



# PRESS RELEASE

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## **MANLY, STEWART & FINALDI CLIENTS JOIN DOMINIQUE MOCEANU IN CRITICIZING USA GYMNASTICS CEO SELECTION PROCESS**

***Athletes that have testified before US Senate Judiciary Committee call process to  
replace fired USA Gymnastics Chief Steve Penny “disappointing.”***

**Irvine, California** - 1996 Olympic Gold Medalist Dominique Moceanu, 2000 Olympic Bronze Medalist Jamie Dantzscher and Three Time National Rhythmic Gymnastics Champion Jessica Howard released a letter sent to Paul Parilla, Chairman of USA Gymnastics (USAG), slamming the selection process for the organization’s new CEO. [Click here for letter.](#)

Former USAG CEO Steve Penny resigned on March 16, 2017 under fire for his failure to protect athletes from physical, emotional and sexual abuse during his 12-year tenure as the head of the Olympic governing body for gymnastics.

More than 100 women have reported sexual abuse by former USAG and Olympic Team physician, Dr. Larry Nassar. Many have also named USA Gymnastics and Michigan State University in civil lawsuits.

A letter from Dantzscher, Howard, and Moceanu to USAG Chairman Paul Parrilla said, “When we testified before the United States Senate Judiciary Committee on March 28, 2017, a hearing you declined to attend, every Senator expressed support for our call for fundamental change of the governance and priorities of USAG.

Instead you have chosen to conduct business as usual, allowing the same Board of Directors (the Board who defended and enabled Steve Penny) to select the search committee who will replace him.”

Last Thursday the Senate Judiciary Committee voted to send the “Protect Young Victims from Sexual Abuse Act” to the full Senate for a vote. The Bill, sponsored by Senator Dianne Feinstein (D – California) and Iowa Senator Chuck Grassley (R - Iowa), was prompted by the sexual abuse scandal in USAG.

“USA Gymnastics is not getting the message, Said John Manly, a California attorney that represents more than 80 alleged victims of Dr. Larry Nassar.

“They failed to include even one victim of Dr. Larry Nassar or one critic of the organization in their CEO election process. They have done nothing to prove that they intend to place the safety of young athletes above money and medals,” said Manly.

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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.