## **Statement of Celest Benn**

I stand here today on behalf of all the moms of Gilroy.

Whether they are educated or uneducated, speak English or Spanish, it makes no difference.

We all want the best for our children.

Our voices have not been heard.

It is time for the Gilroy Unified School District to take action to protect our children.

I am disgusted that the District took no action to protect my daughter.

She had to leave her friends, her classes and Gilroy High School that we had moved cross country for her to attend.

They protected an individual who admittedly engaged in gross sexual misconduct and because they did nothing more children were harmed.

I hope that Gilroy Unified School District has learned a lesson and that they will, in the future, do what is right and what is necessary to protect our precious children.

I have filed this lawsuit today on behalf of my daughter seeking to hold the School District accountable for the harm that they have caused her and our family.

May 5, 2016