

WHILE VILLEGAS WAS A VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE, VUSD SETTLED FIVE SEX ABUSE CASES, SOUGHT TO “KEEP THE COMMUNITY IN THE DARK FOREVER”

SUMMARY

- When Villegas ran for a full term on the Visalia Unified School District in 2022, he advocated for increased transparency on the school board. However, between February 2023 and March 2025, Visalia Unified School District settled five (5) total sex abuse cases for a total of nearly \$15 million. Two of the cases received extensive scrutiny.
- November 2025: Visalia Unified School District reached a \$8 million settlement with a former student who alleged that she was groomed and sexually assaulted by a school staff member. The school member was described as a “textbook predator” who “victimized minor females essentially everywhere he’s gone in his life.”
 - According to the lawsuit, VUSD was accused of “negligent hiring, lack of supervision of an unfit employee and failure to report suspected child abuse.
 - The staff member was released from employment at the same school in 2013 for a “very serious misconduct,” but was rehired in 2022 as a campus supervisor.
 - Accuser’s attorney: the school “did everything wrong when they brought him back in 2022.”
 - A second student had accused the same person of abuse, and the Tulare County District Attorney had filed a total of 11 felony counts for misconduct against him.
 - We can surmise that it likely happened sometime between Sept. 23 and Nov. 5, 2025.
- March 2025: VUSD paid a \$3 million settlement to sex abuse victims that contained “provisions to keep the community in the dark forever” regarding details about the case. Six former students had accused a kindergarten teacher of sex abuse allegations.
 - Villegas was present for the Board of Education meeting during which the settlement was approved unanimously, in a closed session. The settlement was Visalia’s fifth secret settlement in the previous three years, and was “one of a flurry” of settlements that school districts were “quietly approving statewide.”
 - The \$3 million secretive settlement was part of a trend of using NDAs for reputation management, and discouraging people from finding out more information regarding the settlements through public records.
 - In this specific case, VUSD barred former students from receiving secret payouts from “directly or indirectly” encouraging others to file a request under the state Public Records Act.
- VUSD settled three other sex abuse and assault students between February 2023 and March 2025.

VILLEGAS CALLED FOR INCREASED TRANSPARENCY AT VUSD, BUT BETWEEN FEBRUARY 2023 AND MARCH 2025, VUSD SETTLED FIVE SEX ABUSE CASES FOR NEARLY \$15 MILLION

Villegas Has Called For Increased Transparency At VUSD...


Randy Villegas Supported Increased Transparency At VUSD Board Meetings. According to Visalia Times-Delta (California), "Pushed for transparency, supporting a policy to grant the public access to meeting recordings." [Visalia Times-Delta (California), [10/21/22](#)]

... But Between February 2023 And March 2025, VUSD Settled Five Sex Abuse Cases For Nearly \$15 Million

Sex abuse cases against California school districts

The Times reached out to more than 930 school districts in California and submitted public records requests seeking information about all sexual misconduct suits and claims filed against districts and copies of settlement agreements for all sexual misconduct suits since Jan. 1, 2020. Click on the expand icon to see details for settled cases including court documents and settlement agreements.

Page 1 of 1

| District | Open cases | ▼ Settled cases | Settlement amount | Details |
|---|------------|-----------------|-------------------|---|
| Visalia Unified Tulare County | 2 | 5 | \$14,420,000 |  |

Case information is up to date as of March 1, 2025, although some cases may have since settled and are not reflected. Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District refused to turn over any records. Los Angeles Unified only provided a list of AB218 cases as of June 2024, and settlements executed through January 2025. See something missing or incorrect? Contact tips@latimes.com.

