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### **Statement of Cynthia Medina**

First and foremost, I want to thank my family, my husband & my friends. Without their support I would not have had the strength to get through this.

Secondly, I want to thank Gloria for her time and compassion. Through her I have gained courage to stand up for what I believe without shame.

Now as for Quarles and his decision not to contest being remanded to a state mental health hospital, I am pleased. It really doesn't surprise me. I think he may have realized that his chances of being set free after the civil commitment trial were not very good.

It gives me great pride to say I have reached my ultimate goal. He is not out free on the streets.

Finally, to any victim of a violent crime, I urge you not to put your blind faith in the system. Be aware that you too may find yourself many years later having to deal with something that should have been put behind you.

It is our right to feel our children and neighbors are safe. It is time to stand up and say enough.

**Cynthia Medina**

**July 21, 2014**

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### **Statement of Mary Meehan Taylor Regarding Alvin Ray Quarles**

Last Thursday, I found out that the man who sexually assaulted me and terrorized the community of San Diego back in the late 1980's, will not, at this time, be set free 25 years ahead of schedule. The San Diego's D.A.'s Office informed me that Alvin Quarles has agreed to "not contest" the petition remanding him to Coalinga State Hospital as a "Sexually Violent Predator" (SVP).

This is very good news for me personally, as well as for the community of San Diego. I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to my attorney, Gloria Allred. For my fellow victim, Cynthia, and me, Gloria became our champion. She made sure our voices were heard. Over a period of close to three years, Alvin Quarles committed multiple sexual assaults that included breaking into people's homes, such as my own, holding them at knife point and forcing them to endure and/or engage in sexual acts at the threat of death. With Gloria's stalwart support and the actions of the District Attorney's office, he will not be given the chance to just walk back into our community with an opportunity to re-offend, without significant and extensive treatment.

I also want to thank San Diego Deputy D.A. Wendy Patrick and her investigator, Nancy, for listening to us and doing what they could to file a petition seeking to involuntarily commit Alvin Quarles to a state mental hospital.

We knew going into the trial, which was supposed to start tomorrow (7/22/14), that our best possible outcome was Quarles would be remanded to a State Hospital for treatment as a Sexually Violent Predator (SVP). Without even entering the courtroom, that outcome has happened. For that we should all be thankful. However, we also must be wary.

I have to be honest and tell you I worry about the possibility of Quarles being released in the future. When Quarles was originally scheduled to be released last fall, Cynthia and I were never informed and only read about it in the newspaper. I would like to hear assurances from the DA's office and our State Hospital system that we, as victims, will be kept updated on his status.

I have often told the people who care about me that this experience was originally so shattering, it consumed me. I found it hard to believe I could ever reach a place where I could deal with it and find peace.

With time, support from my family and friends, as well as professional counseling, I learned to put these memories in a box. Over the years, as some sad and horrific events have occurred in our community, I would take down the box and relive those memories. I did that when I thought about Charlie Keever . . . and Jonathan Sellers . . .

and Danielle Van Dam . . . and Amber Dubois . . . and Chelsea King. I would remember how terrified I was that night, as I did not know what choices I needed to make to survive. I could literally feel how terrified those individuals must have been in their last moments. I want their families to know, my heart has always been with them.

This last year has been a very difficult one for me. When I heard the news last year that Quarles would be released from prison 25 years early, I felt that box fall off the shelf. I feel like I have spent the last year scrambling to figure out how to re-pack that box and put it back on the shelf. I am hoping my opportunity to talk to you today is the beginning of that process.

In closing, I would like to say that I know Cynthia and I both hope that by coming forward, and disclosing very difficult and painful memories from our past, we have made a difference, both in how our criminal justice system treats victims as well as insuring, at least for now, that our community is safe from at least one more sexual predator.

I do not know why I survived and some of the other brave young people whom I mentioned a moment ago did not, but I want to make sure that my survival has meaning. That is why I chose to talk with you today. Thank you.

**Mary Meehan Taylor**  
**July 21, 2014**