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**STATEMENT OF GLORIA ALLRED REGARDING THE SENTENCING OF FORMER
MAYOR BOB FILNER**

Bob Filner abused his power as Mayor by preying on women who worked for him and women who sought his advice and help.

On the day that Filner pled guilty his attorney Jerry Coughlan said after the Court hearing, "This was Mr. Filner's chance to put all of this behind him". "His conduct, he admitted in court, and has admitted, was inappropriate, over the top, and today admitted it was criminal. Mr. Filner profusely apologizes to each person he might have harmed, and this permits the various women to put all of this behind themselves too, and to know that (this) conduct will not occur with anyone else in the future." We disagree. Filner's guilty plea has not allowed our client, Irene McCormack Jackson, to put all of this behind her.

Ms. McCormack Jackson, the first of Mr. Filner's victims to have the courage to publicly identify herself as a victim of Filner's sexual harassment and to challenge him by filing a lawsuit against him for the sexual misconduct that he inflicted upon her, continues to suffer emotional distress as a result of the former Mayor's outrageous behavior towards her. We believe that he has caused many women pain and suffering which they will continue to have to deal with for many years to come.

Though some may feel that Filner has paid the price for his betrayal of the public trust, I think that he is one lucky man.

I do not regard the loss of part of his mayoral pension as punishment because he did not deserve a pension. A pension is a benefit that is provided for work performed as a public servant, and should not be conferred on a serial predator who has misused his office to harass women.

Probation for three years and confinement to his house for three months sounds ominous, but let's not ignore the fact that he will not have to spend one day in jail or prison. A criminal, such as Bob Filner, who has

pled guilty to a felony and two misdemeanors, should not be able to simply stay at home for three months and avoid any time in custody.

Filner is also very fortunate that he was not prosecuted and convicted under Penal Code 243.4 California's sexual battery, sexual assault law. If he had been convicted under that law either as a misdemeanor or a felony he would have been subject, under Penal Code 290, to lifetime registration as a sex offender. Registration as a sex offender would have been a very serious punishment.

Yes, Filner's reputation is in ruins because of his actions. He is and forever more will remain a convicted felon, but, who is blame for his current plight? He was given enormous power by the citizens of San Diego to do good. Instead, he misused that power and position to take advantage of women in order to fulfill his sexual needs. In so doing he brought shame and scandal upon himself and caused a stain on the reputation of the great City of San Diego.

He deserved to go prison. Elected officials should know that when they prey on women they proceed at their own risk and face potential civil and criminal consequences, including being incarcerated for their crimes.

I have enormous sympathy for Filner's victims. They did not have a choice and they did not invite or deserve what they were forced to suffer. For Filner I have nothing but contempt.

Mr. Filner, count your blessings- your freedom is a gift which you do not deserve. We are proceeding with Irene's lawsuit against you and we will see you again in Court.

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GLORIA ALLRED
Attorney At Law Representing
Irene McCormack Jackson
And Peggy Shannon