Gabrielle LaMarr LeMee LOS ANGELES TIMES

[Los Angeles Times, accessed [2/6/26](#)]

Among The Five, The Earliest Settled Case Was In February 2023; Case Information Was Up To Date As Of March 1, 2025. [Los Angeles Times, accessed [2/6/26](#)]

\$8 MILLION SETTLEMENT TO FORMER STUDENT WHO ALLEGED THAT A SCHOOL STAFF MEMBER, PREVIOUSLY FIRED FROM THE SAME SCHOOL FOR SERIOUS MISCONDUCT, HAD MOLESTED HER

November 2025: Visalia Unified School District Reached A \$8 Million Settlement With A Former Student Who Alleged that She Was Groomed And Sexually Assaulted By A “Textbook Predator” School Staff Member

CASE NUMBER VCU313685: VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT REACHED \$8 MILLION SETTLEMENT

HEADLINE: “Former Visalia High School Student To Receive \$8 Million In Molestation Lawsuit.” [The Fresno Bee, [11/10/25](#)]

The Fresno Bee: “A Former Mt. Whitney High School Student Will Receive An \$8 Million Settlement After She Sued The Visalia Unified School District Alleging She Was Molested By A School Staff Member.” “A former Mt. Whitney High School student will receive an \$8 million settlement after she sued the Visalia Unified School District alleging she was molested by a school staff member. The plaintiff, who was a 15-year-old sophomore at the time, alleges that during 2022-2023 school year she was groomed and sexually assaulted by Dejaun Jones, a former campus supervisor.” [The Fresno Bee, [11/10/25](#)]

HEADLINE: “Former Visalia Unified School District Employee Faces Felony Sexual Abuse Charges.” [ABC30, [11/5/25](#)]

LA Times Database: Case Number VCU313685 Resulted In An \$8 Million Settlement.

Case number: VCU313685

Settlement amount: \$8,000,000

Plaintiff: Jane Doe through Guardian ad Litem

The lawsuit alleges a staff member at Mt. Whitney High School abused a student during the 2022-23 school year.

Complaint #1

[Los Angeles Times, accessed [2/6/26](#)]

VILLEGAS WAS PRESENT FOR THE OCTOBER 7, 2025 VUSD BOARD OF ED. MEETING

Villegas Was Present For The October 7, 2025 VUSD Board Of Education Meeting.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2025

5:30 PM – REGULAR SESSION

(4:30 p.m. - Open Meeting/Public Comment on Closed Topics/Closed Session)

Visalia Unified School District

District Office Boardroom

5000 West Cypress Avenue

Visalia, CA 93277

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present:

Paul Belt

Kenneth DeJonge

Jacqueline A. Gaebe

Joy M. Naylor

Todd Oto, Ed.D.

Randy Villegas, Ph.D.

[VUSD Board Of Education Minutes, 3/11/25]

**VUSD BOARD OF ED. APPEARED TO HAVE REACHED \$8 MILLION SETTLEMENT
SOMETIME BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 23, 2025 AND NOVEMBER 5, 2025**

September 23, 2025: The Plaintiff Filed A Notice Of Settlement With The Tulare County Superior Court Of California. [Tulare County Superior Court, Case No. VCU313685, filed [9/23/25](#)]

November 5, 2025: ABC30 Reported That The Victim In The Case Was Awarded An \$8 Million Settlement. [C30, [11/5/25](#)]

**SEPT. – NOV. 2025: IN CLOSED SESSIONS, VUSD BOARD OF EDUCATION
DISCUSSED CASE NO. VCU313685 AT LEAST THREE TIMES**

October 7, 2025: In A Closed Session, VUSD Board Of Education Had A “Conference With Legal Counsel” Regarding “Existing Litigation” In Tulare County Superior Court, Case No. VCU313685.

2. CLOSED SESSION

(May reconvene after the public meeting, if necessary)

- 2.1 RECOMMENDED EXPULSIONS (Education Code Sections 48900, et. seq.)
- 2.2 RECOMMENDED SUSPENDED EXPULSIONS
- 2.3 RECOMMENDED REINSTATEMENTS
- 2.4 RECOMMENDED REVIEW - CONTINUED EXPULSIONS
- 2.5 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE / DISMISSAL / RELEASE / COMPLAINTS (Government Code Section 54957)
- 2.6 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (Government Code 54957.6)
 - 1. Agency Negotiator: Ben Dhillon, Assistant Superintendent of HRD
 - 2. Employee Organizations
 - a. VUTA
 - b. CSEA
- 2.7 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9(a))
 - Tulare County Superior Court, Case No. VCU303719
 - Tulare County Superior Court, Case No. VCU313685

[VUSD Board Of Education Minutes, [10/7/25](#)]

September 26, 2025: In A Closed Session, VUSD Board Of Education Had A “Conference With Legal Counsel” Regarding “Existing Litigation” In Tulare County Superior Court, Case No. VCU313685.

