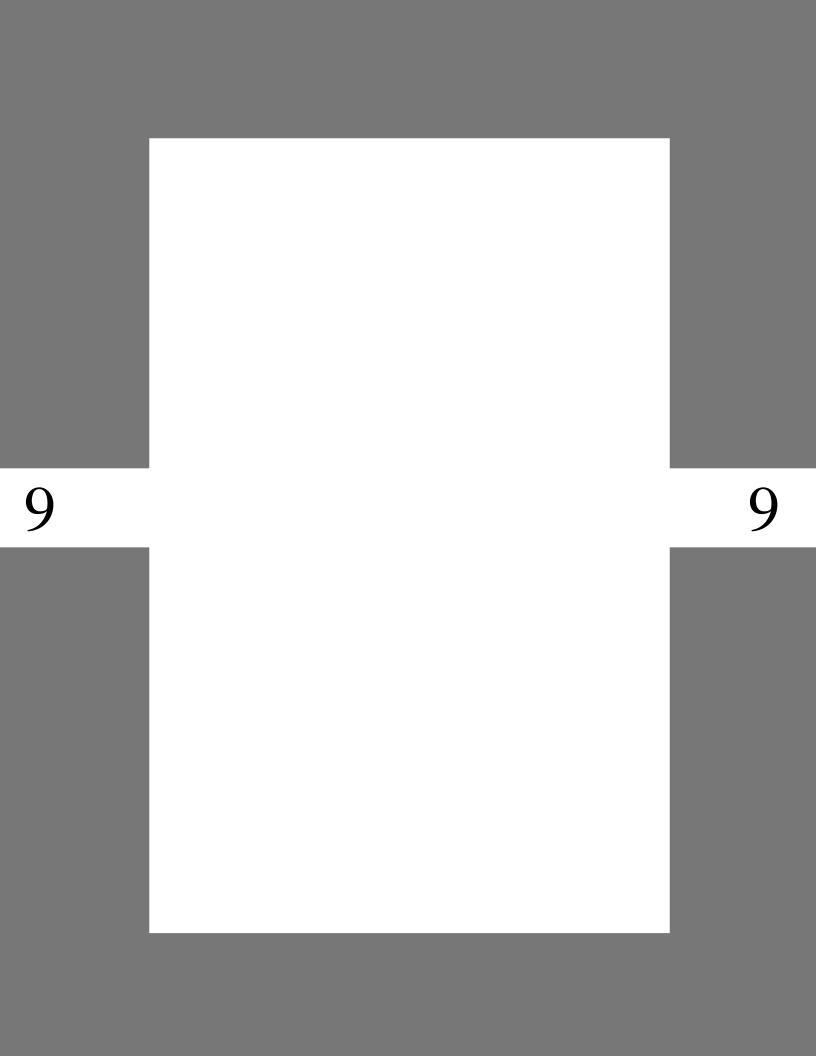
#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Pursuant to Nev. R. Civ. Rule 5(b) and E.D.C.R. 8.05, I certify that I am an employee of			
Lewis Roca Rothgerber LLP, and that on this day, I caused a true and correct copy of the			
foregoing: DEFENDANTS CCSD, WARREN P. MCKAY, LEONARD DEPIAZZA,			
CHERYL WINN, JOHN HALPIN AND ROBERT BEASLEY'S ANSWER TO			
PLAINTIFFS' FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF,			
INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, AND DAMAGES (WITH ERRATA) to be served via the Court's E-			
Filing System DAP/Wiznet, on all interested parties in the above-referenced matter. The date and			
time of the electronic service is in place of the date and place of deposit in the mail.			

Allen Lichtenstein, Esq. Staci Pratt, Esq. ALLEN LICHTENSTEIN ATTORNEY AT LAW, LTD. 3315 Russell Road, No. 222 Las Vegas, Nevada 89120 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

DATED this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015.

<u>/s/ Annette Jaramillo</u> An Employee of Lewis Roca Rothgerber LLP



1	JCCR	Alun D. Chum			
2	Dan R. Waite (State Bar No. 004078) Matthew W. Park (State Bar No. 12062)	CLERK OF THE COURT			
3	LEWIS ROCA ROTHGERBER LLP 3993 Howard Hughes Pkwy, Suite 600				
4	Las Vegas, NV 89169-5996 Tel: 702.949.8200				
- 31	Fax: 702.949.8398				
5	DWaite@Irrlaw.com MPark@Irrlaw.com				
6	Attorneys for Defendants CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL				
7	DISTRICT (CCSD), Warren P. McKay, Leonard DePiazza, Cheryl Winn, John Halpin, Robert Beasley				
8	Allen Lichtenstein (State Bar No. 3992)				
9	Staci Pratt (State Bar No. 12630) ALLEN LICHTENSTEIN, LTD.				
	3315 Russell Road, No. 222				
10	Las Vegas, NV 89120 Tel: 702.433.2666				
11	Fax: 702.433.2666				
12	allaw@lvcoxmail.com				
12	stacijpratt@gmail.com Attorneys for Plaintiffs, Mary Bryan, Ethan Bryan				
13	Aimee Hairr and Nolan Hairr				
14	John Houston Scott (CA Bar No. 72578)				
15	Admitted Pro Hac Vice SCOTT LAW FIRM				
16	1388 Sutter Street, Suite 715				
16	San Francisco, CA 94109 Tel: 415.561.9601				
17	john@scottlawfirm.net				
18	Attorneys for Plaintiffs, Mary Bryan, Ethan Bryan, Aimee Hairr and Nolan Hairr				
19					
20	CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA				
21	MARY BRYAN, mother of ETHAN BRYAN; AIMEE HAIRR, mother of NOLAN HAIRR,	Case No. A-14-700018-C			
22		Dept. No. XXVII			
23	Plaintiffs,				
	vs.				
24	CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT				
25	(CCSD); Pat Skorkowsky, in his official	JOINT CASE CONFERENCE REPORT			
26	capacity as CCSD superintendent; CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; Erin A.				
	Cranor, Linda E. Young, Patrice Tew, Stavan				
27	Corbett, Carolyn Edwards, Chris Garvey, Deanna Wright, in their official capacities as				
28	CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES;				
	Principal Warren P. McKay, in his individual				

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1 and official capacity as principal of GJHS; Leonard DePiazza, in his individual and official capacity as assistant principal at GJHS; Cheryl Winn, in her individual and official capacity as 2 3 Dean at GJHS; John Halpin, in his individual and official capacity as counselor at GJHS; Robert Beasley, in his individual and official 4 capacity as instructor at GJHS 5 Defendants. 6 7 8 9

#### DISPUTE RESOLUTION CONFERENCE REQUIRED:

REQUESTED: YES\_\_\_\_NO\_X

#### SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE REQUIRED:

REQUESTED: YES\_\_\_\_NO\_X

#### DISCOVERY PLANNING/DISPUTE

REQUESTED: YES\_\_\_\_NO\_X

COMES NOW the parties, by and through the undersigned attorneys and file this Case Conference Report, pursuant to NRCP 16.1

#### I. PROCEEDINGS PRIOR TO CASE CONFERENCE REPORT

A. Date of filing of and service Amended Complaint: November 17, 2014

B. Date of decision on Defendants' Motion to Dismiss: February 10, 2015

C. Date of filing and service of Answer: February 25, 2015

F. Date of Early Case Conference: March 19, 2015

**G.** Date of Service of Discovery Commissioner's

CLAIM FOR RELIEF OR DEFENSE

Decision on Request for Exemption from Arbitration: May 24, 2015

# II. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE OF THE ACTION AND EACH

# A. Plaintiff's claims: Plaintiffs assert that Defendants failed to ensure a safe and respectful learning environment, free from discrimination, harassment, and violence, for Ethan Bryan and Nolan Hairr, two 13-year-old students attending

Greenspun JHS. Despite numerous attempts by Plaintiffs to contact and request the

CCSD Defendants to end the persistent sexual and physical assaults, harassment,

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- В. Existing claims are for: 1) negligence and, 2) substantive due process pursuant to the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution and 42 USC 1983.
- C. Defendants generally and specifically deny Plaintiffs' claims and Defenses: allegations in their entirety. Specifically, Defendants state that Plaintiffs have sued everyone with any connection to Ethan Bryan and Nolan Hairr, except for the students who were allegedly the source of the unkind words. In all circumstances, Defendants acted appropriately in investigating, and responding to, any allegations of harassment of which they had knowledge.

In addition to denying all of Plaintiffs' claims, Defendants have asserted the following affirmative defenses:

#### FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs' claims are barred by the applicable statute of limitations.

#### SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs have failed to state a legal claim upon which relief may be granted.

#### THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs' injuries and damages, if any, were caused in whole or in part by persons or entities other than Defendants, who were not acting on behalf of Defendants and over whom Defendants had no control.

#### FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Any damage claims by Plaintiffs are speculative, not supported by proof and not compensable as a matter of law.

#### FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs' claims may be barred in whole or in part by the doctrines of estoppel, release, waiver, and/or preemption.

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#### SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs' state law claims are barred by the doctrine of discretionary immunity, and Plaintiffs' federal law claims are barred by the doctrine of qualified immunity.

#### SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

To the extent Plaintiffs seek prospective relief, each and every cause of action is moot such that it is not justiciable.

#### EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs' injuries and damages, if any, may have been the result, in whole or in part, of Plaintiffs' own acts, including but not limited to failure to mitigate their damages, and Plaintiffs unconstitutionally vague and/or overbroad and would violate Defendants' constitutional rights as secured by the Fifth and Seventh Amendments to the United States Constitution, would violate their rights to due process and equal protection under the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution and the prohibition against excessive fines in the United States Constitution, and would contravene other provisions of the United States and Nevada Constitutions. recovery, if any, should be barred or reduced thereby.

#### NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

If Plaintiffs experienced any damages or loss, which allegation is expressly denied, then the damages or losses were caused by and attributed to superseding and/or intervening causes, events, facts, occurrences or conditions which were not caused by Defendants and for which Defendants are not responsible.

#### TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Defendants deny that they are liable at all, but if a court or jury determines otherwise, each Defendant is only severally liable for the fault imputed to him/her by a judge or jury pursuant to N.R.S. 41.141.

#### ELEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Defendants affirmatively state and allege that if Plaintiffs suffered damages, the same were caused by another's negligent acts and/or omissions, who were not agents, servants or

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otherwise acting for Defendants, and no damage or injury was caused by the acts or omissions of the Defendants.

#### TWELFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

At all times relevant herein, Defendants acted diligently and with due care III the performance of any duty owed to Plaintiffs, if any.

#### THIRTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Defendants were not the proximate cause of the alleged injuries or damages, if any, sustained by Plaintiffs.

#### FOURTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Defendants deny any conduct for which punitive or exemplary damages could or should be awarded and denies that Plaintiffs have produced evidence sufficient to support or sustain the imposition of punitive damages against Defendants pursuant to the applicable standard(s) of proof.

#### FIFTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Permitting recovery of punitive or exemplary damages in this case would be unconstitutionally vague and/or overbroad and would violate Defendants' constitutional rights as secured by the Fifth and Seventh Amendments to the United States Constitution, would violate their rights to due process and equal protection under the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution and the prohibition against excessive fines in the United States Constitution, and would contravene other provisions of the United States and Nevada Constitutions.

#### SIXTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs cannot recover punitive or exemplary damages against Defendants because such an award, which is penal in nature, would violate Defendants' constitutional rights under the United States Constitution and State of Nevada constitution, unless Defendants are afforded the same procedural safeguards as are criminal defendants including, but not limited to, the right to avoid self-incrimination, the right to forego production and disclosure of incriminating documents and the right to the requirement of a level of proof beyond a reasonable doubt.

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#### EIGHTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

No act or omission of Defendants caused or contributed to Plaintiff's alleged injuries or damages. Further, no act or omission of Defendants was fraudulent, oppressive, or malicious. No act or omission of Defendants was made with actual malicious, gross negligence, or willful, wanton, or reckless disregard for the safety of others, or an evil mind. Therefore, Plaintiffs' Complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted for punitive or exemplary damages. Plaintiffs' Complaint seeks damages in excess of those permitted by law. Defendants assert any statutory or judicial protection from punitive or exemplary damages that is available under the applicable law, and any award of punitive or exemplary damages is barred.

#### NINETEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Defendants incorporate by reference each and every affirmative defense set forth in NRCP 8(c) as if fully set forth herein.

