



PRESS RELEASE

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LARRY NASSAR SURVIVORS CALL FOR THE RESIGNATION OF THE MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY TRUSTEE DAN KELLY

Rachael Denhollander, Lindsey Lemke, and Kaylee Lorincz, three alleged victims of disgraced former MSU doctor Larry Nassar, today called for the resignation of Michigan State University Trustee Dan Kelly. The three women are clients of Manly, Stewart & Finaldi in civil actions against MSU and USA Gymnastics.

In a letter to MSU Interim President John Engler, the women said, “MSU Trustee Dan Kelly is the worst person to lead the University forward from the Larry Nassar scandal. As a private attorney, Mr. Kelly built a career defending schools that ignored allegations of sexual assault against children. His tactics included attempting to forcibly publicize the names of anonymous child molestation victims as young as 12.” [Click here for letter.](#)

According to news reports, Kelly provided legal counsel for Warren Consolidated Schools in sex abuse civil cases. In two prominent cases in the early 2000s – those of former Warren employees James Kerly and Roderick Reese – Kelly first tried to convince the jurors that the abused minors didn’t understand the severity of their abusers’ actions. He then tried to reveal the identities of the abused minors.

In the Kerly case, three 8-year old girls accused Kerly of molesting them. Kelly tried to convince jurors that the District could not be held responsible for the abuse because Kerly’s actions weren’t as bad as they could have been. Per news reports, Kelly’s defense featured this argument: “The touching was always on the outside of the clothing, was very brief and there was very strong evidence that (the 8-year old girls) didn’t know that it was inappropriate when it occurred.”

Kelly’s defense was a failure and the jury awarded the victims \$2.1 million.

According to the news reports, the sex crimes officer that investigated Kerly said that the School District was “minimally cooperative” and that he was certain that Kerly was a “pedophile.”

In 2004, Kelly defended the Warren Schools again in the case of Roderick Reese, who was accused by 10 girls, ages 9-11, of groping their inner thighs, breasts and buttocks.

In this case Kelly made a motion asking the judge to reveal the identity of the child sex abuse victims to the public. The judge denied his motion and the lawsuits were eventually settled.

[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. The firm currently represents more than 140 alleged victims of former US Olympic Women's Gymnastics team doctor Larry Nassar.