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Statement of Gloria Allred

Thank you very much for allowing me to testify today in support of AB212 which would eliminate the statute of limitations for criminal prosecution of rape in Nevada. Currently the statute in Nevada is 4 years, but only if a police report is filed within this time.

I have been practicing law for almost 40 years. During that time I have represented thousands of rape and sexual assault victims in many states in the United States and I currently represent many survivors who allege that Bill Cosby raped or sexually assaulted them in Nevada.

I would like to share with you some brief excerpts of what they allege Mr. Cosby did to them in your state and then comment on why many victims never reported Mr. Cosby to law enforcement within 4 years as required by your existing state law. Here is what they have said at news conferences:

Linda Kirkpatrick

In 1981, I was 25, living in Las Vegas, Nevada, with my family. I was participating in a mixed doubles tennis tournament at Cambridge Racquet Club, an indoor facility in Las Vegas and a club at which I was a member. One of my opponents in the tennis draw was Bill Cosby and a young female tennis player from the University of Nevada at Las Vegas. I had never met either Cosby or his partner prior to this tournament but was told by the club staff that Cosby was mentoring the UNLV player.

Prior to the onset of the match, across the net, Cosby said “If my partner & I win this match, then we win. But if you (meaning myself) and your partner win the match, then I’ll treat you both to my show tonight as my guests. Front row seats.”

Cosby was appearing at the Las Vegas Hilton on Paradise Road with The Captain & Tennille.

My partner & I won the match. As it turned out, however, my partner worked as a showroom maître di at the Las Vegas Hilton and therefore saw Cosby’s show nightly, leaving me to accept his invitation alone.

When I arrived at the Hilton, I met with my tennis partner at the door of the showroom, at which time he called for someone to escort me to Cosby’s dressing room.

When I entered the dressing room, there were several people there, including The Captain & Tennille. There was a table in the center of the room with a variety of food & fruits. There was a very large copper cappuccino machine on a separate table.

Cosby introduced me to everyone in the room, including a striking mid to late 20’s woman with very, very long blond hair, whom I was told was from Los Angeles and that I was to stay with her for the show.

Cosby handed me a tall, thin champagne type of glass with a clear liquid in it and with what appeared to be red fruit in the bottom. I drank several sips of the clear liquid drink I had been handed by Cosby; however didn’t recognize the taste. It wasn’t champagne and it tasted terrible. I recall drinking approximately ½ of the glass.

The next thing I remember I was sitting on a large plastic box in a very dark room where the spotlight was being operated by a man (more a room than a booth). The walls were completely blacked out. I was sitting to the right of the man operating the spotlight. I do not know how I got to the spotlight booth/room. The

blond woman from LA was sitting next to me. I asked “why are we sitting up here and not at the show?” I was told this is where Cosby wanted us to sit.

My next recollection was being back in the dressing room alone with Cosby. I was lying down. Cosby was on top of me kissing me forcefully. I had no interest in sex of any kind with Bill Cosby nor did I expect or want anything from him when I accepted his invitation to the show. I only expected a seat to the show as offered by him.

I knew something was terribly, terribly wrong with whatever I had consumed in that drink that he gave me.

I recall seeing a silver ID bracelet with CAMILLE on it. I remember thinking why is he doing this to me even while wearing his wife’s bracelet. I have no conscious re-collection of how I got home.

The next day I returned to the tennis club as I was still in the tournament playing in the singles event. I began violently throwing up court side, as a result of ingesting what I believe to be some type of drug and was unable to continue the tennis match and defaulted to my opponent.

When I came off the court, an employee from the reservation desk at the tennis club handed me a phone message from Bill Cosby to call him back.

I did call him back from the club desk phone immediately, with the intention to give him a piece of my mind for whatever he gave me which rendered me helpless & so ill and for his unwanted sexual advances.

He apologized for his behavior the previous night.

He said he may have gotten the wrong idea about why I was there.

It seemed he was saying “You asked for it”.

He said “let me make it up to you. Come back tonight between the 1st and 2nd show. We’ll play backgammon and then you can see my 2nd show, front row”.

I told him that I had no interest in sex with him or anything other than the show ticket.

After what sounded like a sincere apology, I did go back the 2nd night. However I vowed not to drink anything offered, and I did not drink anything there or prior to going to the hotel.

No one else was in the dressing room this time. It was just Bill Cosby and me.

After a few games of backgammon, he indicated it was time to get ready for his second show for the night. I stood up near the cappuccino machine, assuming someone would then come to escort me to my seat in the audience. It was at this time that he caught me off guard, went after me again, grabbed me from the front, locked me in an aggressive hug, with his arms wrapped around my back and forcefully tried to kiss me. He held so tightly against his body that it was obvious he was sexually aroused.

I said “Stop it! No! Let me go!” and managed to get myself out of his grip and pushed him away. I left the hotel.

The following day I told my family what happened.

They asked why I went back the 2nd night. There are a number of reasons.

I was an early 20’s young woman, a little star struck and naïve.

He had suggested that I asked for it. I meant to prove that I had not “asked” for anything.

For more than 30 years, I’ve been sickened by what he did to me. That he had taken advantage of me sexually and that he had the nerve to suggest I had ‘asked for it’.

Mr. Bill Cosby needs to be held accountable for his actions. This is my truth.