# III. LIST OF DOCUMENTS PRODUCED, DATA COMPILATIONS AND TANGIBLE THINGS IN THE POSSESSION, CUSTODY OR CONTROL OF EACH PARTY WHICH WERE IDENTIFIED OR PROVIDED AT THE EARLY CASE CONFERENCE OR AS A RESULT THEREOF

#### Plaintiffs: A.

- 1. Material related to the Complaint made to the Nevada Commission of Equal Rights (NERC) by Mary Bryan on behalf of her son, Ethan Bryan, Bates Nos. 00001 through 000052.
- 2. Material related to the Complaint made to the Nevada Commission of Equal Rights (NERC) by Aimee Hairr on behalf of her son, Nolan Hairr, Bates Nos. 000053 through 000100.

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1	3. Mary Bryan e-mail communications with CCSD personnel. Bates No			
2	000101 through 000128.			
3	4. Media coverage /articles. Bates Nos. 000129 through 000136.			
4	B. Defendants:			
5	1. Email to Beasley, Halpin & McKay regarding concerned parent, date			
6	9/15/2011. Bates No. CCSDDEF000001 – CCSDDEF000002.			
7	2. Nolan Hairr regarding GJHS Voluntary Incident Report, dated 09/22/2011			
8	Bates No. CCSDDEF000003.			
9	3. Ethan Bryan regarding GJHS Voluntary Incident Report, dated 10/19/2011			
10	Bates No. CCSDDEF000004.			
11	4. Email from Bryan to McKay regarding very concerned parent, date			
12	10/19/2011. Bates No. CCSDDEF000005 – CCSDDEF000006.			
13	5. Email from Halpin to Winn regarding very concerned parent, date			
14	10/19/2011. Bates No. CCSDDEF000007 – CCSDDEF000008.			
15	6. Email from Bryan to Winn regarding very concerned parent, date			
16	10/19/2011. Bates No. CCSDDEF000009 - CCSDDEF000010.			
17	7. Ethan Bryan regarding GJHS Deans' Detention Notice, dated 10/19/201			
18	Bates No. CCSDDEF000011.			
19	8. Ethan Bryan regarding GJHS Deans' Tardy Policy, dated 10/19/201			
20	Bates No. CCSDDEF000012.			
21	9. Ethan Bryan regarding GJHS Deans' Detention Notice, dated 10/11/201			
22	Bates No. CCSDDEF000013.			
23	10. Ethan Bryan regarding GJHS Deans' Tardy Policy, dated 10/19/201			
24	Bates No. CCSDDEF000014 (duplicate of Bates No. CCSDDEF000012).			
25	11. Nolan Hairr regarding GJHS Deans' Tardy Policy, dated 9/22/2011. Bate			
26	No. CCSDDEF000015.			
27	12. Ethan Bryan regarding GJHS Deans' Tardy Policy, dated 9/30/2011. Bate			
28	No. CCSDDEF000016.			

1	13. Litan Bryan regarding GJ113 Deans Tardy Folicy, dated 3/13/2011. Bates			
2	No. CCSDDEF000017.			
3	14. Nolan Hairr regarding GJHS Deans' Tardy Policy, dated 9/13/2011. B			
4	No. CCSDDEF000018.			
5	15. Nolan Hairr regarding GJHS Deans' Tardy Policy, dated 9/15/2011. Bates			
6	No. CCSDDEF000019.			
7	16. Nolan Hairr regarding Note Excuse from Aimee Hairr, dated 9/15/2011.			
8	Bates No. CCSDDEF000020.			
9	17. Nolan Hairr regarding GJHS Deans' Tardy Policy, dated 10/31/2011. Ba			
10	No. CCSDDEF000021.			
11	18. Ethan Bryan regarding GJHS Deans' Detention Notice, dated 11/1/2011.			
12	Bates No. CCSDDEF000022.			
13	19. Ethan Bryan regarding GJHS Deans' Tardy Policy, dated 11/1/2011. Bates			
14	No. CCSDDEF000023.			
15	20. Ethan Bryan regarding GJHS Deans' Detention Notice, dated 11/3/2011.			
16	Bates No. CCSDDEF000024.			
17	21. Nolan Hairr regarding GJHS Deans' Detention Notice, dated 10/31/2011.			
18	Bates No. CCSDDEF000025.			
19	22. Nolan Hairr regarding GJHS Deans' Detention Notice, dated 10/31/2011.			
20	Bates No. CCSDDEF000026.			
21	23. Nolan Hairr regarding GJHS Deans' Tardy Policy, dated 10/24/2011. Bates			
22	No. CCSDDEF000027.			
23	24. Nolan Hairr regarding GJHS Deans' Detention Notice, dated 11/3/2011.			
24	Bates No. CCSDDEF000028.			
25	25. Ethan Bryan regarding GJHS Deans' Tardy Policy, dated 11/4/2011. Bates			
26	No. CCSDDEF000029.			
27	26. Nolan Hairr regarding GJHS Deans' Tardy Policy, dated 1/24/2012. Bates			
28 No. CCSDDEF000030.				

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3	28. Ethan Bryan CCSD Notice of Required Parent Conference Temporary				
4	Removal from School, dated 11/15/2011. Bates No. CCSDDEF000032.				
5	29. Ethan Bryan CCSD Notice of Required Parent Conference Temporar				
6	Removal from School, dated 11/4/2011. Bates No. CCSDDEF000033.				
7	30. Email from Bryan to Various CCSD, parents & Bryan regarding Ver				
8	Concerned Parents!!!, dated 2/7/2012. Bates No. CCSDDEF000034 - CCSDDEF000037.				
9	31. J.A. regarding GJHS Voluntary Incident Report, dated 2/8/2012. Bates No				
10	CCSDDEF000038.				
11	32. R.H. regarding GJHS Voluntary Incident Report, dated 2/8/2012. Bates No				
12	CCSDDEF000039.				
13	33. Email from Long, Wright, Bryan to Stoudt & Wallace regarding GJHS				
14	Harassment Complaint, dated 2/8/2012. Bates No. CCSDDEF000040 – CCSDDEF000041.				
15	34. Email from Fox, Jones, Young to Area Service Center regarding Tracking				
16	#8 Very Concerned Parents!!!, dated 2/9/2012. Bates No. CCSDDEF000042 -				
17	CCSDDEF000058.				
18	35. Email from Bryan to Long regarding Greenspun Meeting regarding Ethan				
19	and Nolan, dated 2/9/2012. Bates No. CCSDDEF000059.				
20	36. Email from Long to Stoudt & Wallace regarding Greenspun Meeting				
21	regarding Dallin, Ethan and Nolan, dated 2/9/2012. Bates No. CCSDDEF000060				
22	CCSDDEF000061.				
23	37. Email from McKay & Bryan to Greenspun Administrative Team regarding				
24	Kyle & Bryan, dated 2/12/2012. Bates No. CCSDDEF000062 – CCSDDEF000069.				
25	38. R.P. regarding GJHS Voluntary Incident Report, dated 2/13/2012. Bates				
26	No. CCSDDEF000070.				
27	39. E.K. regarding GJHS Voluntary Incident Report, dated 2/13/2012. Bates				
28	No. CCSDDEF000071.				

Letter from Winn to Parent or Guardian of Ethan Bryan regarding Notice of

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Truancy, dated 1/18/2012. Bates No. CCSDDEF000031.

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No. CCSDDEF000072.

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No. CCSDDEF000074.

No. CCSDDEF000075.

No. CCSDDEF000087.

No. CCSDDEF000093.

CCSDDEF000094.

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L.F. regarding GJHS Voluntary Incident Report, dated 2/14/2012. Bates

C.B. regarding GJHS Voluntary Incident Report, dated 2/19/2012. Bates

M.S. regarding GJHS Voluntary Incident Report, dated 2/14/2012. Bates

D.M. regarding GJHS Voluntary Incident Report, dated 2/16/2012. Bates

CCSDPD Officer's Report, dated 2/6/2012. Bates No. CCSDDEF000076 -

C.L. regarding GJHS Voluntary Incident Report, dated 7/15/2012. Bates

S.H. regarding GJHS Voluntary Incident Report, dated September. Bates

N.B. regarding GJHS Voluntary Incident Report, undated.

G.B. regarding GJHS Voluntary Incident Report, undated.

C.K. regarding GJHS Voluntary Incident Report, undated.

E.G. regarding GJHS Voluntary Incident Report, undated.

A.C. regarding GJHS Voluntary Incident Report, undated.

-	54. 11.5. regarding G115 Voluntary includent Report, undated. Bates 140.				
2	CCSDDEF000099.				
3	55. Nine Month School Calendar, dated 2011-2012. Bates No.				
4	CCSDDEF000100.				
5	56. Ethan Bryan regarding GJHS Voluntary Incident Report, dated 10/19/2011.				
6	Bates No. CCSDDEF000101.				
7	57. Mary Bryan regarding Check-in and Check-out Times, dated 2011-2012.				
8	Bates No. CCSDDEF000102.				
9	58. Nolan Hairr regarding Bulling Experience at GJHS, dated 2/8/2012. Bates				
10	No. CCSDDEF000103 – CCDDEF000104.				
11	59. C.L. regarding GJHS Chronological of Behavior, dated 2/7/2012. Bates				
12	No. CCSDDEF000105 – CCSDDEF000106.				
13	60. NERC Charge #1008-12-0475LPA, dated 10/08/2012. Bates No.				
14	CCSDDEF000107.				
15	61. CCSD Behavior Guidelines for Secondary Students, dated September 2011.				
16	Bates No. CCSDDEF000108 - CCSDDEF000132.				
17	62. Greenspun – Catch The Wave, dated 2011-2012. Bates No.				
18	CCSDDEF000133 – CCSDDEF000136.				
19	63. CCSD Back to School Reporter - Vol. 13 - Issue 1, dated August 2011.				
20	Bates No. CCSDDEF000136 - CCSDDEF000168.				
21	C. Documents requested but not provided: None				
22	IV. LIST OF NAMES OF PERSONS EXCHANGED AT CASE CONFERENCE				
23	ALONG WITH LOCATION OF PERSON AND A GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF				
24	THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THAT PERSON'S TESTIMONY				
25	A. Plaintiffs:				
26	1. Mary Bryan, c/o Allen Lichtenstein, Attorney at Law, Ltd., 3315 Russell				
27	Road, No. 222, Las Vegas, NV 89120, (Phone) (702) 433-2666; (Fax) (702) 433-9591; (e-mail)				
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- Ethan Bryan, c/o Allen Lichtenstein, Attorney at Law, Ltd., 3315 Russell 2. Road, No. 222, Las Vegas, NV 89120, (Phone) (702) 433-2666; (Fax) (702) 433-9591; (e-mail) allaw@lvcoxmaio.com. It is anticipated that this witness will testify to matters and circumstances concerning allegations and defenses in this case.
- 3. Aimee Hairr, c/o Allen Lichtenstein, Attorney at Law, Ltd., 3315 Russell Road, No. 222, Las Vegas, NV 89120, (Phone) (702) 433-2666; (Fax) (702) 433-9591; (e-mail) allaw@lvcoxmaio.com. It is anticipated that this witness will testify to matters and circumstances concerning allegations and defenses in this case.
- Nolan Hairr, c/o Allen Lichtenstein, Attorney at Law, Ltd., 3315 Russell Road, No. 222, Las Vegas, NV 89120, (Phone) (702) 433-2666; (Fax) 702 433-9591; (e-mail) allaw@lvcoxmaio.com. It is anticipated that this witness will testify to matters and circumstances concerning allegations and defenses in this case.

#### B. **Defendants:**

- 1. Mary Bryan c/o Allen Lichtenstein, Ltd., 3315 Russell Road, No. 222, Las 89120, (Phone) (702) 433-2666; (Fax) (702) 433-9591; (e-mail) Vegas, NV allaw@lvcoxmaio.com. Plaintiff is believed to have knowledge regarding the facts and circumstances surrounding this litigation, including, without limitation the facts and circumstances alleged in the complaint concerning allegations of bullying.
- 2. Aimee Hairr c/o Allen Lichtenstein, Ltd. c/o Allen Lichtenstein, Ltd., 3315 Russell Road, No. 222, Las Vegas, NV 89120, (Phone) (702) 433-2666; (Fax) (702) 433-9591; (e-mail) <u>allaw@lvcoxmaio.com</u>. Plaintiff is believed to have knowledge regarding the facts and circumstances surrounding this litigation, including, without limitation the facts and circumstances alleged in the complaint concerning allegations of bullying.
- 3. Kyle Bryan, 1708 Sequoia Drive, Henderson, NV 89014. This witness is believed to have knowledge regarding the facts and circumstances surrounding this litigation, including, without limitation the facts and circumstances alleged in the complaint concerning

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bullying allegations regarding his son, Ethan.

