



# PRESS RELEASE

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## **DEPOSITION TESTIMONY BY MARTHA KAROLYI CONTRADICTS CLAIMS THAT KAROLYIS FIRST LEARNED OF LARRY NASSAR'S SEXUAL MISCONDUCT AFTER THE 2016 OLYMPICS**

**Irvine California** – John Manly, the attorney representing more than 150 alleged victims of disgraced former Olympic team doctor Larry Nassar, has released startling testimony by famed Olympic gymnastics coach Martha Karolyi taken under oath that contradicts statements made in a recent lawsuit filed by the Karolyis against the United States Olympic Committee and USA Gymnastics. [Click here for lawsuit.](#)

Mr. Manly said, “Martha and Bela Karolyi’s shameful attempt to portray themselves as victims of Larry Nassar in their recent lawsuit against USA Gymnastics and the US Olympic Committee is an insult to a generation of Olympic and Team USA Gymnasts who were molested by Nassar under their watch at the now infamous Karolyi Ranch. The Karolyis stated in their lawsuit that, “When USAG told the Karolyis in 2015 that Larry Nassar would not be returning, USAG never mentioned that the alleged mistreatment was potentially sexual assault, nor did they relay the nature of the treatments at issue...The Karolyis first learned of the exact nature of Nassar’s conduct leading to his dismissal—e.g. allegations of sexual misconduct—sometime after the 2016 Summer Olympics.” That false statement directly contradicts testimony made under oath in a deposition conducted by me in May of 2017.”

In that deposition I asked Mrs. Karolyi directly, “Were you ever advised by any USAG official in or around June 2015 that they had received a complaint that Dr. Nassar had molested a National Team gymnast at the ranch?”

Mrs. Karolyi answered, “Yes, I did.”

I asked, “And who reported that to you?”

Mrs. Karolyi replied, “Steve Penny.” [Click here for deposition video](#)

Martha Karolyi was a mandatory reporter. She was legally obligated to report to Texas law enforcement when Penny told her young gymnasts were molested in June 2015. If she had reported Nassar he might have been arrested a year earlier than he was, and dozens of girls could have been spared his sexual assaults. To the best of my knowledge, Texas law enforcement has not done anything investigate Mrs. Karolyi’s conduct and hold her accountable. That is extremely disturbing to Nassar’s survivors.”

Following complaints to USA Gymnastics in June of 2015 by Olympic gold medalists Aly Raisman and McKayla Maroney and former World Champion Maggie Nichols that Nassar was molesting gymnasts at the Karolyi Ranch, Nassar was removed from his position as Olympic team doctor but was allowed to return to his clinic and Michigan State University where he allegedly continued to molest young women and girls until his arrest in the fall of 2016.

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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. The firm currently represents more than 150 alleged victims of former Michigan State University and U.S. Women's Gymnastics Olympic Team doctor Larry Nassar