Lynn Neal

When I first met Bill Cosby, I was in my mid 20s and I was a therapist at a very nice health club. I would see Bill sometimes daily at the club. He had started playing tennis at that time and would often tell me how sore his back and shoulders were from it. We talked quite a bit and it felt like we were becoming friends.

He had been inviting me to come see his show. So we finally set a time for me to come watch his show and I was going to have a bite to eat with him after the show and then I was going to work on his back and shoulders. So that night when I arrived at the Hilton, I was directed to put my table in his dressing room then I was taken to the area to the side of the stage called "the crow's nest" where I was going to watch the show. I climbed the ladder to the seating area was given a bottle of champagne and a glass to drink during the show. I didn't drink champagne because it gives me headaches. But I took it because I didn't want to be rude. The show started and he was very funny and I felt so lucky that we had become friends. After the show we went to the restaurant to eat, I thought, but when we sat down in a booth in a restaurant he was brought a plate of collard greens that had been made for him. He started eating so I took a bite. He said "no don't eat that!" I said why I'm hungry. He said I'll get you a drink. And then without ordering it, a shot of Stolli was brought to me. I said I don't want that, I would have ordered a drink with juice or something. But he said just drink it. So I did. He said ok we have to go. And I said I thought we were going to eat. He said we don't have time. So we left the restaurant. By the time we walked back to his dressing room, I was having problems walking. I felt disoriented and confused. I didn't understand what was happening to me, I had never felt that way before.

When we entered the dressing room I sat on the couch and he started taking my pants down. I said what you are doing, stop! But he didn't and I was weak I felt helpless and I couldn't stop him. He told me to calm down, he wasn't going to hurt

me and then he started having sex with me, and was talking about how an orgasm is like a thermostat, building pressure. Then it was over. He rushed me out of his room and told me to call him the next time he was in town. I never saw him again in the health club or anywhere else. I was in shock as I had no idea that he would do this to me. I looked at him as a big brother or fatherly figure that I admired. He built my trust by pretending to be a friend. He drugged and raped me. He betrayed my trust and took advantage of me.

The last thing I remember about that night was struggling to walk down the hallway trying to get out of the hotel. I don't remember finding my car or the drive home.

Statement of Chelan

In 1986 I was working at the Las Vegas Hilton while I was in high school. I was 17 years old and an aspiring model. I was working at the Hilton as a bell dispatcher at the bell desk. My father was married at the time and his wife wrote a letter and sent pictures of me to Bill Cosby.

Bill Cosby called me at home in Las Vegas and reached my grandmother. He said he wanted to meet me and that my grandmother and I should come to the Hilton Las Vegas where he was going to be performing his show. He said to meet him in the Elvis Presley suite. He was going to introduce me to someone from the Ford modeling agency.

I had a cold at the time so he gave me a blue pill, which he said was an antihistamine, with a double shot of Amaretto. He was rubbing my neck and saying that he might have to have someone come in to give me stress therapy. He had me put on a Hilton robe because he said someone from the Ford agency was coming up to the suite and that I should wet my hair so that they could see the

texture of my hair. Someone did come into the room, took a couple of pictures and told me to lose 10 pounds. Then they left.

Then Mr. Cosby walked me to the bedroom after a second shot of Amaretto. He said it would help with my cold. I laid down. He laid down next to me on the bed and began pinching my left nipple and humping my leg while he was grunting.

I could not open my eyes. I couldn't move or say anything. I felt something warm on my legs. Then I blacked out.

13 to 16 hours later I woke up by hearing Mr. Cosby clapping his hands and saying "Daddy says wake up". He gave me \$1500. He said the money was to buy something nice for me and my grandmother and he also invited me to go to the Temptations show with my grandmother. My grandmother went but I did not go because I felt too sick. Then he invited us to his show. My grandmother really wanted to go. I did not, but I went with her and heckled him. As a result I was fired from my job.

Jane

I also represent another Cosby victim. Today I will simply call her Jane, but that is not her real name. Her true name will be made public in the future when she speaks out which she has not done yet. Jane was only 17 years old when Cosby victimized her in Nevada. She alleges that she was given alcohol and was drugged by Mr. Cosby and then raped by him in your state. We will provide relevant evidence if he denies it.

Why did many of Cosby's victims not come forward to law enforcement at the time of their victimization or within the 4 years after that? There are many reasons. Cosby is rich, powerful and famous. They were not, and they thought that they would not be believed. There was no DNA testing for rape victims when the alleged rapes occurred and many thought that Cosby or his supporters or representatives might unfairly attack them if they came forward. Fear of verbal attacks did, in fact, become a reality for some of Cosby's other alleged victims who came forward recently.

A culture of victim blaming and victim shaming also deterred some alleged victims from coming forward. In addition, the cult of celebrity is very strong and many people believed that Bill Cosby was actually the loveable Dr. Huxtable that they saw on TV. Now, of course, many have changed their minds and have decided that Mr. Cosby is not a saint. Instead they have reluctantly concluded that he is a sexual predator.

It is now 2015 and it is time for a change. There are some other states which have eliminated the criminal statute of limitations for sexual assault. We hope that Nevada will take this opportunity to show leadership and to say that victims should not be denied their day in court because of an arbitrary time limit set by law.

I commend the courageous Nevada victims who came forward and also hope that I will be able to thank the courageous Nevada legislators who vote to pass AB212 and give all victims the ability to have their day in court against sexual predators who rape and sexually assault them in the State of Nevada.

Gloria Allred
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