



# PRESS RELEASE

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## **LARRY NASSAR ACCUSERS AND THEIR ATTORNEYS RESPOND TO HIS SENTENCING ON FEDERAL CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES AND CALL FOR INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION OF USOC, USAG AND MSU OFFICIALS.**

[Read McKayla Maroney's victim impact statement here.](#)

[Read Erin Maroney's statement here.](#)

[Read Rachael Denhollander's victim impact statement here.](#)

Attorneys representing more than 100 women who have accused former MSU and USA Gymnastics Olympic Team doctor Larry Nassar and their clients responded emotionally to Nassar's 60-year sentence on child pornography charges handed down by Judge Janet T. Neff.

Several high profile Nassar accusers submitted victim impact statements to the court prior to sentencing.

"Larry Nassar deserves to spend the rest of his life in prison. Not only because of what he did to me, my teammates and so many other little girls – He needs to be behind bars so he will never prey upon another child. I urge you to impose the maximum sentence upon him," said Fierce Five Olympic gymnast McKayla Maroney.

McKayla's #MeToo statement on October 18<sup>th</sup> was quickly followed by statements from "Fierce Five teammates" Ali Raisman and Gabby Douglas that they too were allegedly molested by Nassar.

Rachel Denhollander, the woman who's charges against Larry Nassar lead to his prosecution by the United States Attorney and the Michigan Attorney General said, "INSERT Rachel QUOTE

McKayla Maroney's mother, Erin Maroney, described to the judge how devastating Nassar's actions were to her family and stated that their daughter was, "Totally failed by USA Gymnastics, Michigan State University and the US Olympic Committee." She said, "Nassar's inappropriate conduct was also known to USA Gymnastics officials. He was not supervised; his licenses were not checked and he kept no medical records of his treatment, of these young gymnasts. Apparently, and obviously, he was not properly supervised by the U.S. Olympic Committee, even though they officially cleared him to treat our daughter and her teammates. The revelation of McKayla's abuse has devastated our family. It has devastated McKayla's siblings

and worst of all it has destroyed her emotionally and nearly snuffed out the inner light of this beautiful loving human being.”

Michigan State University lack of transparency and long-term failure to address complaints of sexual harassment and violence promptly and equitably lead the Lansing State Journal to call for Michigan State University President, Lou Anna Simon resignation.

Victim’s attorney, John Manly, said, “We often takes a village to raise a child. All too often we find a conspiracy to enable a predator. Hundreds of women and girls were failed by 3 major government institutions: Michigan State University, USA Gymnastics and the US Olympic Committee. Not only did they ignore two decades of credible complaints against Nassar. There is ample evidence that individuals at the highest levels of these organizations worked actively to cover-up Nassar’s crimes. These institutions have proven that they have not and will not investigate themselves and bring the perpetrators within their ranks to justice. Nassar’s victims and their attorneys are once again calling for an independent and credible outside investigation which will result in justice for Nassar’s victims and accountability for those who protected him and continue to cover-up for his actions.”

In response to the LSJ editorial MSU Trustees hid behind their attorneys and restated their intention to keep the results of their internal investigation of the Nassar scandal a secret.

“I first reported Larry Nassar’s actions to MSU trainers and coaches in 1999. Now we know he continued to assault girls up until 2016. How could MSU allow this to happen for so many years and why do they still refuse to take responsibility for this horrific tidal wave of abuse,” said Tiffany Thomas Lopez, former MSU scholarship softball player.

“A simple fact is this. If Michigan State University, USA Gymnastics and the US Olympic Committee had paid attention to any of the red flags in Larry Nassar’s behavior I never would have met him, I never would have been “treated” by him, and I never would have been abused by him. It is my hope that federal and state law enforcement agencies will not close the book on the Larry Nassar scandal after he receives his just punishment. It is time to hold the leadership of Michigan State University, USA Gymnastics and the United States Olympic Committee accountable for allowing, and in some cases enabling, his crimes,” said Makayla Maroney.

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[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.

[Drew, Cooper & Anding](#) is a Lansing Michigan based law firm specializing in personal injury, sexual harassment, police misconduct, employment discrimination, consumer protection, and complex commercial litigation.

