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### **Statement of Christina Cardenas**

There is no recompense that can ever fully heal the pain caused by the sexual violation on Sept. 6th, 2019. My motivation in pursuing this lawsuit was to ensure that others do not have to endure the same egregious offenses that I experienced. I pray that this landmark settlement serves as a resounding message to all correctional officers that harmful behavior will NOT be tolerated. It is crucial to treat visitors not as criminals, but with humanity and respect for their human rights.

I also hope that this serves as a beacon to all family and loved ones of the incarcerated, reminding them that they do not have to endure abuse simply because they are visiting a family member or friend. Studies have shown that male inmates who receive visits experience a reduction of over 50% in recidivism, or reoffending. It is crucial not to criminalize or victimize those who are visiting and supporting true rehabilitation.

In this sensitive matter, my purpose is not in seeking vengeance or triumph, but to stand in grace and forgiveness for the harm and residual trauma that has been caused. I will continue to pray for all parties involved moving forward with loving kindness and compassion, and I ask God to grant wisdom and fortitude to prevent this harm from occurring in the future.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Christina Cardenas  
Represented by Attorneys Gloria Allred, John Carpenter and Carlos Hernandez  
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