4. CLOSED SESSION

- 4.1 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE / DISMISSAL / RELEASE / COMPLAINTS (Government Code Section 54957)
- 4.2 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (Government Code 54957.6)
 - 1. Agency Negotiator: Ben Dhillon, Assistant Superintendent of HRD
 - 2. Employee Organizations
 - a. CSEA
 - b. VUTA
- 4.3 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9(a))
 - Tulare County Superior Court, Case No. VCU302405
 - Tulare County Superior Court, Case No. VCU313685

[VUSD Board Of Education Minutes, [9/26/25](#)]

September 9, 2025: In A Closed Session, VUSD Board Of Education Had A “Conference With Legal Counsel” Regarding “Existing Litigation” In Tulare County Superior Court, Case No. VCU313685.

2. CLOSED SESSION

(May reconvene after the public meeting, if necessary)

- 2.1 RECOMMENDED EXPULSIONS (Education Code Sections 48900, et. seq.)
- 2.2 RECOMMENDED SUSPENDED EXPULSIONS
- 2.3 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE / DISMISSAL / RELEASE / COMPLAINTS (Government Code Section 54957)
- 2.4 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (Government Code 54957.6)
 - 1. Agency Negotiator: Ben Dhillon, Assistant Superintendent of HRD
 - 2. Employee Organizations
 - a. VUTA
 - b. CSEA
- 2.5 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9(a))
 - Tulare County Superior Court, Case No. VCU 302405
 - Tulare County Superior Court, Case No. VCU 313685
 - Tulare County Superior Court, Case No. VCU 305320

[VUSD Board Of Education Minutes, [9/9/25](#)]

NOV. 18, 2025 MINUTES ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE BOARD, INCLUDING VILLEGAS, TWICE VOTED TO APPROVE SETTLEMENTS BETWEEN VUSD AND UNNAMED CALIFORNIA SCHOOL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION (CSEA) EMPLOYEES

September 23, 2025: The Plaintiff Filed A Notice Of Settlement With The Tulare County Superior Court Of California. [Tulare County Superior Court, Case No. VCU313685, filed [9/23/25](#)]

November 5, 2025: ABC30 Reported That The Victim In The Case Was Awarded An \$8 Million Settlement. [C30, [11/5/25](#)]

*On a motion by Trustee DeJonge, **seconded** by Trustee Villegas, the Board agreed to approve a settlement agreement between the District and CSEA classified employee EID#24993.*

Motion carried 6-0 (1 absent).

Vote:

Ayes: Belt, DeJonge, Gamoian, Naylor, Oto, Villegas

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Gaebe

*On a motion by Trustee Belt, **seconded** by Trustee Naylor, the Board agreed to approve a settlement agreement between the District and CSEA classified employee EID#17299.*

Motion carried 6-0 (1 absent).

[VUSD Board Of Education Minutes, [11/18/25](#)]

ACCORDING TO THE LAWSUIT, VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT WAS ACCUSED OF “NEGLIGENT HIRING, LACK OF SUPERVISION OF AN UNFIT EMPLOYEE AND FAILURE TO REPORT SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE”

Lawsuit Alleged That Visalia Unified School District Is “Faulted For Negligent Hiring, Lack Of Supervision Of An Unfit Employee And Failure To Report Suspected Child Abuse.” “In the lawsuit, the school district is faulted for negligent hiring, lack of supervision of an unfit employee and failure to report suspected child abuse.” [The Fresno Bee, [11/10/25](#)]