- Heath Hairr, 2402 Viewpoint Drive, Henderson, NV 89014. This witness is believed to have knowledge regarding the facts and circumstances surrounding this litigation, including, without limitation the facts and circumstances alleged in the complaint concerning bullying allegations regarding his son, Nolan.
- 5. Nolan Hairr c/o Allen Lichtenstein, Ltd. c/o Allen Lichtenstein, Ltd., 3315 Russell Road, No. 222, Las Vegas, NV 89120, (Phone) (702) 433-2666; (Fax) (702) 433-9591; (e-mail) allaw@lycoxmaio.com. Plaintiff is believed to have knowledge regarding the facts and circumstances surrounding this litigation, including, without limitation the facts and circumstances alleged in the complaint.
- Ethan Bryan c/o Allen Lichtenstein, Ltd. c/o Allen Lichtenstein, Ltd., 3315 Russell Road, No. 222, Las Vegas, NV 89120, (Phone) (702) 433-2666; (Fax) (702) 433-9591; (e-mail) allaw@lvcoxmaio.com. Plaintiff is believed to have knowledge regarding the facts and circumstances surrounding this litigation, including, without limitation the facts and circumstances alleged in the complaint.
- 7. Principal Warren P. McKay, Greenspun Junior High School Principal c/o Lewis Roca Rothgerber, LLP, 3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 600, Las Vegas, NV 89169, (Phone) (702) 949-8200; (Fax) (702) 949-8398. Mr. McKay was the Principal at Greenspun Junior High School and is expected to testify regarding the facts and circumstances surrounding this litigation.
- 8. Leonard DePiazza, Greenspun Junior High School Assistant Principal c/o Lewis Roca Rothgerber, LLP, 3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 600, Las Vegas, NV 89169, (Phone) (702) 949-8200; (Fax) (702) 949-8398. Mr. DePiazza was the Assistant Principal at Greenspun Junior High School and is expected to testify regarding the facts and circumstances surrounding this litigation.
- 9. Cheryl Winn, Greenspun Junior High School Dean c/o Lewis Roca Rothgerber, LLP, 3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 600, Las Vegas, NV 89169, (Phone) (702) 949-8200; (Fax) (702) 949-8398. Ms. Winn is a Dean at Greenspun Junior High School

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- 10. John Halpin, Greenspun Junior High School Counselor c/o Lewis Roca Rothgerber, LLP, 3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 600, Las Vegas, NV 89169, (Phone) (702) 949-8200; (Fax) (702) 949-8398. Mr. Halpin is a Counselor at Greenspun Junior High School and is expected to testify regarding the facts and circumstances surrounding this litigation.
- 11. Robert Beasley, Greenspun Junior High School Instructor c/o Lewis Roca Rothgerber, LLP, 3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 600, Las Vegas, NV 89169, (Phone) (702) 949-8200; (Fax) (702) 949-8398. Mr. Beasley is an Instructor at Greenspun Junior High School and is expected to testify regarding the facts and circumstances surrounding this litigation.
- Andre Long, Greenspun Junior High School former Academic Manager c/o Lewis Roca Rothgerber, LLP, 3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 600, Las Vegas, NV 89169, (Phone) (702) 949-8200; (Fax) (702) 949-8398. Mr. Long was the Academic Manager over Greenspun Junior High School and is expected to testify regarding his knowledge of the facts and circumstances surrounding this litigation.
- 13. Person(s) Most Knowledgeable for CCSD c/o Lewis Roca Rothgerber, LLP, 3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 600, Las Vegas, NV 89169, (Phone) (702) 949-8200; (Fax) (702) 949-8398. This witness (these witnesses) will testify regarding various matters relevant to the claims and defenses in this lawsuit.
- 14. Officer G. Abbott #199, CCSD Police Department c/o Lewis Roca Rothgerber, LLP, 3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 600, Las Vegas, NV 89169, (Phone) (702) 949-8200; (Fax) (702) 949-8398. This witness is an officer with the CCSD Police Department and is expected to testify as to the facts and circumstances surrounding the Plaintiffs' police report.
- 15. Officer R. Dove #277, CCSD Police Department c/o Lewis Roca Rothgerber, LLP, 3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 600, Las Vegas, NV 89169, (Phone) (702) 949-8200; (Fax) (702) 949-8398. This witness is an officer with the CCSD Police

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- 16. Officer Markiewiez #530, CCSD Police Department c/o Lewis Roca Rothgerber, LLP, 3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 600, Las Vegas, NV 89169, (Phone) (702) 949-8200; (Fax) (702) 949-8398. This witness is an officer with the CCSD Police Department and is expected to testify as to the facts and circumstances surrounding the Plaintiffs' police report.
- Officer Wykry #509, CCSD Police Department c/o Lewis Roca 17. Rothgerber, LLP, 3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 600, Las Vegas, NV 89169, (Phone) (702) 949-8200; (Fax) (702) 949-8398. This witness is an officer with the CCSD Police Department and is expected to testify as to the facts and circumstances surrounding the Plaintiffs' police report.
- As yet unidentified classmates of Ethan Bryan and Nolan Hairr are expected to testify as to the facts and circumstances surrounding Plaintiffs' allegations that bullying occurred in school.
- 19. Defendants reserve the right to call any and all witnesses identified and listed by any other party.
- 20. Any and all medical providers who have treated the Plaintiffs' alleged injuries as a result of this incident.
- 21. Defendants reserve the right to call an Independent Medical Examiner not yet ascertained who is expected to testify regarding an independent medical evaluation and/or records review of Plaintiffs.
- 22. Defendants reserve the right to designate expert(s) on liability and damages and to provide information which will assist Defendants in the resolution of this matter.
- Defendants reserve the right to supplement this list of witnesses and production of documents as discovery continues.
- 24. Numerous students and former students of Greenspun Junior High School (and some of their parents or guardians), whose addresses are presently unknown and/or are not

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specifically produced here in a good faith effort to avoid violating the Family Educational Rights
and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. 1232g. These witnesses may testify regarding their
communications, observations, and interactions with Ethan Bryan and Nolan Hairr. These
witnesses may testify regarding their communications, observations, and interactions with Ms.
Bryan.

#### V. DISCOVERY PLAN AGREED TO BY THE PARTIES [16.1(b)(2) and 16.1(c)(2)]

- A. What changes, if any, should be made in the timing, form or requirements for disclosures under 16.1(a):
  - Plaintiff's view: None. 1.
  - 2. Defendant's view: None.

When disclosures under 16.1(a)(1) were made or will be made:

- 1. Plaintiff's disclosures: June 22, 2015
- 2. Defendant's disclosures: April 2, 2015
- B. Subjects on which discovery may be needed:
  - 1. Plaintiff's view: All claims and defenses listed in the complaint and answer.
  - Defendant's view: All claims and defenses listed in the complaint and 2.

answer.

- C. Should discovery be conducted in phases or limited to or focused upon particular issues?
  - 1. Plaintiff's view: No
- 2. Defendant's view: Possible bifurcation of Monell discovery and liability claims.
- D. What changes, if any, should be made in limitations on discovery imposed under these rules and what, if any, other limitations should be imposed?
  - 1. Plaintiff's view: The expanded discovery cut-off date.
  - 2. Defendant's view: The expanded discovery cut-off date.

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1		E.	What, if any, other orders should be entered by court under Rule 26(c) or Rule				
2	16(b)	and (c):					
3			1.	Plaintiff's view: None.			
4			2.	Defendant's view: Confidentiality and Pro	stective Order, including provision		
5	for FE	ERPA r	ecords.	The second secon			
6	10111		RPA records.  F. Estimated time for trial:				
7		F.					
8			1.	Plaintiff's view: 14 court days.			
9			2.	Defendant's view: 14 court days.			
10	VI.	DISC	COVER	RY AND MOTION DATES [16.1(c)(5)-(8)	1		
11	A.	Dates agreed by the parties:					
12		1.	Close	e of discovery:	February 16, 2016		
13							
14 15		2.		date to file motions to amend pleadings or parties (without a further court order):	November 18, 2015 enter calendar date (Not later than 90 days before close of discovery)		
16		3.	Final	dates for expert disclosures:	,,		
17 18			i.	initial disclosure:	November 18, 2015 enter calendar date (Not later than 90 days before discovery cut-off date)		
19			ii.	rebuttal disclosures:	December 18, 2015		
20					enter calendar date (Not later than 30 days after initial disclosure of experts)		
21		4.	Final	date to file dispositive motions:			
22		71	1 mui	dute to the dispositive motions.	March 17, 2016 enter calendar date		
23					(Not later than 30 days after discovery cut-off date)		
24		Failure to agree on the calendar dates in this subdivision shall result in a discovery					
25	plann	ning conference.					
26	VII.	JURY DEMAND [16.1(c)(10)]					
27		A jury demand has been filed: Yes.					
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Similar to Fed. R. Evid. 502, the Parties hereby enter into a "clawback" agreement to expedite and facilitate the production of electronic and hard copy data, information and documents, and to protect against inadvertent disclosure of attorney-client privileged communications or work product materials. The inadvertent disclosure or production of any information or document that is subject to an objection on the basis of attorney-client privilege or work-product protection, will not be deemed to waive a party's claim to any claim of privilege, protected nature, or estop that party or the privilege holder from designating the information or document as attorney-client privileged or subject to the work product doctrine at a later date. Any party receiving any such information or document shall return it upon request from the producing party. Upon receiving a request as to specific information or documents, the receiving party shall return all copies of the information or documents to the producing party within five (5) business days, and shall destroy any notes, work product or electronic files reflecting the contents of such material, regardless of whether the receiving party agrees with the claim of privilege and/or workproduct protection. This agreement shall not be deemed to prevent any party from seeking an order compelling production of any document or information.

Furthermore, no privilege log is required for privileged communications that occurred after the date the Complaint was filed in this action.

### IX. CONCLUSION

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This report is signed in accordance with rule 26(g)(1) of the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure. Each signature constitutes a certification that to the best of the signer's knowledge, information and belief, formed after a reasonable inquiry, the disclosures made by the signer are complete and correct as of this time.

Dated: July 27, 2015 Dated: July 27, 2015

ALLEN LICHTENSTEIN, LTD. LEWIS ROCA ROTHGERBER LLP

By: /s/ Allen Lichtenstein

Allen Lichtenstein (SBN 3992) Staci Pratt (SBN 12630) 3315 Russell Road, No. 222 Las Vegas, NV 89120

John Houston Scott (SBN 72578) Admitted Pro Hac Vice SCOTT LAW FIRM 1388 Sutter Street, Suite 715 San Francisco, CA 94109

Attorneys for Plaintiffs, Mary Bryan, Ethan Bryan, Aimee Hairr and Nolan Hairr By: /s/ Matthew W. Park
Dan R. Waite (State Bar No. 4078)
Matthew W. Park (State Bar No. 12062)
3993 Howard Hughes Pkwy., Suite 600
Las Vegas, NV 89169-5996

Attorneys for Defendants CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD), Warren P. McKay, Leonard DePiazza, Cheryl Winn, John Halpin, Robert Beasley

**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

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28 **DISCOVERY** 

OMMISSIONER EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

DSO

DISTRICT COURT

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

MARY BRYAN, mother of ETHAN BRYAN; AIMEE HAIRR, mother of NOLAN HAIRR,

Plaintiffs,

CASE NO. A700018 DEPT NO. XXVII

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD); Pat Skorkowsky, in his official capacity as CCSD superintendent; CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; Erin A. Cranor, Linda E. Young, Patrice Tew, Stavan Corbett, Carolyn Edwards, Chris Garvey, Deanna Wright, in their official capacities as CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; GREENSPUN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL (GJHS); Principal Warren P. McKay, in his individual and official capacity as principal of GJHS, et al.,

Defendants.

#### SCHEDULING ORDER

(Discovery/Dispositive Motions/Motions to Amend or Add Parties)

NATURE OF ACTION: Declaratory relief

DATE OF FILING JOINT CASE CONFERENCE REPORT(S): 7/27/15

TIME REQUIRED FOR TRIAL: 14 days

DATES FOR SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE: None Requested

Counsel for Plaintiffs:

Allen Lichtenstein, Esq.

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Counsel for Defendants CCSD/PRINCIPAL WARREN P. MCKAY/LEONARD DEPIAZZA/CHERYL WINN/JOHN HALPIN/ROBERT BEASLEY:

#### Matthew W. Park, Esq., Lewis Roca Rothgerber

Counsel representing all parties have been heard and after consideration by the Discovery Commissioner,

#### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

- 1. all parties shall complete discovery on or before 2/16/16.
- 2. all parties shall file motions to amend pleadings or add parties on or before 11/18/15.
- 3. all parties shall make initial expert disclosures pursuant to N.R.C.P. 16.1(a)(2) on or before 11/18/15.
- all parties shall make rebuttal expert disclosures pursuant to N.R.C.P. 16.1(a)(2) on or before 12/18/15.
- all parties shall file dispositive motions 5. before 3/17/16.

