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We are here today to address the disturbing trend of men using iPads and sometime smartphones to take photos of women's genital areas without the women's knowledge or consent.

Brittanie Weaver, age 24, is one of many victims of what has been called "up skirt" photography. However, in addition to being a victim Brittanie has now become a hero and the person who is most responsible for apprehending the man who committed the crime against her.

On March 15, 2013, Brittanie walked to breakfast at Sweet Butter on Ventura Boulevard. After breakfast she walked with her dog to a pet shop called "Puppy and Me". When she was inside the shop a man walked in with an ID badge around his neck. Brittanie noticed that the ID badge said "Court Interpreter" and she could see the name "Mario" on the ID.

Brittanie browsed inside the store and began to worry that Mario was following her. She walked to the counter and began to talk to the women behind it. According to Brittanie, Mario kept leaning down to pet her dog. Brittanie, following her intuition suddenly looked down and saw the camera on the corner of Mario's iPad which was at that point between her legs.

Brittanie believed that this man, Mario, had his iPad by his side when he was walking, and then when he would kneel down next to her dog to pet him that he would balance the iPad on his knee.

She turned white as she reluctantly concluded that he had been filming up her dress.

Brittanie then began to back away and Mario said something about dogs to her and the women at the counter. He then left. Brittanie then walked outside and called her boyfriend to ask for suggestions regarding what to do. One of the

employees of the store came out and told Brittanie that they had the man on the store's surveillance tape.

Brittanie contacted the police, but she states that she was told to just let it go and that she would never find him.

However, Brittanie persisted. She went online and looked for Mario, court interpreter, and did find him. She then gave the police a print out of the information that she found.

As a result Julio Mario Medal was arrested and charged by the L.A. City Attorney with 3 misdemeanors: secretly videotaping for sexual gratification, unlawful loitering and attempted videotaping for sexual gratification. Recently he entered a plea and today he was sentenced.

Brittanie is a hero because she did everything she could do to bring this defendant to justice. She did this not only to guarantee that Mr. Medal would have to face the consequences of his misconduct toward her but also to help protect other women.

What happened to Brittanie is part of a disturbing trend. Many women have reported to me that they have seen men attempting to photograph women's genital areas without the women's consent while the women are lying on the beach, while women are going down escalators, while they are working at their desks in their office and while women are in schools and other public places.

We believe that these cases should be prosecuted as felonies. However, Brittanie's case points out a defect in the law and the need for the law to change. If the camera such as the one on Mr. Medal's iPad is not covered then the filming of a woman's private genital areas without her consent is only prosecuted as a misdemeanor, not a felony. Obviously the law has not kept up with advances in the tech world and the law needs to be changed.

Brittanie and I will be seeking legislators who will be willing to sponsor a bill to change the law in California to more fully protect women from this type of intrusive invasion of their privacy.

I commend Brittanie for doing everything she could do to bring Julio Mario Medal to justice and I look forward to working with her in our future efforts to protect women and to bring to justice those who invade their privacy and violate the law.

Gloria Allred

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Representing Brittanie Weaver

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