SCHOOL EMPLOYEE WAS A “TEXTBOOK PREDATOR” WHO “VICTIMIZED MINOR FEMALES ESSENTIALLY EVERYWHERE HE’S GONE IN HIS LIFE”

2025: The Visalia Unified School District Paid A Minor \$8 Million After An Employee Named Dejuan Jones Was Accused Of Sexual Abuse And Being A “Textbook Predator” Who “Victimized Minor Females Essentially Everywhere He's Gone In His Life.” “Attorney Brendan Gilbert from Taylor & Ring represented the victim, who was recently awarded \$8 million in a sexual abuse case against the Visalia Unified School District. ‘He's a textbook predator. He's victimized minor females essentially everywhere he's gone in his life at different jobs,’ said Gilbert. He said 40-year-old De Jaun Jones worked at Mount Whitney High School as a campus supervisor in Visalia when he was accused of exchanging nude photos with a 15-year-old girl and touching her inappropriately in 2023.” [ABC30, [11/5/25](#)]

The Staff Member Was Released From Employment At The Same School In 2013 “For A Very Serious Misconduct,” But Was Rehired In 2022

JONES WAS FIRED FOR “A VERY SERIOUS MISCONDUCT” – HE HAD BEEN SENDING INAPPROPRIATE MESSAGES TO STUDENTS

Jones, Who Worked As The Girls Track And Field Coach, Was “Let Get After Accusations Surfaced That He Was Sending Inappropriate Messages To Members Of The Team.” “Gilbert said Jones previously worked for the high school in 2013 as the girls track and field coach. But he was let go after accusations surfaced that he was sending inappropriate messages to members of the team. Nearly a decade later Jones applied to return to the high school as a campus supervisor and was hired, Gilbert said.” [The Fresno Bee, [11/10/25](#)]

Visalia Unified School District Had Released Jones “10 Years Before For A Very Serious Misconduct.” “Gilbert is now representing a second teen who has also accused Jones of abuse. ‘He should not have been rehired by the district in 2022, given that they had released him 10 years before for a very serious misconduct,’ said Gilbert. Gilbert said Jones has also been accused of similar behavior while working at Monache High School in Porterville Unified and at an In-Shape gym.” [ABC30, [11/5/25](#)]

AFTER NEARLY A DECADE, HE WAS HIRED BACK AS A CAMPUS SUPERVISOR

After Nearly A Decade, Jones “Applied To Return To The High School As A Campus Supervisor And Was Hired.” “Gilbert said Jones previously worked for the high school in 2013 as the girls track and field coach. But he was let go after accusations surfaced that he was sending inappropriate messages to members of the team. Nearly a decade later Jones applied to return to the high school as a campus supervisor and was hired, Gilbert said.” [The Fresno Bee, [11/10/25](#)]

THE SCHOOL “DID EVERYTHING WRONG WHEN THEY BROUGHT HIM BACK IN 2022”

Attorney Brendan Gilbert On The Visalia Unified School District Hiring Of Dejuan Jones: “Mount Whitney High School Did Everything Right In 2013. They Released Jones From His Employment, But Then They Did Everything Wrong When They Brought Him Back In 2022.” “But Gilbert said Jones had already been fired from Mount Whitney High a decade earlier for similar allegations. ‘Mount Whitney High School did everything right in 2013. They released Jones from his employment, but then they did everything wrong when they brought him back in 2022,’ said Gilbert. Jones is accused of grooming high school girls, as well as normalizing inappropriate touching and conversations when he was a campus supervisor.” [ABC30, [11/5/25](#)]

Attorney Brendan Gilbert On The Visalia Unified School District Hiring Of Dejuan Jones: ‘He Should Not Have Been Rehired By The District In 2022.’ “Gilbert is now representing a second teen who has also accused Jones of abuse. ‘He should not have been rehired by the district in 2022, given that they had released him 10 years before for a very serious misconduct,’ said Gilbert. Gilbert said Jones has also been accused of similar behavior while working at Monache High School in Porterville Unified and at an In-Shape gym.” [ABC30, [11/5/25](#)]