Certain dates from your case conference report(s) may have been changed to bring them into compliance with N.R.C.P. 16.1.

Within 60 days from the date of this Scheduling Order, the Court shall notify counsel for the parties as to the date of trial, as well as any further pretrial requirements in addition to those set forth above.

Unless otherwise directed by the court, all pretrial disclosures pursuant to N.R.C.P. 16.1(a)(3) must be made at least 30 days before trial.

28 **DISCOVERY** MMISSIONER

EIGHTH JUDICIAL

Motions for extensions of discovery shall be made to the Discovery Commissioner in strict accordance with E.D.C.R. 2.35. Discovery is completed on the day responses are due or the day a deposition begins.

Unless otherwise ordered, all discovery disputes (except disputes presented at a pre-trial conference or at trial) must first be heard by the Discovery Commissioner.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of August, 2015.

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the date filed, I placed a copy of the foregoing DISCOVERY SCHEDULING ORDER in the attorney folder(s), mailed or e-served as follows:

Allen Lichtenstein, Esq. Matthew W. Park, Esq.

Totili Fehanon..

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DISCOVERY
MMISSIONER

**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

1 **NEO** Dan R. Waite (State Bar No. 004078) Matthew W. Park (State Bar No. 12062) 2 Jennifer Hostetler (State Bar No. 11994) LEWIS ROCA ROTHGERBER LLP 3 3993 Howard Hughes Pkwy, Suite 600 Las Vegas, NV 89169-5996 4 Tel: 702.949.8200 Fax: 702.949.8398 5 DWaite@lrrlaw.com MPark@lrrlaw.com 6 JHostetler@lrrlaw.com 7 Attorneys for Defendants CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRÍCT (CCSD), Warren P. McKay, Leonard DePiazza, 8 Cheryl Winn, John Halpin, Robert Beasley 9 DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 10 MARY BRYAN, mother of ETHAN BRYAN; 11 AIMEE HAIRR, mother of NOLAN HAIRR, 12 Plaintiffs, 13 VS. 14 CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD); Pat Skorkowsky, in his official 15 capacity as CCSD superintendent; CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; Erin A. 16 Cranor, Linda E. Young, Patrice Tew, Stavan Corbett, Carolyn Edwards, Chris Garvey, 17 Deanna Wright, in their official capacities as CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; 18 Principal Warren P. McKay, in his individual and official capacity as principal of GJHS; 19 Leonard DePiazza, in his individual and official capacity as assistant principal at GJHS; Cheryl 20 Winn, in her individual and official capacity as Dean at GJHS; John Halpin, in his individual 21 and official capacity as counselor at GJHS; Robert Beasley, in his individual and official 22 capacity as instructor at GJHS; NEVADA 23 EQUAL RIGHTS COMMISSION (NERC); Kara Jenkins in her individual and official capacity as Commission Administrator of 24 NERC; Dennis Perea, in his official capacity as Deputy Director or the NEVADA 25 DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING, AND REHABILITATION 26 (DETR), 27 Defendants. 28

Case No. A-14-700018-C

Dept. No. XXVII

NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER **GRANTING DEFENDANTS' RULE 12** MOTION TO DISMISS UNSERVED **PARTIES** 

3993 Howard Hughes Pkwy, Suite 600

Las Vegas, NV 89169-5996

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an Order Granting Defendants' Rule 12 Motion to Dismiss Unserved Parties was entered on December 1, 2015. A copy of the Order is attached hereto.

DATED this 2nd day of December, 2015.

LEWIS ROCA ROTHGERBER LLP

Bv:

Dan R. Waite (State Bar No. 004078) Matthew W. Park (State Bar No. 12062) Jennifer Hostetler (State Bar No. 11994) 3993 Howard Hughes Pkwy, Suite 600 Las Vegas, NV 89169-5996

Tel: 702.949.8200 Fax: 702.949.8398

Attorneys for Defendants CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD), Warren P. McKay, Leonard DePiazza, Cheryl Winn, John Halpin, Robert Beasley

3993 Howard Hughes Pkwy, Suite 600 Las Vegas, NV 89169-5996

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Pursuant to Rule 5(b), I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANTS' RULE 12 MOTION TO DISMISS UNSERVED PARTIES to be submitted electronically for filing and/or service with the Eighth Judicial District Court via Court's Electronic System and as stated below to the following:

ATTORNEYS OF RECORD	PARTIES REPRESENTED	METHODS OF SERVICE
Allen Lichtenstein, Esq.  Allaw@lvcoxmail.com Staci Pratt, Esq.  Stacijpratt@gmail.com Allen Lichtenstein, Ltd.  3315 Russell Road, No. 222 Las Vegas, NV 89120	Attorney for Plaintiffs	Wiznet
John Houston Scott  John@scottlawfirm.net Scott Law Firm 2587 35th Avenue San Francisco, CA 94116	Attorney for Plaintiffs	U.S. Mail

DATED this 2 day of December, 2015.

An Employee of Lewis Roca Rothgerber LLP

Electronically Filed

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1993 Howard Hughes Pkwy, Sulte 600

as Vegas, NV 89169-5936

12/02/2015 12:22:14 PM Dan R. Waite (State Bar No. 004078) 1 Matthew W. Park (State Bar No. 12062) 2 Brian D. Blakley (State Bar No. 13074) LEWIS ROCA ROTHGERBER LLP 3993 Howard Hughes Pkwy, Suite 600 Las Vegas, NV 89169-5996 3 CLERK OF THE COURT Tel: 702.949.8200 滇 Fax: 702.949.8398 DWaite@lrrlaw.com MPark@lrrlaw.com 3 BBlaklev@lrrlaw.com 6 Attorneys for Defendants Clark County School 7 District (CCSD), Warren P. McKay, Leonard DePiazza, Cheryl Winn, John Halpin, Robert Beasley 8 DISTRICT COURT 9 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 10 Case No. A-14-700018-C MARY BRYAN, mother of ETHAN BRYAN; AIMEE HAIRR, mother of NOLAN HAIRR, 11 XXVII Dept. No. 12 Plaintiffs, 13 14 CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANTS' RULE 12 DISTRICT (CCSD): Pat Skorkowsky, 15 MOTION TO DISMISS in his official capacity as CCSD superintendent; CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; Erin A. UNSERVED PARTIES 16 Cranor, Linda E. Young, Patrice 17 Date of Hearing: November 19, 2015 Tew, Stavan Corbett, Carolyn 18 Edwards, Chris Garvey, Deanna Wright, in their official capacities as Time of Hearing: 10:30 a.m. CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL 19 (Hearing Vacated By Minute Order) TRUSTEES: Principal Warren P. McKay, in his individual and official 20 capacity as principal of GJHS; 21 Leonard DePiazza, in his individual and official capacity as assistant principal at GJHS; Cheryl Winn, in 22 her individual and official capacity as Dean at GJHS; John Halpin, in his 23 individual and official capacity as 24 counselor at GJHS; Robert Beasley, in his individual and official capacity 25 as instructor at GJHS, Defendants. 26 27 28

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motion, and good cause appearing, the Court hereby finds and concludes as follows:

Defendants' (Warren P. McKay, Leonard DePiazza, Cheryl Winn, John

- The Moving Defendants filed their Motion To Dismiss Unserved 1. Parties on October 8, 2015.
- On October 8, 2015, the Motion To Dismiss Unserved Parties was 2. duly served on Plaintiffs' counsel Allen Lichtenstein, Esq., and Staci Pratt, Esq., of Allen Lichtenstein Attorney at Law, Ltd, via Eighth Judicial District Court Electronic Service and the Certificate of Service executed by an employee of Lewis Roca Rothgerber LLP. The Certificate of Service was filed with the Court on October 8, 2015.
- Plaintiffs did not file an opposition brief or other response to the Motion To Dismiss Unserved Parties.
- Pursuant to EDCR 2.20(e), "[f]ailure of the opposing party to serve and file written opposition may be construed as an admission that the motion . . , is meritorious and a consent to granting the same."
- The Court has reviewed the Motion to Dismiss Unserved Parties õ. and concludes it should be granted both because EDCR 2.20(e) is applicable and, based on the Court's independent evaluation, the motion is meritorious.

Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Defendants' Rule 12 Motion To Dismiss Unserved Parties is GRANTED. Therefore, Defendants Pat Skorkowsky, the CCSD Board of School Trustees, Erin A Cranor, Linda E. Young, Patrice Tew, Stavan Corbett, Carolyn Edwards, Chris Garvey and

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as Vegas, NV 89169-5996

Deanna Wright (collectively, the "Unserved Parties") are hereby dismissed from this action. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the hearing scheduled for November 19. 2015, at 10:30 a.m. is vacated. . 2015 Dated: November \_ District Court Judge Respectfully Submitted By: LEWIS ROCA ROTHGEREER LLP Daniel F. Polsenberg (SBN 2376) DAN R. WAITE (SBN 4078) BRIAN D. BLAKLEY (SBN 13074) 3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 600 Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 (702) 949-8200 Attorneys for Defendants Clark County School District (CCSD), Warren P. McKay, Leonard DePiazza, Cheryl Winn, John Halpin, and Robert Beasley

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Dan R. Waite (State Bar No. 004078) Matthew W. Park (State Bar No. 12062) 2 Brian D. Blakley (State Bar No. 13074) CLERK OF THE COURT LEWIS ROCA ROTHGERBER LLP 3 3993 Howard Hughes Pkwy, Suite 600 Las Vegas, NV 89169-5996 4 Tel: 702.949.8200 Fax: 702.949.8398 5 DWaite@lrrlaw.com MPark@lrrlaw.com 6 BBlakley@lrrlaw.com 7 Attorneys for Defendants Clark County School District (CCSD), Warren P. McKay, Leonard DePiazza, 8 Cheryl Winn, John Halpin, Robert Beasley 9 DISTRICT COURT 10 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 11 MARY BRYAN, mother of ETHAN BRYAN: Case No. A-14-700018-C AIMEE HAIRR, mother of NOLAN HAIRR, 12 Dept. No. XXVII Plaintiffs, 13 vs. 14 CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT STIPULATED PROTECTIVE ORDER 15 (CCSD); Pat Skorkowsky, in his official capacity as CCSD superintendent; CCSD 16 BÔARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; Erin A. Cranor, Linda E. Young, Patrice Tew, Stavan 17 Corbett, Carolyn Edwards, Chris Garvey, Deanna Wright, in their official capacities as 18 CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; Principal Warren P. McKay, in his individual 19 and official capacity as principal of GJHS; Leonard DePiazza, in his individual and official 20 capacity as assistant principal at GJHS; Chervl Winn, in her individual and official capacity as 21 Dean at GJHS; John Halpin, in his individual and official capacity as counselor at GJHS: 22 Robert Beasley, in his individual and official capacity as instructor at GJHS; 23 Defendants. 24 The "Litigation" shall mean the above-captioned case, Mary Bryan, mother of Ethan 25 Bryan, et al. v. Clark County School District, et al., in the District Court Case No. A-14-700018-26 C. The above-captioned parties (collectively, the "Parties," or singularly, a "Party") understand 27 that this Litigation will involve the production and use of protected health information ("PHI"). 28

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- 1. Definition of PHI. PHI includes Plaintiff Nolan Hairr's and Plaintiff Ethan Bryan's individually identifiable physical and mental health information, and is strictly limited to information regarding (1) the past, present or future physical or mental condition of either Plaintiff; and (2) the provision of care to either Plaintiff. Any such information created by or obtained from health care providers is initially considered PHI per se ("Per Se PHI"). In addition, any Party may designate other information as PHI by notifying the other Parties in writing within 15 days of the designating Party's receipt of the information, but must have a good faith basis to so designate ("Designated PHI"). Any Party may make a good faith objection to the Designated PHI. Upon objection to the Designated PHI, the designating Party, must move to confirm the protected PHI classification with the Court, within 14 days of said objection. If no motion is filed with the Court, the objection stands and the information is no longer considered PHI. Any Party may move at any time to remove a confidential designation of either Per Se or Designated PHI.
- 2. Purpose of the Protective Order. The disclosure of PHI outside the scope of the Litigation could result in significant injury to the privacy interests of individual patients. The Court enters this Protective Order to prevent the disclosures and use of either Plaintiffs' PHI except as set forth below.
- 3. Authorization to Disclose, Request and Receive PHI. All health care providers and health care facilities are hereby authorized to disclose Nolan Hairr's and Ethan Bryan's PHI in response to discovery requests, subpoenas, deposition inquiries or patient authorization forms. These disclosures are subject to the limitations of the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure, the discovery served in this Litigation, and the Orders of this Court. The Parties to this Litigation are hereby authorized to receive, subpoena, request and transmit PHI to comply with those same obligations. Any discovery served, and documents produced, related to PHI shall be consistent

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Carved out from the Per Se PHI designation is a redacted version of the Children's Urology letter dated March 7, 2012, attached hereto as Exhibit A. The parties agree this redacted version of the March 7, 2012 letter does not constitute PHI.

with the Orders of this Court. Any Party reserves their right to object to any production of PHI consistent with the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure.

