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Today my client Peggy Shannon and I appeared before the San Diego City Council, which had proclaimed today February 24, 2014 as Peggy Shannon Day in the City of San Diego.

Peggy Shannon, a senior citizen, who is a great grandmother, works at the Senior Citizens Service Desk at City Hall.

On August 15, 2013 Peggy and I held a news conference in San Diego in which we alleged that Peggy loved her job helping senior citizens that came to City Hall until Mayor Filner made her life unbearable.

Peggy alleged, for example, that Mayor Filner suddenly hugged and kissed her on the lips without her permission. She also alleged that one day he came to her desk and made sexually suggestive comments to her such as "Do you think I could go eight hours straight?" When Peggy replied "Are you kidding?", the Mayor said "No, I can go eight hours." Peggy immediately told her supervisor and co-worker what the Mayor said.

On July 18, 2013, Peggy also filed a complaint with the Equal Employment Investigations Office (EEIO) alleging that Mayor Filner had harassed her. She asked only for an apology.

Today we are very happy to announce that we have settled her claim and that the City of San Diego has issued that public apology. The apology states "Dear Ms. Shannon: On behalf of the City of San Diego and our residents, we apologize to you. You were entitled to be treated with respect and dignity. Unfortunately, you were not. Ms. Shannon, your decision to come forward was courageous and you were right. We admire you, and we thank you for coming forward. Sincerely yours, Todd Gloria, Interim Mayor."

In addition, the San Diego City Council has proclaimed today Peggy Shannon Day in the City of San Diego. Peggy, who is very humble, was reluctant to accept such an honor, but agreed to it because she now understands that it is important to honor senior citizens who have the courage to speak out against injustice and that she has been and continues to be an inspiration to others who want to do so on other issues of importance to them and their community.

My law firm and I are very proud of Peggy and we are glad we have been able to assist her in accomplishing her goals.

We thank Jan Goldsmith, the San Diego City Attorney, who has been very professional in his handling of this matter, and while his job was to protect the interests of the City of San Diego, he has also been very sensitive to what Peggy has suffered and he has worked hard to achieve a fair resolution of this matter.

In addition, we thank Interim Mayor Todd Gloria and the San Diego City Council for agreeing to the public apology to Peggy and for honoring her today. We appreciate their kind words about her and their proclamation of Peggy Shannon Day in San Diego.

Peggy Shannon has made us all proud and we know that she will continue to earn our support and respect as she continues her dedicated work helping seniors to know and understand their rights and the services available to them.

Gloria Allred
Attorney at Law
Representing Peggy Shannon
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