

HOFFMAN

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**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

JOHN DOE,

Plaintiff,

v.

MONTESSORI SCHOOL OF LAKE
FOREST, a not-for-profit corporation; and
CELINA MONTOYA,

Defendants.

No. 18L119

PLAINTIFF DEMANDS TRIAL BY JURY

COMPLAINT AT LAW

Plaintiff, JOHN DOE, by his attorneys, TOMASIK KOTIN KASSERMAN, LLC, and TAYLOR & RING, complaining of defendants, MONTESSORI SCHOOL OF LAKE FOREST, a not-for-profit corporation (“MONTESSORI SCHOOL”), and CELINA MONTOYA, states:

Count I

Negligence – Montessori School – Sexual Abuse of Student – Agency

1. At all times relevant herein, including the time period from autumn 2011 through autumn 2013, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, was a not-for-profit corporation authorized to do business and doing business in the State of Illinois.

2. At all times relevant herein, including the time from autumn 2011 through autumn 2013, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, owned, operated, maintained, managed and controlled a private school with two campuses: 13700 West Laurel Drive, Lake Forest, Lake County, Illinois (“Laurel Drive Campus”); and 32470 Harris Road, Grayslake, Lake County, Illinois (“Blue House Campus”).

NOTICE

PURSUANT TO LCR - 2-2.14

THIS CASE IS HEREBY SET FOR AN INITIAL CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

IN COURTROOM C407 ON

05/17/18 AT 9:00 A.M./P.M.

**FAILURE TO APPEAR MAY RESULT IN THE CASE BEING DISMISSED OR
AN ORDER OF DEFAULT BEING ENTERED.**

3. At all times relevant herein, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, enrolled children in its school ranging from ages 15-months through 9th grade.

4. At all times relevant herein, and specifically including the time period from fall 2011 through fall 2013, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, was the agent/employee of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, and was working as a teacher at the Blue House Campus, where she taught and advised students, including the plaintiff.

5. At all times relevant herein, and specifically beginning in the autumn of the 2011-2012 school year, plaintiff, JOHN DOE, was a minor, aged 13, and was an 8th grade student in the MONTESSORI SCHOOL at the Blue House Campus.

6. At said time and place, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, through her position as a teacher at the Blue House Campus, initiated an improper and illegal personal relationship with the plaintiff who was in 8th grade.

7. At all relevant times herein, and specifically during the school year beginning in autumn 2012 and continuing into autumn 2013, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, remained an agent/employee of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, continued to serve as the teacher and advisor of the plaintiff at the Blue House Campus, and continued to initiate and maintain an improper and illegal personal relationship with the plaintiff, who was in 9th grade.

8. At all relevant times herein, the administrators of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, knew or should have known of the improper and illegal personal relationship between its agent/employee, CELINA MONTOYA, and the plaintiff.

9. During the spring of 2013, administrators at the defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, received actual knowledge of the improper and illegal personal relationship maintained by its agent/employee, CELINA MONTOYA, with the plaintiff.

10. During the spring of 2013, administrators at defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, gained actual knowledge that the plaintiff had previously expressed suicidal ideations to defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, and that CELINA MONTOYA had not reported those ideations to anyone.

11. In autumn 2013, plaintiff, JOHN DOE, shared the details of his relationship with CELINA MONTOYA with a therapist, sought medical treatment, and reported the conduct of CELINA MONTOYA to local police.

12. In January 2016, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, was convicted of felony crimes related to her relationship with the plaintiff and was sentenced to four years in a state penitentiary.