- 4. Use of Medical Records or Information. All documents containing PHI and the PHI therein shall be used solely for the purpose of conducting this Litigation. Documents with PHI and the PHI may be disclosed only to the following persons:
  - a. Attorneys of record for any Party to this action, and all legal support personnel, and clerical employees working under the direct supervision of such counsel;
  - b. The Parties to this action;
  - c. The Court and its personnel;
  - d. Witnesses, independent consultants, or experts retained by any of the Parties to this Litigation to assist in the preparation and trial of this Litigation, who any of the Parties, in good faith, determines need to view such documents for the purposes of this Litigation;
  - e. Any arbitrator or mediator designated in this Litigation;
  - f. Any court reporter employed in connection with a deposition in this Litigation;

All persons reviewing or receiving copies of documents containing PHI are enjoined from disclosing the contents thereof to any other person other than for the prosecution or defense of this Litigation, except in conformity with this Protective Order, and hereby, by signing the declaration attached hereto as **Exhibit B**, agree to subject themselves to the jurisdiction of the Court for the purpose of any proceeding relating to the performance under, compliance with, or violation of this Protective Order. The recipient of any PHI document shall maintain such information in a secure and safe area.

5. Custody and Reproduction of PHI. During the pendency of the Litigation, counsel shall retain custody of the PHI, except that individuals authorized to review or receive the PHI pursuant to this Protective Order may retain custody of any copies or reproductions as reasonably necessary for the Litigation and at the conclusion of the Litigation, including the conclusion of all appeals, shall destroy all PHI that was provided to them within 45 days. No other copies or reproduction of documents containing PHI shall be made.

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6. Continuing Obligations Under Protective Order. The termination of this
Litigation shall not relieve counsel or other persons obligated under this Protective Order from
their responsibility to comply with this Protective Order, and the Court shall retain continuing
jurisdiction to enforce the terms of this Protective Order.
7. <b>Modification</b> . The Parties or any Party may seek modification of this Order by the
Court at any time, by stipulation or by motion for good cause.
IT IS SO STIPULATED
Dated this day of December, 2015. Dated this day of December, 2015.
By:  ALLEN LICHTENSTEIN ATTORNEY AT LAW, LTD:  By:  ALLEN LICHTENSTEIN (SBN 3992)  3315 Russell Road, No. 222  Las Vegas, Nevada 89120  (702) 433-2666  Attorneys for Plaintiffs  By:  Dan R. Waite (SBN 004078)  Matthew W. Park (SBN 12062)  Brian D. Blakley (SBN 13074)  3993 Howard Hughes Pkwy, Suite 600  Las Vegas, Nevada 89169  (702) 949-8200  Attorneys for Defendants Clark  County School District (CCSD),  Warren P. McKay, Leonard  DePiazza, Cheryl Winn, John  Halpin, Robert Beasley
ORDER IT IS SO ORDERED.
DATED: December, 2015.
Submitted By:
By:  Matthew W. Park (SBN 12062) 3993 Howard Hughes Pkwy, Suite 600 Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 (702) 949-8200  Attorneys for Defendants Clark County School District (CCSD), Warren P. McKay, Leonard DePiazza, Cheryl Winn, John Halpin, Robert Beasley

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# 3993 Howard Hughes Pkwy, Suite 600 as Vegas, NV 89169-5996

# DISTRICT COURT

# CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

EXHIBIT B

MARY BRYAN, mother of ETHAN BRYAN; AIMEE HAIRR, mother of NOLAN HAIRR.

Case No. A-14-700018-C

Dept. No. XXVII

Plaintiffs,

vs.

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CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCSD); Pat Skorkowsky, in his official capacity as CCSD superintendent: CCSD BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES; Erin A. Cranor, Linda E.

Young, Patrice Tew, Stavan Corbett. Carolyn Edwards, Chris Garvey, Deanna Wright, in their official capacities as CCSD BOARD OF

SCHOOL TRUSTEES; Principal Warren P. McKay, in his individual and official capacity as principal of GJHS; Leonard DePiazza, in his individual and official capacity as assistant principal at GJHS; Cheryl Winn, in her individual and official capacity as Dean at GJHS; John Halpin, in his individual and official capacity as counselor at GJHS; Robert

Beasley, in his individual and official

capacity as instructor at GJHS,

Defendants.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PROTECTIVE ORDER AND AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND

Under the penalty of perjury, I have read the Protective Order ("Order") in the abovecaptioned case. I understand the terms of the Order, I agree to be fully bound by the terms of the Order, and I hereby submit to the jurisdiction of Nevada's Eighth Judicial District Court for purposes of enforcement of the Order.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

25 Signature:

26 Signatory's Name, Business Affiliation, and Business Address:

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1 **TRAN CLERK OF THE COURT** 2 DISTRICT COURT 3 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 4 5 MARY BRYAN, 6 CASE NO. A700018 Plaintiffs, 7 VS. DEPT. NO. XXVII 8 CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL, 9 10 Defendants. 11 BEFORE THE HONORABLE NANCY ALLF, DISTRICT COURT JUDGE 12 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2016 13 **RECORDER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS:** DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO COMPEL RULE 35 EXAMINATIONS 14 15 16 17 APPEARANCES: 18 For the Plaintiffs: ALLEN K. LICHTENSTEIN, ESQ. 19 JOHN H. SCOTT, ESQ. Pro Hac Vice 20 21 For the Defendants: MATTHEW W. PARK, ESQ. 22 23 24

RECORDED BY: TRACI RAWLINSON, COURT RECORDER

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2016, 9:24 A.M.

THE COURT: Are the parties here on Bryan versus Clark County School District? Appearances please.

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Good morning Your Honor, Allen Lichtenstein for the Plaintiff and co-counsel John Scott with me.

MR. SCOTT: Good morning, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Thank you. And for the Defendant.

MR. PARK: Good morning Your Honor, Matt Park for Defendants.

THE COURT: Thank you. This is the Defendants' motion to compel a Rule 35 examination.

MR. PARK: Correct, Your Honor. As you know this is a bullying case. We filed a motion to compel a Rule 35 examination because the boys here they allege they were bullied and then they moved to another school. But within those allegations in their complaint they also allege that they were depressed, that they had -- one of the boys had recurring nightmares and suicide ideation. The subsequent medical records that we've received -- we've also seen a diagnosis of anxiety and depression. Now in Plaintiffs' response to our motion they've gone ahead and said they aren't claiming future emotional distress damages and they're not claiming current emotional distress damages. So really the only issue before the Court are the past emotional distress damages.

THE COURT: And that was August of 2011 until February of 2012?

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Your Honor if I can see you speak I can hear you better that's all

THE COURT: I am so sorry. You know, I wanted to have IT put the microphone on but it was gonna delay the hearing.

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: It's okay. If I could stand and hear you I could actually get your words better. So I apologize.

THE COURT: I'll give you a chance to respond; the dates.

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: I wasn't trying to I was just -- wanted to hear you.

THE COURT: I understand.

MR. PARK: That's my understanding, Your Honor, is the dates that would be the past emotional distress would be from the time that they were in school to the time they were moved from school but, you know, Mr. Lichtenstein can speak better as to the timeframe that they're claiming concerning those past emotional distress damages. In other words it's not current so I assume it would be prior to the filing of the lawsuit to the time they were in school.

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Yes.

THE COURT: And based on my calculations are they now seniors in high school?

MR. PARK: I don't believe so, Your Honor. Seniors in high school Allen or --

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Sophomores in high school.

MR. PARK: Sophomores.

THE COURT: Sophomores. Because they were in sixth grade in 2011; I couldn't do the math, wasn't sure. Okay, good enough. So they're sophomores, okay.

MR. PARK: Correct, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Anything further?

MR. PARK: Sure. And so our argument is, Your Honor, one that they are asking for more than garden variety emotional distress. They are asking for something that is -- even the past damages are severe and unusual because we're

talking about diagnosable emotional distress. We're talking about depression which is diagnosable under the DSM. We're talking about anxiety which is diagnosable under the DSM. We're talking about suicidal ideation which I think to anybody's, you know, lay understanding would be an unusual and severe instance of emotional distress, Your Honor. So all we're asking for is a Rule 35 examination to go into those -- the past emotional distress issues and learn about them, learn more about them. Learn about, you know, where did they come from; are they associated with the bullying; are they not associated with the bullying; are they pre-existing? We believe we have the right to do that under Rule 35.

THE COURT: Thank you. And the opposition please.

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Yes. Mr. Park is asking for a Rule 35 for an analysis of past emotional and psychological state. Rule 35 doesn't provide for that; it is for current -- it's all in the present for current emotional state in a very unusual circumstance. The *Turner* factors that really rule whether that is appropriate or not, none of them exist here. There is no claim -- specific claim for emotional distress, no allegation of specific mental distress. He can point to the complaint and in two places it said the kids were depressed and didn't want to go to school. One kid was depressed and started thinking about suicide.

So nothing now, we never brought it up, all of the things in terms of the depositions, they're all theirs. They went for the medical records, we didn't. We're not presenting any medical evidence. We're not making any claims for current or future distress so that fact is not there and the distress we never claimed was particularly unusual. Kids were bullied and got depressed. That was mentioned in the fact pattern of the complaint, again nothing going forward. And we have no expert testimony, we have no testimony. In fact had the Defendants not brought up

the question of emotional distress, had they not subpoenaed records from all of the doctors, it wouldn't be an issue 'cause we never put this into consideration. That's not our case.

The only purpose for this is to create extra stress on these kids who have gone through enough already for a psychiatric examination that has nothing to do with this case 'cause if someone comes back and says hey they're not suffering anything at the moment, we never made that claim. As far as what happened in the past, again Rule -- Mr. Park has been able to cite no case, zero legal authority that suggests that Rule 35 is applicable to a situation that happened four and a half, five years ago. That's not Rule 35. Rule 35 is are there particular circumstances now that are relevant to the particular case, and that doesn't exist and there's no case law to suggest that this court should be making new law and say yeah that can ignore current situation and only do a psychological examination of what they were feeling and thinking and experiencing four or five years ago. So this should really be denied as inappropriate for Rule 35.

THE COURT: Have both of the young men been deposed?

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Yes.

THE COURT: All right. And did the issue of the anxiety and depression during the August 2011 through February 2012, did the Defendant have the chance to explore that?

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Yes.

THE COURT: All right. And how were you going to ask for damages?

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Beg your pardon?

THE COURT: How are you going to ask for damages in this case for past anxiety and depression?

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Yeah, according to proof. This is a bench trial.

Ultimately it will be the finder of fact who makes that determination of what that would be worth.

THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.

Mr. Park.

MR. PARK: Sure, Your Honor. You know, obviously we disagree with their allegation that we're doing this just to harass the kids.

THE COURT: Of course.

MR. PARK: Really for us, Your Honor, it is a matter of, you know, Mr. Lichtenstein was very careful I think in his discussion to gloss around the fact that suicide ideation I mean that certainly is -- again it's a diagnosable emotional distress issue and it's something that is severe. That's not garden variety, Your Honor; depression, again, that's diagnosable, Your Honor. And where we are talking about past emotional distress, there's nothing in Rule 35 that says you can't have a Rule 35 examination for past emotional distress. It says if their mental state is in controversy, Your Honor, and here it is. Here it is because they agree that they will ask for past emotional distress damages according to proof, Your Honor. That opens up the door for us to go and at least inquire into it.

And while we did have the opportunity to examine both boys via deposition, unfortunately we aren't doctors, we aren't psychologists, we aren't therapists. And so while we can ask questions we don't know what the appropriate follow-up questions are, what may trigger an appropriate follow-up question for a medical professional. And so we don't believe that's an adequate substitute for a Rule 35 examination.

THE COURT: All right. And there's a discovery cutoff on March 1?

	MR. PARK:	Discovery	cutoff in this	case is	actually F	ebruary	16 <sup>th</sup> ,	Your
Honoi	•							

THE COURT: All right so next week.

