



PRESS RELEASE

Manly, Stewart & Finaldi Asks Court For Terminating Sanctions Against Redlands Unified School District For Evidence Tampering In Alleged Child Sex Abuse Case

Motion alleges Redlands Unified School District has obstructed the discovery process in the case of convicted sex offender Kevin Patrick Kirkland.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 23, 2017

CONTACT: LAWRENCE ROBERT
323-236-9992

Attorneys representing alleged victims of convicted child molester and former Redlands High School teacher and coach, Kevin Patrick Kirkland, announced the filing of a motion for sanctions against Redlands Unified School District and its attorneys.

The motion alleges that RUSD has a long history of discovery abuse and criminal violation to prohibit disclosure of damaging evidence against their employees who sexually assault students.

According to the motion, "RUSD have (1) destroyed and/or hidden evidence that would give RUSD notice; (2) ignored their obligations as mandatory reporters for more than ten years; (3) instructed staff not to document sexual assault allegations; (4) misrepresented school in session hours to prohibit site inspections; (5) conducted surreptitious investigations of minors and then tried to cloak those in privilege; and (6) refused to cooperate on the setting of depositions to discover evidence." [Click here for motion.](#)

In a previous sexual abuse case involving Laura Whitehurst, a former teacher at Redlands Unified School District, police accused the District of attempting to conceal and destroy documents.

In a sworn deposition, police detectives stated that Sabine Robertson-Philips was found destroying evidence during the serving of a search warrant ([Police deposition video 1](#), [Police video deposition video 2](#)). The police subsequently brought charges against Ms. Robertson-Philips and district counsel Bernard Cavanaugh. Those charges were not prosecuted by the San Bernardino District Attorney's Office despite the desire of the prosecuting attorney.

In the Kirkland case, it is alleged that Ms. Robertson-Philips allegedly discouraged staff and teachers at RUSD from documenting and reporting sexual assaults, even though they are mandatory reporters and required to do so under state law.

"Redlands Unified School District, its attorneys and administrators must be held accountable for actions that amount to obstruction of justice. They must begin cooperating with law

enforcement and the courts to protect children,” said victims’ attorney Morgan Stewart, a partner in Manly, Stewart & Finaldi.

Manly, Stewart & Finaldi is California’s leading law firm representing child victims of sexual abuse. The firm has represented more than 150 victims of clergy sexual abuse in California and hundreds of others throughout the United States. The firm also represented plaintiffs in the \$140,000,000 settlement against LAUSD in the Miramonte case, the largest sex abuse settlement against a School District in the US.