13. At all relevant times herein, and specifically from autumn 2011 through autumn 2013, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, by and through its agent/employee, CELINA MONTOYA, was negligent in one or more of the following ways:

- a. Used her position of authority to begin “grooming” the minor plaintiff with the intent of manipulating his emotions and taking advantage of his youth so she could ultimately sexually abuse him;
- b. Used her position of teacher and advisor to spend long periods of time alone with the plaintiff, during school, at private lunches, and during after-school tutoring sessions;
- c. Engaged in inappropriate physical contact with the plaintiff, including kissing him and hugging him on school property;
- d. Engaged in inappropriate romantic and sexual conversations with the plaintiff, including statements that she “loved him” and intended to “marry him”;
- e. Sent inappropriate text messages to the plaintiff of a sexual nature, which included transmittal of nude photographs of herself to the plaintiff;
- f. Failed to take any action to formally report, or otherwise share suicidal ideations expressed by the plaintiff; and

- g. Engaged in an inappropriate and illegal sexual relationship with the minor plaintiff.

14. As a proximate result of one or more of the foregoing negligent acts or omissions of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, by and through its agent/employee, CELINA MONTOYA, the plaintiff, JOHN DOE, suffered injuries of a personal and pecuniary nature.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff, JOHN DOE, demands judgment against defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL OF LAKE FOREST, a not-for-profit corporation, in an amount in excess of the minimum amount required for jurisdiction in the Law Division of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Court of Lake County, Illinois.

Count II

Institutional Negligence – Montessori School – Sexual Abuse of Student

1. At all times relevant herein, including the time period from autumn 2011 through autumn 2013, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, was a not-for-profit corporation authorized to do business and doing business in the State of Illinois.

2. At all times relevant herein, including the time from autumn 2011 through autumn 2013, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, owned, operated, maintained, managed and controlled a private school with two campuses: 13700 West Laurel Drive, Lake Forest, Lake County, Illinois (“Laurel Drive Campus”); and 32470 Harris Road, Grayslake, Lake County, Illinois (“Blue House Campus”).

3. At all times relevant herein, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, enrolled children in its school ranging from ages 15-months through 9th grade.

4. At all times relevant herein, and specifically including the time period from fall 2011 through fall 2013, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, was the agent/employee of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, and was working as a teacher at the Blue House Campus, where she taught and advised students, including the plaintiff.

5. At all times relevant herein, and specifically beginning in the autumn of the 2011-2012 school year, plaintiff, JOHN DOE, was a minor, aged 13, and was an 8th grade student in the MONTESSORI SCHOOL at the Blue House Campus.

6. At said time and place, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, through her position as a teacher at the Blue House Campus, initiated an improper and illegal personal relationship with the plaintiff who was in 8th grade.

7. At all relevant times herein, and specifically during the school year beginning in autumn 2012 and continuing into autumn 2013, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, remained an agent/employee of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, continued to serve as the teacher and advisor of the plaintiff at the Blue House Campus, and continued to initiate and maintain an improper and illegal personal relationship with the plaintiff, who was in 9th grade.

8. At all relevant times herein, the administrators of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, knew or should have known of the improper and illegal personal relationship between its agent/employee, CELINA MONTOYA, and the plaintiff.

9. During the spring of 2013, administrators at the defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, received actual knowledge of the improper and illegal personal relationship maintained by its agent/employee, CELINA MONTOYA, with the plaintiff.

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10. During the spring of 2013, administrators at defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, gained actual knowledge that the plaintiff had previously expressed suicidal ideations to defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, and that CELINA MONTOYA had not reported those ideations to anyone.

11. In autumn 2013, plaintiff, JOHN DOE, shared the details of his relationship with CELINA MONTOYA with a therapist, sought medical treatment, and reported the conduct of CELINA MONTOYA to local police.

12. In January 2016, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, was convicted of felony crimes related to her relationship with the plaintiff and was sentenced to four years in a state penitentiary.