MR. PARK: So we're coming up on it, yes ma'am.

THE COURT: Right and what about the date to designate experts? That has already past?

MR. PARK: That's already past and we designated an expert, Your Honor.

THE COURT: In this area?

MR. PARK: In this case an initial expert, correct.

THE COURT: Good enough. You know, I -- it's a close call. I'm going to deny the motion for the reason that the negligence claims have been dismissed. If there were negligence claims I would have allowed an examination of the two young men. I refuse to call them boys; they're young men; they're sophomores in high school. Let me also caution the Plaintiff though, I'm going to limit your proof at the time of trial to those statements made in August 2011 through February of 2012 with regard to anxiety and depression related only to those things alleged in the complaint.

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: That was our intention from the very beginning.

THE COURT: All right. So the motion is denied. Mr. Lichtenstein is to prepare the order. Mr. Park, do you wish to sign off on that?

MR. PARK: Yes please. I'd like to look at it.

THE COURT: Very good. Thank you.

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Your Honor I just wanna --

THE COURT: You have a motion next week on a motion to compel calculation of damages.

1 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Correct, Your Honor. 2 THE COURT: Is that necessary to go forward on or was the reply to that 3 motion sufficient? 4 MR. PARK: It is, Your Honor, and I apologize I don't know that it's calendar 5 here or with the Discovery Commissioner. 6 THE COURT: It's in front of the Discovery Commissioner. 7 MR. PARK: It is and so Your Honor we still do have a question on their 8 general damages. 9 THE COURT: Good enough. I just wanted to hold you to that April bench 10 trial. 11 MR. PARK: Yes, understood. 12 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: If we could talk about that. There is a conflict on that 13 particular date. 14 THE COURT: It's a five week stack. 15 MR. SCOTT: Okay. 16 THE COURT: It's a five week stack. 17 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Okay so --18 THE COURT: So if you can stipulate to dates certain go ahead and do that 19 and contact my chambers to see if you can find dates certain that accommodate the 20 parties and the lawyers and the witnesses. 21 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Uh-huh. 22 THE COURT: And I'll do my best to accommodate that. 23 MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Are there particular dates that are not available or is it 24 all --

THE COURT: You know, I don't really keep that calendar.

1	MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Okay.
2	THE COURT: But my JEA is great.
3	MR. LICHTENSTEIN: All right.
4	THE COURT: Mr. Park.
5	MR. PARK: And I think the reason why we were concerned or worried about
6	that is because in the scheduling order it didn't say five week stack and so we were
7	wondering whether we were set for a date certain.
8	THE COURT: It's a five week stack.
9	MR. PARK: Great. Thank you.
10	THE COURT: So, good enough. Confer among yourselves on the dates.
11	MR. LICHTENSTEIN: All right. We will certainly do that.
12	THE COURT: Very good.
13	MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Thank you.
14	PROCEEDING CONCLUDED AT 9:35 A.M.
15	* * * * * *
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19	ATTEST: I do hereby certify that I have truly and correctly transcribed the audio-
20	video recording of this proceeding in the above-entitled case.
21	1 - n 1:
22	Traci Rawlinson
23	TRACI RAWLINSON Court Recorder/Transcriber
24	
25	

CASE NO. A-14-700018-C SUPREME COURT NO. 73856

DEPT. XXVII

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**RTRAN** 

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VS.

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DISTRICT COURT

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

MARY BRYAN, ET AL.,

Plaintiffs,

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL.,

Defendants.

BEFORE THE HONORABLE BONNIE A. BULLA, DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER

## RECORDER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2016

MOTION TO COMPEL DAMAGES CATEGORIES AND CALCULATIONS FROM PLAINTIFF AIMEE HAIRR; MOTION TO COMPEL DAMAGES CATEGORIES AND CALCULATIONS FROM PLAINTIFF MARY BRYAN ON OST

APPEARANCES:

For the Plaintiffs: ALLEN LICHTENSTEIN, ESQ.

For the Defendants: MATTHEW W. PARK, ESQ.

RECORDED BY: FRANCESCA HAAK, COURT RECORDER

Las Vegas, Nevada - Wednesday, February 17, 2016, 9:04 a.m.

\* \* \* \* \*

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Bryan versus Clark County School District. Good morning.

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Good morning.

MR. PARK: Good morning.

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Could everyone state your appearances, please?

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Allen Lichtenstein, for Plaintiffs.

MR. PARK: And Matt Park, for the Defendants, Your Honor.

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: So I have two motions. I really think in the future you could have filed one motion.

MR. PARK: The reason we didn't file one motion, Your Honor, is because we didn't have discovery responses from the second, so once we got discovery responses on the damages, then we filed the motion.

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: I see.

MR. PARK: But we have stipulated to a resolution.

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Okay. Why don't you tell me what you've -- what agreement you've reached.

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Well, the agreement is we have already stated for both Plaintiffs the special damages, and there's no problem with that. As for the general damages, we did not state a particular number. We will not state a particular number. We've made that representation to Judge Allf, who said you're not going to be allowed to do that. So there's really no issue here. She has limited the scope of the general damages to the time frame of the actions in question so, because of that, I don't know if there's any conflict at all.

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Is it permissible for me then to just take these

motions off calendar? We don't really need a Report and Recommendations if you've reached an agreement.

You have to have special damages calculations, but those are somewhat limited because you're looking at medical expenses or wage loss, and sometimes the information cannot readily be given until the expert disclosures have been made because sometimes it requires an expert analysis in order to be able to state, for example, future economic loss, in which case you can't really complete your damages calculations till that time.

MR. PARK: Sure.

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: But I absolutely agree with Judge Allf, and the commentary is very clear, that general damages, you don't have to tell the Defendant the number you want to ask the Jury for at trial because, quite candidly, that number may change, depending on how the case is presented.

MR. PARK: And so where we are, Your Honor, is discovery closed in this case yesterday. We go to trial in approximately a month-and-a-half, two months. We've agreed that he's not going to ask -- Plaintiff is not going to ask for a specific number to the Jury, and we're fine with that, Your Honor. As long as they're not going to ask for a specific number for the Jury, we're not going ask --

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Well, wait a minute. I don't know what you're talking about. Of course they're going to ask for a specific number. They're going to ask for two, three, four, five, ten million dollars. I don't know how the case is going to come out. They can ask the Jury for a specific number at trial. I don't know what you're talking about.

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Well, number one, we don't have a Jury, so --

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Or the Judge.

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: -- it's a bench trial. Yeah.

It was not something that we were planning on doing.

1	DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Well
2	MR. LICHTENSTEIN: I think the commentary does say that we have a right to do
3	so, but that doesn't seem to be
4	DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: I don't even understand this. I'm not sure why
5	you're here before me today because it sounds to me like the damages, the special damages,
6	have been disclosed.
7	MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Correct.
8	MR. PARK: Correct, through the motion.
9	DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: But of course going to ask
10	MR. PARK: Sure.
11	DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: a number from the Judge or from the Jury.
12	How are you going to be compensated, unless you ask for a number, like pain and suffering,
13	that's a number.
14	MR. PARK: Sure.
15	DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: But they shouldn't be because they don't tell
16	you in advance does not mean they cannot ask the Judge for a number.
17	MR. PARK: Right.
18	DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Am I did I fall through the rabbit hole? Did
19	something change that
20	MR. PARK: No. You're
21	DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: I'm not aware of?
22	MR. PARK: You're okay, Your Honor. Let me see if I can make this a little more
23	clear. So through the motion to compel they went ahead and categorized their special
24	damages. And that's fine, Your Honor. We have no, no issue with that.

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: That's what they're supposed to do under 16.1.

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MR. PARK: Unde	rstood, yes, correct,	so that's wha	at they did.
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DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Okay.

MR. PARK: With respect to the pain and suffering, the general damages, Your Honor, what we asked for in our motion was if you're going to ask for a number for the Jury -- to the Jury, right, considering that we're done with all of the discovery --

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Right.

MR. PARK: -- you should disclose that number --

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Okay, and I --

MR. PARK: -- to us so we know how to --

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: -- completely disagree with you, and the case --

MR. PARK: Okay.

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: -- law should disagree with you because that's work product.

You're going to get in there, and you're going to try your case, and you're not going to necessarily know what number to ask for, even if it's a Judge trial. You may want to see how the evidence comes on at the time of trial. You know, things may not always go as well as you'd like, or they may go better.

MR. PARK: And I understand it can --

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: And you --

MR. PARK: -- change.

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: -- have to make that decision.

MR. PARK: Sure. And we understand it can change, Your Honor. What we're saying is at the end of discovery either you have an idea or you don't, and if you're saying it's so --

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: But that's --

MR. PARK: Your Honor. There are several cases where they ve said, listen, if	
you're going to ask for a specific number from the Jury, you have to disclose. If you're not	
going to, you say	
DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Okav. So	24

MR. PARK: -- reasonably. You certainly can do that, but, in absence of asking for a

MR. PARK: -- intangible, we just don't know, that's fine.

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: That's an attorney-client -- that's an attorney

work product, maybe even an attorney-client decision in consultation with the client during

the trial process. That is not something to disclose prior to trial. I'm sorry. I disagree with

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Yeah. I don't even know where you get that --

MR. PARK: And I understand that, Your Honor. You know, we --

MR. PARK: We cited case law --

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: -- from.

MR. PARK: -- listen, just compensate us --

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: -- you need --

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here on today.

that.

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: I have no idea where you're getting this. What case are you --

specific number, or in absence of disclosing a specific number, Your Honor, you can't ask

for it from the Jury. And I understand you disagree; that's fine. But that's what we were

MR. PARK: The <u>Sandoval</u> case is one. There are several Federal District Court cases out there, Your Honor, that say if they're going to ask for a specific number from the Jury, they have to disclose it prior to trial.

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Well, I would agree with you if it's like a breach

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of contract	case or a case v	where you've	got liquidated	l damages wh	nere you ha	ve a numbe	r.
But on pain	and suffering,	I don't think	they have to	disclose to yo	u what the	y're asking	for

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: We've cited the drafter's note on Rule 30 that said that special damages require disclosure, general damages or intangible damages --

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: At proof of trial.

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: -- do not, yeah.

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Yeah.

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: And that was our position. And so we, again, have disclosed the special damages, and that's kind of where we stand right now.

MR. PARK: I'm sorry. And my understanding, Your Honor, is that -- and the reason why we came up first I think is because they weren't going to ask for a specific dollar amount. Sure they're going to ask for pain and suffering, or they're going to ask for whatever component of general damages, but that's Plaintiffs' representation, Your Honor.

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Well --

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Well, how can you not go to trial and ask for a number?

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Well, the question at trial is really a trial question. It's not a discovery question.

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Right.

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: And that's a strategic question, as you've said. Whether we choose to do so or I guess don't choose to do so isn't a matter before this tribunal at the moment.

DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: I don't see the <u>Sandoval</u> case in your materials. Maybe I'm just not --

MR. PARK: In the reply brief, Your Honor.

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1	DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Oh, it's in the reply.
2	MR. PARK: Correct.
3	DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Next time put your authority in your initial.
4	MR. PARK: Sure, Your Honor, and we that was just essentially a clarification for
5	us. After they went ahead and disclosed their actual and special damages, then we just
6	wanted to clarify that, hey, we also would like a number in the general, for the general.
7	DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Okay. I just feel like I've fallen down the rabbit
8	hole this morning. All right. So your motion to compel damages you still you've reached
9	an agreement on the special damages, which have been disclosed now.
10	MR. PARK: Correct.
11	MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Right.
12	DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: What you need to do is compel a number for the
13	general damages; otherwise, you want the Plaintiff from being excluded to asking about
14	those damages at trial, is that right?
15	MR. PARK: Almost, Your Honor. If they don't give us a number, that's fine. They
16	just can't present a specific number to the Jury. They can say compensate us fairly and
17	reasonably based on the evidence you've heard, or the Judge, if it ends up being a bench trial
18	here, it may still be a question as to what
19	DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Okay.
20	MR. PARK: you ask for.
21	DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: I'm denying that motion to compel.
22	MR. PARK: Okay.
23	DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: And I am not going to prohibit the Plaintiffs'
24	counsel from asking for a specific number from the Judge at trial; that needs to go in the
25	Report and Recommendations.