A Second Student Had Accused The Same Person Of Abuse; Tulare County DA Had Filed A Total Of 11 Felony Counts For Misconduct Against Him

Attorney Brendan Gilbert Was “Representing A Second Teen Who Has Also Accused Jones Of Abuse.” “Gilbert is now representing a second teen who has also accused Jones of abuse. ‘He should not have been rehired by the district in 2022, given that they had released him 10 years before for a very serious misconduct,’ said Gilbert. Gilbert said Jones has also been accused of similar behavior while working at Monache High School in Porterville Unified and at an In-Shape gym.” [ABC30, [11/5/25](#)]

Dejuan Jones Was Facing 11 Felony Counts For Misconduct And That “At Least Three Young Women Came Forward With Credible Allegations Of Sexual Abuse And Inappropriate Behavior.” “The Tulare County District Attorney's office has filed 11 felony counts against Jones for misconduct during the 2022-2023 school year. Prosecutors said at least three young women came forward with credible allegations of sexual abuse and inappropriate behavior.” [ABC30, [11/5/25](#)]

\$3 MILLION SECRET SETTLEMENT TO SEX ABUSE VICTIMS

VUSD Board Paid A \$3 Million Settlement To Sex Abuse Victims “With Provisions To Keep The Community In The Dark Forever” About The Information In The Case

LA TIMES INVESTIGATION HEADLINE: “PUBLIC IN THE DARK ABOUT SOME SCHOOLS’ BIG SEX ABUSE PAYOUTS”

HEADLINE: Times Investigation: Public In The Dark About Some Schools’ Big Sex Abuse Payouts. [Los Angeles Times, [12/19/25](#)]



Los Angeles Times



CALIFORNIA

Times Investigation: Public in the dark about some schools’ big sex abuse payouts

[Los Angeles Times, [12/19/25](#)]

VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT WAS SUED BY SIX FORMER STUDENTS OVER SEX ABUSE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST A KINDERGARTEN TEACHER

2025: Visalia Unified School District Board Was Sued By Six Former Students Over Sex Abuse Allegations Against A Teacher. “Six former students were suing the district over sexual abuse they said they suffered decades earlier at the hands of a kindergarten teacher. Out of public view, the board unanimously approved a \$3-million settlement with provisions intended to keep the community in the dark forever. Under the terms of the agreement, the women, their lawyers and families were prohibited from disclosing any aspect of the deal, including the amount they were paid. ‘The Parties agree that they will respond to any inquiries they may receive from any third parties regarding the lawsuit by stating only that ‘the matter has been resolved’ without any further elaboration, discussion or disclosure,’ the settlement instructed.” [Los Angeles Times, [12/19/25](#)]

THE SCHOOL BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED A \$3 MILLION SETTLEMENT THAT KEPT THE “COMMUNITY IN THE DARK FOREVER” ABOUT ITS PROVISIONS

Visalia Unified School District Board “Unanimously Approved A \$3-Million Settlement With Provisions Intended To Keep The Community In The Dark Forever.” “Six former students were suing the district over sexual abuse they said they suffered decades earlier at the hands of a kindergarten teacher. Out of public view, the board unanimously approved a \$3-million settlement with provisions intended to keep the community in the dark forever. Under the terms of the agreement, the women, their lawyers and families were prohibited from disclosing any aspect of the deal, including the amount they were paid. ‘The Parties agree that they will respond to any inquiries they may receive from any third parties regarding the lawsuit by stating only that ‘the matter has been resolved’ without any further elaboration, discussion or disclosure,’ the settlement instructed. It was Visalia’s fifth secret settlement in the last three years, one of a flurry that districts are quietly approving statewide.” [Los Angeles Times, [12/19/25](#)]

THE SETTLEMENT WAS VISALIA’S FIFTH IN THE PAST THREE YEARS, AND PART OF A “FLURRY” OF SECRET SETTLEMENTS THAT WERE BEING APPROVED STATEWIDE