13. At all relevant times herein, and specifically during the time period from autumn 2011 through autumn 2013, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, was negligent in one or more of the following ways:

- a. Hired CELINA MONTOYA to work as a teacher/advisor to children in its school, including the plaintiff, when it knew or should have known that CELINA MONTOYA was unfit for this position;
- b. Permitted its agent/employee, CELINA MONTOYA, to be unsupervised and alone with the plaintiff on the Blue House Campus;
- c. Failed to provide adequate training to teachers, administrators, and other personnel to look for, identify, and respond to improper, illegal and abusive conduct;
- d. Failed to have an on-site supervisor at the Blue House Campus where CELINA MONTOYA was left alone, unsupervised with the plaintiff;
- e. Failed to provide adequate staffing at the Blue House Campus to monitor and otherwise supervise the interactions between employees and students;
- f. Permitted CELINA MONTOYA to engage in a prolonged period of unsupervised “grooming” and manipulating the plaintiff ultimately leading to her sexual abuse of him;

- g. Failed to immediately terminate the employment of CELINA MONTOYA after learning of the inappropriate and sexually abusive relationship between CELINA MONTOYA and the minor plaintiff;
- h. Failed to take any action to prevent further contact between CELINA MONTOYA and the minor plaintiff after learning of the inappropriate and sexually abusive relationship between CELINA MONTOYA and the minor plaintiff;
- i. Failed to immediately terminate the employment of CELINA MONTOYA after learning that CELINA MONTOYA failed to report suicidal ideations expressed by the minor plaintiff; and
- j. Failed to immediately report the abusive conduct of CELINA MONTOYA to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services as required by the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act, 325 ILCS 5/2 *et seq.*

14. As a proximate result of one or more of the foregoing negligent acts or omissions of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, plaintiff, JOHN DOE, suffered injuries of a personal and pecuniary nature.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff, JOHN DOE, demands judgment against defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL OF LAKE FOREST, a not-for-profit corporation, in an amount in excess of the minimum amount required for jurisdiction in the Law Division of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Court of Lake County, Illinois.

Count III

Wilful and Wanton – Montessori School – Sexual Abuse of Student – Agency

1. At all times relevant herein, including the time period from autumn 2011 through autumn 2013, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, was a not-for-profit corporation authorized to do business and doing business in the State of Illinois.

2. At all times relevant herein, including the time from autumn 2011 through autumn 2013, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, owned, operated, maintained, managed and controlled a private school with two campuses: 13700 West Laurel Drive, Lake Forest, Lake County, Illinois (“Laurel Drive Campus”); and 32470 Harris Road, Grayslake, Lake County, Illinois (“Blue House Campus”).

3. At all times relevant herein, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, enrolled children in its school ranging from ages 15-months through 9th grade.

4. At all times relevant herein, and specifically including the time period from fall 2011 through fall 2013, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, was the agent/employee of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, and was working as a teacher at the Blue House Campus, where she taught and advised students, including the plaintiff.

5. At all times relevant herein, and specifically beginning in the autumn of the 2011-2012 school year, plaintiff, JOHN DOE, was a minor, aged 13, and was an 8th grade student in the MONTESSORI SCHOOL at the Blue House Campus.

6. At said time and place, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, through her position as a teacher at the Blue House Campus, initiated an improper and illegal personal relationship with the plaintiff who was in 8th grade.

7. At all relevant times herein, and specifically during the school year beginning in autumn 2012 and continuing into autumn 2013, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, remained an agent/employee of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, continued to serve as the teacher and adviser of the plaintiff at the Blue House Campus, and continued to initiate and maintain an improper and illegal personal relationship with the plaintiff, who was in 9th grade.

8. At all relevant times herein, the administrators of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, knew or should have known of the improper and illegal personal relationship between its agent/employee, CELINA MONTOYA, and the plaintiff.

9. During the spring of 2013, administrators at the defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, received actual knowledge of the improper and illegal personal relationship maintained by its agent/employee, CELINA MONTOYA, with the plaintiff.

10. During the spring of 2013, administrators at defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, gained actual knowledge that the plaintiff had previously expressed suicidal ideations to defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, and that CELINA MONTOYA had not reported those ideations to anyone.

11. In autumn 2013, plaintiff, JOHN DOE, shared the details of his relationship with CELINA MONTOYA with a therapist, sought medical treatment, and reported the conduct of CELINA MONTOYA to local police.