1	MR. LICHTENSTEIN: All right.
2	DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: So both motions are denied, with the
3	understanding that the denial is on the general damages disclosure because the special
4	damages have already been disclosed.
5	MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Already been disclosed.
6	MR. PARK: Through the motion, correct.
7	DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Okay. All right.
8	MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Thank you.
9	MR. PARK: Thank you.
10	DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: So Plaintiffs' counsel is going to prepare my
11	Report and Recommendation; run it by defense counsel, please, to approve as to form and
12	content; and there will be a status check on the Report and Recommendation.
13	THE CLERK: March 18 at 11.
14	DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Don't be here for that, Plaintiffs' counsel.
15	Defense counsel, you don't need to appear.
16	MR. PARK: Perfect. Thank you.
17	DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Okay. All right. Thank you, all.
18	MR. PARK: Thank you.
19	DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Have a good week.
20	MR. LICHTENSTEIN: I'm sorry. I missed that. We don't need to appear
21	THE CLERK: March 18 <sup>th</sup> at 11.
22	MR. LICHTENSTEIN: or
23	DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: No, you'll need to
24	MR. LICHTENSTEIN: I'll need to appear.
25	DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: be here

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Okay. DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: -- unless we tell you otherwise. I'm suggesting you don't want to be here. You want to get that Report and Recommendations done, and make sure you run it by defense counsel. MR. LICHTENSTEIN: All right. Thank you. DISCOVERY COMMISSIONER: Thank you. [Proceeding concluded at 9:14 a.m.] I do hereby certify that I have truly and correctly transcribed the audio-ATTEST: video recording of this proceeding in the above-entitled case. FRANCESCA HAAK Court Recorder/Transcriber 

**ORSNJC** 

CLERK OF THE COURT

#### DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Mary Bryan, Plaintiff(s)

Case No.: A-14-700018-C

Clark County School District, et al, Defendant(s)

Department 27

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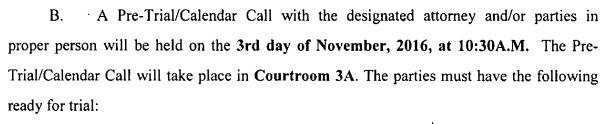
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## ORDER SETTING FIRM CIVIL BENCH TRIAL, PRE-TRIAL/CALENDAR CALL IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

The above entitled case is set to be tried to begin on the 14th day of A. November, 2016, at 10:00 A.M. The trial will be held in Department 27, Courtroom 3A located in the Regional Justice Center, 200 Lewis Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada 89155.



- (1) Typed exhibit lists;
- (2) List of depositions;
- (3) List of equipment needed for trial, including audiovisual equipment; and
- (4) Courtesy copies of any legal briefs on trial issues.
- C. The Pre-trial Memorandum must be filed no later than November 7, 2016, with a courtesy copy delivered to Department XXVII Chambers. All parties, (Attorneys and parties in Proper Person) MUST comply with ALL REQUIREMENTS of E.D.C.R. 2.67, 2.68 and 2.69.
- D. All discovery deadlines, deadlines for filing dispositive motions and motions to amend the pleadings or add parties are controlled by the previously issued Scheduling Order.

E.. Pursuant to EDCR 2.35, a motion to continue trial due to any discovery issues or deadlines must be made before the Discovery Commissioner.

F. Pursuant to EDCR 2.47, all motions in limine to exclude or admit evidence must be in writing and filed not less than 45 days prior to the date set for trial and must be heard not less than 14 days prior to trial. **ORDERS SHORTENING TIME WILL NOT** 

#### BE SIGNED EXCEPT IN EXTREME EMERGENCIES.

An upcoming trial date is not an EXTREME EMERGENCY.

Failure of the designated trial attorney or any party appearing in proper person to appear for any court appearances or to comply with this Order shall result in any of the following: (1) dismissal of the action (2) default judgment; (3) monetary sanctions; (4) vacation of trial date; and/or any other appropriate remedy or sanction.

Counsel must advise the Court immediately when the case settles or is otherwise resolved prior to trial. A Stipulation which terminates a case by dismissal shall also indicate whether a Scheduling Order has been filed and if a trial date has been set, and the date of that trial. A copy should be given to Chambers.

DATED: March 23, 2016

NANCY ALLFU

District Court Judge Department 27

District Court Judge, Department 27

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on or about the date signed I caused the foregoing document to be electronically served pursuant to EDCR 8.05(a) and 8.05(f) through the Eighth Judicial District Court's electronic filing system, with the date and time of the electronic service substituted for the date and place of deposit in the mail to:

Allen Lichtenstein, Esq.

Lewis, Roca Rothgerber - Dan R. Waite, Esq., Daniel F. Polsenberg, Esq.

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Karen Lawrence

Judicial Executive Assistant

NANCY L. ALLF DISTRICT JUDGE DEPT XXVII

TRAN

CLERK OF THE COURT

DISTRICT COURT
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA
\* \* \* \* \*

MARY BRYAN,

Plaintiff,

CASE NO. A-14-700018-C DEPT NO. XXVII

VS.

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL,

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Defendant.

AND OTHER PARTIES

BEFORE THE HONORABLE NANCY ALLF, DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

RE: DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE EXCESS PAGES

THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2016

APPEARANCES:

FOR PLAINTIFFS: ALLEN K. LICHTENSTEIN, ESQ.

FOR CCSD: DANIEL F. POLSENBERG, ESQ.

DAN R. WAITE, ESQ.

FOR BEASLEY: DAN R. WAITE, ESQ.

FOR HALPIN: DAN R. WAITE, ESQ.

FOR WINN: DAN R. WAITE, ESQ.

FOR DEPIAZZA: DAN R. WAITE, ESQ.

FOR MCKAY: DAN R. WAITE, ESQ.

RECORDED BY: TRACI RAWLINSON, COURT RECORDER

TRANSCRIBED BY: JD Reporting, Inc.

1	LAS VEGAS, CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA, AFRIL 21, 2016, 11:14 A.M.
2	* * * *
3	THE COURT: Bryan versus Clark County School
4	District.
5	Appearances, please.
6	MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Good morning, Your Honor. Allen
7	Lichtenstein for plaintiffs.
8	THE COURT: Thank you.
9	MR. POLSENBERG: Good morning, Your Honor. Dan
10	Polsenberg and Dan Waite for defendants.
11	THE COURT: Thank you.
12	This is the defendants' motion for summary judgment
13	and a motion for leave to file excess pages. I have no
14	opposition to the motion for leave to file excess pages. It
15	will be granted.
16	MR. POLSENBERG: Thank you, Your Honor.
17	THE COURT: Mr. Polsenberg.

MR. POLSENBERG: Thank you, Your Honor. This is, as the Court says, our motion for summary judgment, and it's a classic motion for summary judgment under Wood versus Safeway, under Orcutt versus Miller. The purpose of summary judgment, way different from the last time we were here on motions to dismiss, is to test the evidence to see if plaintiffs can make out a claim, and — and here we're making essentially the same legal arguments we were making before, but now we see what

evidence they have, and plaintiffs don't present any evidence that creates a genuine issue of material fact.

THE COURT: But -- and that's the problem I have, is that both sides are asking me to make determinations based on the evidence, and I've realized I'm the finder of fact, that it's a bench trial, but without having the demeanor of the witnesses and knowing their believability and the strength of their memory, how can I make those qualitative -- how can I make those judgments that you're asking me to make?

MR. POLSENBERG: Well, here's why.

THE COURT: It's -- you know, perception, people's perceptions, how am I supposed to do that from deposition testimony? How am I supposed to do whether conduct rises to deliberate indifference?

MR. POLSENBERG: Well, I think -- and here's why I think you can, two reasons. I don't think that they actually create a genuine issue of fact because all they're doing is making argument about -- about conflicts in the evidence, and I don't think -- even if there were a genuine issue, it's not as to a material fact.

Deliberate indifference is one of the many issues in the case, but it's the -- it's the brunt of their opposition, and here the deliberate indifference standard is such a difficult standard to meet. They have to show an awful lot more than they can show here. If you look at the actions that

were taken, I can make the argument that these were patently reasonable things. There's no dispute about certain things that were done. They may come in here and say that Principal McKay doesn't --

THE COURT: Right. Dates of e-mails, dates of meetings, all of those are undisputed on both sides.

MR. POLSENBERG: Right, and what Instructor Beasley did. He — he — you know, after the first e-mail he moved — he moved the students in a way where he had a direct line of sight as to Nolan and CL. Remember, that was all the first complaint was about, and here he could keep an eye on them. The second — and everybody was saying afterwards that that took care of the problem, even on October 5th at the parent-teacher night.

It wasn't until October 19th that there was a second e-mail, and we know what was done then. Instructor Beasley moved the children around again. I mean, here Ethan now is being moved away. Remember, the first time we didn't know that there was a problem as to Ethan, only has to Nolan, and so putting Ethan, who was a pretty big kid for sixth grade, next to CL made sense at the time, and then with the second complaint, we moved them around again.

Inspector Beasley says he watched them like a hawk. He was there when they unloaded and loaded their instruments. He set out a number of things that he did, and then Dean Winn

also -- we know what the Dean did at the time. We know the things that were done and weren't done.

We can get in the little details about when did -when did Principal McKay actually see the e-mail. We know that
he didn't see the e-mail originally because, not that it was
sent to the wrong e-mail address, it was typed in incorrectly
and didn't go to an e-mail address. We know that people
assumed Inspector -- I keep saying inspector -- Instructor
Beasley assumed that Principal McKay had received it. Later,
when they had the meeting about it, I mean, there were actions
that were taken. We know the actions that were taken.

All these things that are coming in -- Judge, this is a very methodical motion.

THE COURT: Actually, the briefing of both sides was the best I ever see. It was beautifully done, and it's not to offend anybody else in the courtroom but the briefing was excellent.

UNIDENTIFIED ATTORNEY: Except Phil.

UNIDENTIFIED ATTORNEY: We haven't shown up yet.

MR. POLSENBERG: But we —— we know what was done, and what the opposition —— I mean, I will say it is well-written, and it's tactically written.

You know, this principle goes back to the 16th century. William Wycherley said, Be sure your argument is intricate enough to confound the court, and they throw so much

up there that — that a judge is apt to say, Well, there are a lot of issues here, and — and this is confounding. So it must be able to defeat summary judgment, especially in Nevada where our tradition and our practice, although I don't think it's our procedure and our law, is if there's the — I mean, as Judge Mendoza used to say, if there's a whiff of evidence, that you can't grant summary judgment.

I'm not saying we've -- and we haven't gone totally to the federal standard, but we have made clear in Wood versus Safeway the purpose of summary judgment is to test to see whether there's a case here, and -- and while I can make the argument that our actions -- it's undisputed what our actions were. I can make the argument that they are patently reasonable. That's not the standard.

They can't even show -- I mean, they can't even succeed by saying we were grossly unreasonable. To say deliberate indifference is a standard far hire than that, and I don't think there is an issue of credibility or nuance that goes to that. This is a case where it's -- I mean, we've set out very carefully what the undisputed facts are. They come in and throw in a lot of disputes and differences in the fact that don't go at all to whether they've made out a case.

And even if you were to say that there is a case here, Judge, there can't be a punitive damage case here. I mean, they don't even put up much of a fight on that one.

Punitive damages are just not available under Title IX. You know, they rely on — they don't even rely on anything for that idea. They don't dispute us on that. The wealth of cases after Barnes, which was a Title VI case but does say that Title VI and Title IX are construed the same, all the federal cases have said, you can't get punitive damages under Title IX.

And you can't get punitive damages against a municipality, and the school district is a municipality. You can't get punitive damages against officially acting defendants because that's the same as getting them against a municipality. The only argument that they really make is that they can get cases — they can get punitive damages against individually acting defendants, but here they haven't really presented any evidence that would show that they — that these defendants first of all acted in anything other than an official capacity.

There aren't individual claims here for punitive damages, and I'm going to address the compensatory damages in a second, and even if there were, you'd have to show the type of malice that I think even exceeds deliberate indifference. So there isn't a punitive damage claim.

Now, they do try to cite cases that say that the standard for malice and conscious disregard is the same as the standard for deliberate indifference. Well, I don't agree with that. I think the punitive damage standard is far greater. We all know the statue in Nevada, and that's a despicable act,

either done with intent to injure or with conscious -- conscious disregard for the right and safety of others.

But even if it were the same standard, that just makes my point on deliberate indifference. If deliberate indifference is such a high standard that it raises to the equivalent of — of malice, the express or implied intent to injure somebody, that here they can't make out a claim even for compensatory damages. So let me go — so I think punitives are out, even if compensatory damage claims are still in.

I think there a number of things that we can talk about. First of all, the school district is entitled to summary judgment on the 1983 claims. There isn't a claim under 1983 against the entity the school district because for there to be a claim against the school district you would have to show that it is school district policy, that it's school district practice or that a policy maker for the school district made the determinations that this case should be handled in the way that it was. They don't try to even make out a claim like that.