The Settlement Was Visalia’s “Fifth Secret Settlement In The Last Three Years.” “It was Visalia’s fifth secret settlement in the last three years, one of a flurry that districts are quietly approving statewide.” [Los Angeles Times, [12/19/25](#)]

The Settlement Was “One Of A Flurry That Districts Are Quietly Approving Statewide.” “It was Visalia’s fifth secret settlement in the last three years, one of a flurry that districts are quietly approving statewide.” [Los Angeles Times, [12/19/25](#)]

March 2025: VUSD Unanimously Voted To Approve \$3 Million Settlement

VILLEGAS WAS PRESENT FOR THE MARCH 11, 2025 VUSD BOARD OF ED. MEETING

Villegas Was Present For The March 11, 2025 VUSD Board Of Education Meeting.

TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2025

5:30 PM - REGULAR SESSION

(4:30 p.m. - Open Meeting/Public Comment On Closed Topics/Closed Session)

Visalia Unified School District, District Office Boardroom

Board Members Present:

Paul Belt

Kenneth DeJonge

Jacqueline A. Gaebe

Walta S. Gamoian

Joy M. Naylor

Todd Oto, Ed.D.

Randy Villegas, Ph.D.

[VUSD Board Of Education Minutes, 3/11/25]

IN A CLOSED SESSION, VUSD BOARD OF ED. DISCUSSED CASE NO. VCU294247, AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED A \$3 MILLION SETTLEMENT

March 11, 2025: In A Closed Session, VUSD Board Of Education Had A “Conference With Legal Counsel” Regarding “Existing Litigation” In Tulare County Superior Court, Case No. VCU294247.

2. CLOSED SESSION

(May reconvene after the public meeting, if necessary)

- 2.1 RECOMMENDED EXPULSIONS (Education Code Sections 48900, et. seq.)
- 2.2 RECOMMENDED REINSTATEMENTS
- 2.3 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE ASSIGNMENT / REASSIGNMENT / APPOINTMENT (Government Code Section 54957)
- 2.4 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE / DISMISSAL / RELEASE / COMPLAINTS (Government Code Section 54957)
- 2.5 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (Government Code 54957.6)
 - 1. Agency Negotiator: Ben Dhillon, Assistant Superintendent of HRD
 - 2. Employee Organizations
 - a. CSEA
 - b. VUTA
- 2.6 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9(a))
 - Tulare County Superior Court, Case No. VCU 294247

[VUSD Board Of Education Minutes, 3/11/25]

The VUSD Board Of Education Unanimously Voted To Approve The Settlement Agreement For Case No. VCU294247.

Board President Naylor reported the following action taken in closed session this evening.

On a motion by Trustee Oto, seconded by Trustee DeJonge, the Board agreed to approve the settlement agreement for case #VCU294247. Motion carried unanimously.

[VUSD Board Of Education Minutes, 3/11/25]


March 12, 2025: VUSD Signed An Agreement Acknowledging The \$3 Million Settlement.

Dated: March 12, 2025

DEFENDANT

VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

By:



Ben Dhillon
Assistant Superintendent

[Tulare County Superior Court, Case No. VCU294297, [filed 3/12/25](#)]

This Was Part Of A Trend Of Using NDAs For Reputation Management And Discouraging People From Finding Out More Information Regarding The Settlements Through Public Records Disclosures

VUSD BARRED STUDENTS FROM BEING INCENTIVIZED TO ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO FILE PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS REGARDING THESE SETTLEMENTS

Visalia Unified School District “Barred Former Students Receiving Secret Payouts From ‘Directly Or Indirectly’ Encouraging Others To File A Request Under The State Public Records Act.” “In Visalia, confidentiality clauses negotiated by district lawyers acknowledged the public’s right to obtain the information – and then attempted to make sure they never would. Four agreements specifically barred former students receiving secret payouts from ‘directly or indirectly’ encouraging others to file a request under the state Public Records Act – the method The Times used to review copies of agreements referenced in this story. A spokesperson for Visalia Unified declined an interview request, and the school district did not answer written questions.” [Los Angeles Times, [12/19/25](#)]

