

Press Release - August 8, 2024

## ##### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE #####

## Attorneys Juandalynn Givan and Reginald McDaniel Represent Students Assaulted by Former Hoover High Football Coaches

**Hoover, AL – August 8, 2024** – Attorneys Juandalynn Givan and Reginald McDaniel have announced that they are now representing the two students who were recently both physically and sexually assaulted by Hoover High School's former Head Football Coach, Drew Gilmer, and Defensive Coordinator, Adam Helms. The Hoover City Schools Board of Education today allowed both coaches to resign from their positions, a move that the attorneys believe falls short of the swift and decisive action that should have been taken in the immediate aftermath of this egregious incident.

"We are deeply disappointed by the lack of urgency and seriousness with which the Hoover City Schools Board of Education has handled this matter," said Attorney Juandalynn Givan. "This is a disgrace to our education system and a betrayal of the trust that parents place in our schools to protect their children."

Attorney Reginald McDaniel added, "The students impacted by this heinous act deserve justice, and we will ensure that their voices are heard. It is unacceptable that the response to such a perverted breach of safety and trust was to allow these individuals to quietly step down, rather than face the consequences of their actions."

As the investigation continues, other parents from Jefferson County Schools have begun to come forward with additional allegations dating back to when Drew Gilmer was the head coach at Clay Chalkville High School. These revelations suggest a troubling pattern of behavior that may have gone unchecked for years.



In response to these developments, the attorneys are launching an online portal where parents can share their experiences and incidents involving Drew Gilmer. The portal will provide a safe and confidential space for families to report any past abuses or misconduct that may have occurred under Gilmer's tenure.

"The education system is supposed to be a safe haven for our children, where they can grow and learn without fear of harm," said Attorney Givan. "The fact that such incidents have occurred under the watch of an educator is not only disturbing but also a call to action for all of us to ensure that justice is served and that these acts are never repeated."

Attorney McDaniel concluded, "We encourage any other parents who have been affected by similar incidents to come forward. Together, we can hold those responsible accountable and work towards creating a safer environment for all students."

For more information or to report an incident, please visit <u>https://chaverst.org/chaverst-strategies</u> or contact the offices of Attorneys Juandalynn Givan and Reginald McDaniel.

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For further information or media inquiries, please contact: Chaverst Strategies – 720.671.8989 | <u>info@chaverst.org</u>