12. In January 2016, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, was convicted of felony crimes related to her relationship with the plaintiff and was sentenced to four years in a state penitentiary.

13. At all relevant times herein, and specifically from autumn 2011 through autumn 2013, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, by and through its agent/employee, CELINA MONTOYA, committed wilful and wanton acts and/or omissions that exhibited an utter indifference and conscious disregard for the safety of its minor student in one or more of the following ways:

- a. Used her position of authority to begin “grooming” the minor plaintiff with the intent of manipulating his emotions and taking advantage of his youth so she could ultimately sexually abuse him;

- b. Used her position of teacher and advisor to spend long periods of time alone with the plaintiff, during school, at private lunches, and during after-school tutoring sessions;
- c. Engaged in inappropriate physical contact with the plaintiff, including kissing him and hugging him on school property;
- d. Engaged in inappropriate romantic and sexual conversations with the plaintiff, including statements that she “loved him” and intended to “marry him”;
- e. Sent inappropriate text messages to the plaintiff of a sexual nature, which included transmittal of nude photographs of herself to the plaintiff;
- f. Failed to take any action to formally report, or otherwise share suicidal ideations expressed by the plaintiff; and
- g. Engaged in an inappropriate and illegal sexual relationship with the minor plaintiff.

14. As a proximate result of one or more of the aforesaid wilful and wanton acts and/or omissions of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, the plaintiff, JOHN DOE, sustained injuries of a personal and pecuniary nature.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff, JOHN DOE, demands judgment against defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL OF LAKE FOREST, a not-for-profit corporation, in an amount in excess of the minimum amount required for jurisdiction in the Law Division of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Court of Lake County, Illinois.

Count IV

Institutional Wilful and Wanton Conduct – Montessori School – Sexual Abuse of Student

1. At all times relevant herein, including the time period from autumn 2011 through autumn 2013, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, was a not-for-profit corporation authorized to do business and doing business in the State of Illinois.

2. At all times relevant herein, including the time from autumn 2011 through autumn 2013, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, owned, operated, maintained, managed and controlled a private school with two campuses: 13700 West Laurel Drive, Lake Forest, Lake County, Illinois (“Laurel Drive Campus”); and 32470 Harris Road, Grayslake, Lake County, Illinois (“Blue House Campus”).

3. At all times relevant herein, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, enrolled children in its school ranging from ages 15-months through 9th grade.

4. At all times relevant herein, and specifically including the time period from fall 2011 through fall 2013, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, was the agent/employee of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, and was working as a teacher at the Blue House Campus, where she taught and advised students, including the plaintiff.

5. At all times relevant herein, and specifically beginning in the autumn of the 2011-2012 school year, plaintiff, JOHN DOE, was a minor, aged 13, and was an 8th grade student in the MONTESSORI SCHOOL at the Blue House Campus.

6. At said time and place, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, through her position as a teacher at the Blue House Campus, initiated an improper and illegal personal relationship with the plaintiff who was in 8th grade.

7. At all relevant times herein, and specifically during the school year beginning in autumn 2012 and continuing into autumn 2013, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, remained an agent/employee of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, continued to serve as the teacher and advisor of the plaintiff at the Blue House Campus, and continued to initiate and maintain an improper and illegal personal relationship with the plaintiff, who was in 9th grade.

8. At all relevant times herein, the administrators of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, knew or should have known of the improper and illegal personal relationship between its agent/employee, CELINA MONTOYA, and the plaintiff.

9. During the spring of 2013, administrators at the defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, received actual knowledge of the improper and illegal personal relationship maintained by its agent/employee, CELINA MONTOYA, with the plaintiff.

10. During the spring of 2013, administrators at defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, gained actual knowledge that the plaintiff had previously expressed suicidal ideations to defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, and that CELINA MONTOYA had not reported those ideations to anyone.

11. In autumn 2013, plaintiff, JOHN DOE, shared the details of his relationship with CELINA MONTOYA with a therapist, sought medical treatment, and reported the conduct of CELINA MONTOYA to local police.