SCHOOLS WERE INCREASINGLY USING NDAS AND OTHER SIMILAR TACTICS THAT “CELEBRITIES AND BIG CORPORATIONS” USE TO “PROTECT THEIR REPUTATION”

California Public Schools Were “Increasingly Using Nondisclosure Agreements And Other Tactics That Celebrities And Big Corporations Rely Upon To Protect Their Reputation.” “A Times investigation found that California’s public schools, faced with a historic surge of sex abuse lawsuits, are increasingly using nondisclosure agreements and other tactics that celebrities and big corporations rely upon to protect their reputation.” [Los Angeles Times, [12/19/25](#)]

ASIDE FROM THOSE TWO CASES, VUSD SETTLED THREE OTHER SEX ABUSE COMPLAINTS DURING THIS TIME PERIOD

Feb. 2023: VUSD Settled A Lawsuit For \$2.8 Million; Allegation Involved Two Former School Staffers Sexually Abusing Students In The 1980s

Case number: VCU289976

AB218

Settled on: Feb 27, 2023, 419 days after filing

Settlement amount: \$2,800,000

Plaintiff: John Doe 7024 and Jeffrey Rivera

The lawsuit alleges two now-deceased staff members at Golden West High School sexually abused students in the early 1980s.

[Los Angeles Times, accessed [2/6/26](#)]

Sep. 2024: VUSD Settled A Lawsuit For \$170,000; Plaintiff Alleged Sexual Abuse By A VUSD Employee When They Were A Minor, Decades Ago

Case number: VCU292469

AB218

Settled on: Sep 26, 2024, 808 days after filing

Settlement amount: \$170,000

Plaintiff: MJ

[Los Angeles Times, accessed [2/6/26](#)]

Plaintiff Alleged Repeated Sexual Abuse An Employee Of The Visalia Unified School District.

INTRODUCTION

This is an action filed pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure (“CCP”) § 340.1 for damages Plaintiff sustained arising from childhood sexual abuse while at SCHOOL DISTRICT. Plaintiff was sexually abused and assaulted repeatedly by a SCHOOL DISTRICT employee of Defendant SCHOOL DISTRICT. This action alleges physical, psychological, and emotional injuries suffered as a result of sexual abuse and assault on a child.

///

[Superior Court of the State of California, Case No. [VCU292469](#)]

Plaintiff Was A Minor Child At The Time Of The Sexual Abuse, And Was Over 40 Years Old When Filing The Complaint.

PARTIES, JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. Plaintiff is a citizen and resident of the State of California and at the time of filing this complaint is over the age of forty (40) years old. Plaintiff was a minor at the time the sexual abuse alleged herein occurred.

2. Defendant, SCHOOL DISTRICT is a public school district located in Visalia, California. SCHOOL DISTRICT is thus a citizen and resident of Tulare County, Visalia, California.

[Superior Court of the State of California, Case No. [VCU292469](#)]

Dec. 2024: VUSD Settled A Lawsuit For \$450,000; Case Involved Alleged Sexual Assault That Occurred In 1985, And Filed In 2022

Case number: VCU294246

AB218

Settled on: Dec 10, 2024, 750 days after filing

Settlement amount: \$450,000

Plaintiff: John Doe P.N.

[Los Angeles Times, accessed [2/6/26](#)]

Alleged Childhood Sexual Assault Occurred In 1985.

THE PARTIES

1. Plaintiff JOHN DOE P.N. is an adult who lives in the County of Tulare, State of California. Plaintiff was a victim of childhood sexual assault that occurred in the County of Tulare, State of California. The sexual assaults and abuse occurred in or around 1985, when Plaintiff was

COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES

approximately 16 years old, at Golden West High School (“Golden West”) located at 1717 North McAuliff Street, Visalia, California 93292. As a victim of childhood sexual assault and abuse, Plaintiff is entitled to protect his identity in this public court filing by not disclosing his full name.

[Superior Court of the State of California, Case No. [VCU294246](#)]