The individual actors are also out as well. Principal McKay, Assistant Principal DePiazza, Dean Winn, Counselor Halpin, Instructor Beasley, to have an individual claim against them, you would have to show the equivalent of bad faith, that they acted without any good faith whatsoever in order to have a 1983 action, and this is -- and our defense is

even stronger than that. It's the qualified immunity defense.

I mean, here they are, and it's very similar. When we were in here last time — when I was in here last time arguing the motions to dismiss, I pointed out the similarities between the discretionary immunity under state law and the qualified immunity under federal law, and the Court granted our motion to dismiss on discretionary immunity, and we're dealing with the same concepts here under federal law.

I mean, look -- look at what these actors did. They're faced with a situation. They have to balance the interests of all the parties involved. Plaintiffs' whole argument is, Well, look, you could have done more. You should have imposed higher discipline. Now, they're talking about state law concepts of what you -- what had to be done and what obligations there were, but state law concepts don't create constitutional or federal claims.

And here we've got a qualified immunity for the individuals. You'd have to say that they were acting beyond their official capacity for punitive damages, and you'd have to say that they weren't exercising the same kind of good faith in making their determinations, the same thing that we dealt with in the discretionary immunity under state law.

Look what they have to do. I mean, plaintiffs are in an easy position. Well, all parties are. All parties argue their point of view. They're saying there should have been

more discipline. At one point they argue there should have been expulsions and suspensions, but, I mean, these defendants devote their adult lives to the care and education of children, and they've got to make these determinations not just looking at plaintiffs, those individual students. They have to look at the rights and responsibilities of the other students, DM and CL.

They've got to figure out what they need to do at the time, and I think — and, again, I say, I can make the argument that Instructor Beasley was — was incredibly reasonable in the way he handled the situation, but I don't even need to show that much. So I think the qualified immunity applies here for the same reasons. So the individuals are out on punitive damages and compensatory damages claims.

Let me -- let me briefly -- you know, there's a couple of ways I can win this case. There are a number of elements that they have to set out, and they've only got two claims left. There have been dismissals of some claims, withdrawals of other -- another claim. So they've got a Title IX claim, and the Title IX claim, they have to show discrimination on the basis of sex, and we alluded in the motions to dismiss when we argued those about the subtlety of the issues when we have to do with --

Do we need to take a break?

THE COURT: No, I just asked my clerk for more water.

MR. POLSENBERG: And Mr. Waite needs some, too.

The -- on the basis of sex, and we talked about -
Thank you.

We talked then about how the issues are a lot more subtle when we're dealing with allegations of homosexuality, and, you know, my Inns of Court group put on a presentation of that this year.

THE COURT: I was in the same group.

MR. POLSENBERG: Indeed you were, and so we were talking — so here what we're looking at is a very narrow issue. Under their pleadings, under their proof, under all the discovery we did is can you have a claim under Title IX for the perception of homosexuality when these boys are not homosexuals, and they're not perceived to be homosexuals?

THE COURT: But — but isn't the test also whether or not the intent of the name-calling was used in a sexual manner? Isn't that part of the same test?

MR. POLSENBERG: I don't think it's part of the same test. I don't, Judge, because what they've done is they've shifted over to their stereotyping argument now. That wasn't what their argument was before. That wasn't what their pleadings were. That wasn't what their claim was when we went through discovery. These boys don't claim — CL and DM do not claim that they thought or perceived or meant to actually literally suggest that Ethan and Nolan were homosexuals.

At one point, one of the boys, you know, when asked why he was calling these names, he responds going, Sixth grade, and that's what it is, and, you know, the plaintiffs go so far as to compare us to the Klan and say that, you know, We -- It's like the Klan saying they're not racist. Well, it's a lot more

subtle than that. We're not the Klan.

Let's say we were dealing with the Klan, and nobody is saying that the Klan wasn't racist, but if the Klan is saying racist things against a member of the Klan, a white Anglo-Saxon Protestant, that's not the same thing as actually being biased or prejudiced, and so here I don't think they fall under the perception of homosexuality exception. They're trying to fall under the stereotyping exception, but I think it's too late to raise that.

And we also -- that's -- realize too that here's where the deliberate indifference issue comes in, Your Honor, and I've argued that, the responses to the September 15th e-mail, the responses to the October 19th e-mail, and I also don't think that they have been able to prove that they were denied any educational opportunities or benefits, and we've set that out in the brief.

There are a number of elements that they have to make. Now, we didn't make the summary judgment motion on every element that would be at trial, but we -- and there are disputed issues, but they have to make out all the elements,

and they haven't done that.

The substantive due process claim, first of all, they have to identify a fundamental right. They haven't attempted to identify a fundamental right. Let's — let me take a second to talk about the things that they haven't opposed. You know, I talked about the qualified immunity. They — they don't dispute that the individual defendants are entitled to qualified immunity. They don't dispute that there is no municipal liability under Monell. They don't — they don't try to identify the fundamental right. There isn't a fundamental right here.

The due process clause only goes to certain rights, and they haven't attempted to identify what rights those are, and even if they could identify — and we've talked about the deliberate indifference. Even if they could identify a fundamental right, the due process clause does not require the government to protect citizens from third parties. They have — we have to protect citizens from governmental action in a general sense, but not from third parties.

Now, the exception to that is the state-created danger exception, but they need two things for that. They need affirmative conduct. It's not enough that we failed to do enough. What they have to show is that we affirmatively created the situation, and all their claim is is that we should have done more. We could have done more, and — and that

doesn't make out the affirmative conduct requirement, and, again, even if there were affirmative conduct, it has to be done with deliberate indifference.

So three claims here, you've got the -- you've got the Title IX claim. You've got the substantive due process claim and the punitive damage claim, and for each one of those claims, they have to show the claim that they can make out against all of the defendants, all six of the defendants, the school district and the six individuals, and they simply have failed to do that, Judge.

Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Polsenberg.

And, Mr. Lichtenstein.

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Thank you, Your Honor. I really didn't want to go into the question of whether the statements made by the police rise to the level of beyond just Davis-style schoolyard stuff. We listed them. I'm not going to repeat them here, but there's a bit of an irony that statements that I don't feel comfortable repeating in a courtroom filled with adults were exposed to 11 year olds every day and suggesting that that's just boys will be boys. I didn't think I needed to go there.

In terms of facts, I don't know what the facts are. We've got from all of the defendants different versions of things. Dean Winn and Principal McKay said under oath they

didn't know about any of this until 2012. Others said, No, we told them about it, not just plaintiffs, but also the September 15th letter, Halpin and DePiazza also.

So there's some real questions about — this quotes Watergate, and I hate to do that also, but what did they know and when did they know it? Dean Winn said, Had I known about the stabbing — and we're not just talking about name-calling. We're talking about someone being stabbed with a pencil, which is an assault, and she said, Had I known about it, I would have called the police, but, gee, I didn't know about it, even though others have said, Of course you knew about it. You were told about it. Well, okay. That is a question for the trier of fact to know exactly what happened. We don't have that, and as the trier of fact, you're going to have to be in the position of determining credibility.

The defendants make a big deal that one of the bullies or both of the bullies said, Now, I said all those horrible homophobic things, which wasn't just saying, you know, that's so gay or something. When Nolan was stabbed, he was asked — he was told it was done because they wanted to find out if he had a penis, if he was the girl in the relationship. The bully says, Well, no, I didn't really think he was homosexual.

By the way, I just want to clarify something. The Klan reference was never to the school district. It was to the

bully, and simply relying on the bully saying, Hey, me? No, I have no -- I was just fooling around. Well, you, as the trier of fact, have to make that determination throughout his entire testimony, and I can represent his entire testimony -- in the beginning of his deposition, he said, Nolan who? And Ethan who? These are facts that need to be dealt with.

In terms of deliberate indifference, if in fact people who are responsible by law and by school policy to do an investigation slough it off saying, Hey, I'll just pretend I never heard of it, there's no immunity there. That's not part of their job. That's malfeasance. That's bad faith. Again, that's a question for the trier of fact to make a determination about the credibility.

But I'll say one thing. They all can't be right. You can't have, Yes, we discussed it, and, No, I never heard about it. Those can't occupy the same space. So there are those particular questions of fact.

Was the response reasonable? Well, again the trier of fact is going to have to figure out whether it's a reasonable response to take kids who are being bullied by the people sitting next to them and seat them in front of the bullies where they're more vulnerable. That is again a question of fact.

Loss of educational opportunities, there's ample case law from Title VII, which now is equivalent to Title IX, that

creating a hostile environment to the extent that someone has to leave school — and that was the Doe versus Petaluma case — is creation of a hostile environment to the extent of depriving someone of educational opportunities. It's not enough to ask a 14-year-old kid to come up with that legal analysis, which is really what they're depending on. They asked him, So how was your educational opportunity? That's a legal definition. It's certainly not something that you would expect a 14 year old to be able to answer.

So, yes, there are undisputed facts, but there are a lot of disputed facts, and the disputed facts are, again, who dropped the ball? We didn't just have some name-calling. We had name-calling. We had a couple of assaults, and the investigation that Dean Winn said she did, what investigation? We have no evidence of any investigation, but it's a little strange to have an investigation on something that she said she didn't even know about. So there are a lot of entanglements in terms of what the facts are.

Now, what defendants are saying is, even excepting all of those, it still doesn't rise to a level of either discrimination under Title IX or substantive due process under 1983. We've gone through this before, and this is the exact same legal argument that they made before, but the Monell argument I thought had been resolved. Maybe it hadn't, which is I guess my mistake.

The decisions about discipline stop with the principal. So the final decision-maker on all these, one of the defendants, McKay or his designee, which he said at his deposition, Dean Winn, who claims she didn't do anything or didn't know anything, and Vice Principal DePiazza, and I guess at some point Winn. According to some testimony, it was supposed to be in the hands of Winn. McKay didn't like that, said DePiazza, Take care of it. No one took care of it. So the legal arguments are the same legal arguments.

Does creating a hostile environment where someone is afraid, a child is afraid of being assaulted in a school setting, does that rise to a reasonable cause of action for Title IX and substantive due process? Yes, it does. Did they do everything reasonably possible they could because Mr. Beasley said, I'm going to watch them? Well, obviously it didn't. Because, again, how reasonable is it to move them in a more vulnerable position? And apparently his watching didn't do much good.

I mean, it got to the point where both boys were afraid to complain. Why? When Nolan complained, what did he get for it? He got stabbed with a pencil. He wasn't going to talk to anybody again, neither was Ethan, strangely enough.

THE COURT: Yes, but you didn't sue the aggressors.

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: What?

THE COURT: You did not sue the aggressors.

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Right. And there is a reason for that. Because they're children, and we believe — my clients definitely believe that suing children is not the best way of dealing with this. The best way of dealing with this is the kind of progressive discipline that the district, particularly as it came out in Andre Long's deposition, said was the proper method. These were children. Again, they were 11 years old. They weren't particularly nice 11 year olds, kids with some real problems, but kids with problems need to be addressed in that regard.

The real suit was the people in charge. The adults in the room either didn't care or knew — well, they didn't care. Because obviously they didn't take their reaction — the Therese — the Therese, I'm sorry — the Deanna Wright example in her own case is a perfect example. She had a kid bullied, complained to the school, took her kid out of school until the school made sure that the bullies and her kid would not encounter each other. This is not rocket science. This isn't something that is extraordinary.

Ultimately, they ended up having to take those two kids out of the band class, but that was well after Ethan and Nolan had already decided that they didn't feel safe there, and let's understand also the extent of this. This isn't this sort of boys will be boys kind of thing. Ethan attempted suicide because of this. He was stopped thankfully, but this was

something that was very much a problem. They were taken out of school because they didn't feel safe.

And to simply say, Hey, school is not responsible, or, They did everything they could because they moved the kids in front of the bullies, I think that is a question. Whether it is deliberate indifference, which is generally considered — as most of these things — a question of fact for the trier of fact after hearing all the testimony and not the argument from Mr. Polsenberg or myself, by the witnesses.

Thank you.

THE COURT: Clarify for me the -- did you not object to dismissing the individuals under Title IX?

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: I'm sorry. I'm having -- what?

THE COURT: There was a statement made that you didn't object to the dismissal of the individuals under Title IX.

MR. LICHTENSTEIN: Well, under Title IX, the defendant on Title IX is someone who receives federal funds. So it's really the institution that receives federal funds, and the individuals, particularly in their individual capacity, aren't subject to — unless they're getting funds we don't know about, which I don't think is happening, they're not eligible for that.

THE COURT: All right. There was also an argument that you had abandoned your equal protection claims.