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**Statement of Gloria Allred re: Bill Cosby losing his appeal of his conviction for aggravated indecent sexual assault**

I represented the majority of the prior bad act witnesses who testified in the criminal trial in which Bill Cosby was convicted of three felonies of aggravated indecent assault.

I have always believed and publicly stated that their testimony was essential and that the jury needed to hear from them to determine the truth. They were permitted to testify and I am very grateful that the Pennsylvania Court of Appeals has affirmed the trial court's decision to allow their testimony.

Their testimony clearly established that Mr. Cosby had a plan to drug and sexually assault women. His plan was to drug them so that they could not refuse to engage in sexual acts with him. In other words, he knew that they did not consent to his sexual assaults because by drugging them he took away their power to consent or refuse consent. He knew that they did not and could not consent to his sexual assaults upon them.

The testimony of these witnesses helped the jury to understand that Mr. Cosby knew when he drugged Andrea Constand that she also had no power to consent to Mr. Cosby's criminal act against her and that is why he was convicted. What the justices called Cosby's "unique sexual assault playbook" was revealed to the jury as nothing but a criminal plan to drug and sexually assault women.

I am very proud to have represented these courageous prior bad act witnesses who helped to win justice and put this sexual predator in prison where he belongs. This decision is an important victory for victims' rights and should send a message to powerful men that they will face serious consequences if they sexually victimize women.

If the Pennsylvania Supreme Court accepts this case for review, I hope that Pennsylvania's highest court will also affirm the conviction of Bill Cosby.

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