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Statement of Gloria Allred

Today is the day that Kanye West was scheduled to be arraigned in the L.A. County Superior Court on two misdemeanor charges. He is being prosecuted on one count of battery and on one count of attempted grand theft.

I represent the victim in this case, Daniel Ramos, a professional videographer. We have also filed a civil lawsuit against Mr. West and are vigorously litigating that case which we filed on August 21, 2013.

The lawsuit alleges that on July 19, 2013 Daniel was outside of the Tom Bradley Terminals International Arrivals at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) on July 19, 2013, with a number of other professional photographers. Daniel and the photographers were gathered on the sidewalk area in front of LAX to photograph celebrities who might emerge from the terminal. Mr. West exited the terminal and saw the gathered group of photographers. Daniel, who was standing about 10 feet away from Mr. West called out to him and said “Kanye, can we talk to you, Kanye? Daniel then said “What’s’ going on? Why can’t we talk to you? I mean why?”

Daniel asked Mr. West that question because one week earlier on July 12, 2013, Mr. West had shouted at photographers. “Don’t talk to me. I don’t want to hear paparazzi talk to me or anybody I know.”

After hearing Daniel ask on July 19, why Mr. West would not speak to him, Mr. West stopped walking, put his bag down at his car and turned and spoke to Daniel. Then without warning or provocation, Mr. West suddenly attacked Daniel, punching him and attempting to wrestle Daniel’s camera from his hands.

Daniel held onto his camera and fell down onto his knees onto the paved sidewalk with enough force that he sustained injuries to his right hip, was in great pain, and had to be transported in an ambulance to the emergency room.

This incident also resulted in the filing of the criminal case against Mr. West. Mr. Ramos is still suffering from the injuries inflicted on him by Mr. West. We are very glad that Mr. West will now be required to be accountable in both the criminal and civil justice systems.

Celebrities are not above the law, and they have no right to physically attack someone simply because they were asked a question. Mr. Ramos was just doing his job and trying to make a living.

The video of this incident makes clear that he is an innocent victim of Mr. West. We are looking forward to the trial in this case.

Gloria Allred
Attorney at Law
Representing Daniel Ramos
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