12. In January 2016, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, was convicted of felony crimes related to her relationship with the plaintiff and was sentenced to four years in a state penitentiary.

13. At all relevant times herein, and specifically during the time period from autumn 2011 through autumn 2013, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, committed wilful and wanton acts and/or omissions that exhibited an utter indifference and conscious disregard for the safety of its minor student in one or more of the following ways:

- a. Hired CELINA MONTOYA to work as a teacher/advisor to children in its school, including the plaintiff, when it knew or should have known that CELINA MONTOYA was unfit for this position;
- b. Permitted its agent/employee, CELINA MONTOYA, to be unsupervised and alone with the plaintiff on the Blue House Campus;

- c. Failed to provide adequate training to teachers, administrators, and other personnel to look for, identify, and respond to improper, illegal and abusive conduct;
- d. Failed to have an on-site supervisor at the Blue House Campus where CELINA MONTOYA was left alone, unsupervised with the plaintiff;
- e. Failed to provide adequate staffing at the Blue House Campus to monitor and otherwise supervise the interactions between employees and students;
- f. Permitted CELINA MONTOYA to engage in a prolonged period of unsupervised “grooming” and manipulating the plaintiff ultimately leading to her sexual abuse of him;
- g. Failed to immediately terminate the employment of CELINA MONTOYA after learning of the inappropriate and sexually abusive relationship between CELINA MONTOYA and the minor plaintiff;
- h. Failed to any action to prevent further contact between CELINA MONTOYA and the minor plaintiff after learning of the inappropriate and sexually abusive relationship between CELINA MONTOYA and the minor plaintiff;
- i. Failed to immediately terminate the employment of CELINA MONTOYA after learning that CELINA MONTOYA failed to report suicidal ideations expressed by the minor plaintiff; and
- j. Failed to immediately report the abusive conduct of CELINA MONTOYA to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services as required by the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act, 325 ILCS 5/2 *et seq.*

14. As a proximate result of one or more of the aforesaid wilful and wanton acts and/or omissions of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, plaintiff, JOHN DOE, sustained injuries of a personal and pecuniary nature.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff, JOHN DOE, demands judgment against defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL OF LAKE FOREST, a not-for-profit corporation, in an amount in excess of the minimum amount required for jurisdiction in the Law Division of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Court of Lake County, Illinois.

Count V

Negligence – Celina Montoya – Sexual Abuse of Student

1. At all times relevant herein, including the time period from autumn 2011 through autumn 2013, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, was a not-for-profit corporation authorized to do business and doing business in the State of Illinois.

2. At all times relevant herein, including the time from autumn 2011 through autumn 2013, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, owned, operated, maintained, managed and controlled a private school with two campuses: 13700 West Laurel Drive, Lake Forest, Lake County, Illinois (“Laurel Drive Campus”); and 32470 Harris Road, Grayslake, Lake County, Illinois (“Blue House Campus”).

3. At all times relevant herein, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, enrolled children in its school ranging from ages 15-months through 9th grade.

4. At all times relevant herein, and specifically including the time period from fall 2011 through fall 2013, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, was the agent/employee of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, and was working as a teacher at the Blue House Campus, where she taught and advised students, including the plaintiff.

5. At all times relevant herein, and specifically beginning in the autumn of the 2011-2012 school year, plaintiff, JOHN DOE, was a minor, aged 13, and was an 8th grade student in the MONTESSORI SCHOOL at the Blue House Campus.

6. At said time and place, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, through her position as a teacher at the Blue House Campus, initiated an improper and illegal personal relationship with the plaintiff who was in 8th grade.

7. At all relevant times herein, and specifically during the school year beginning in autumn 2012 and continuing into autumn 2013, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, remained an agent/employee of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, continued to serve as the teacher and advisor of the plaintiff at the Blue House Campus, and continued to initiate and maintain an improper and illegal personal relationship with the plaintiff, who was in 9th grade.

8. At all relevant times herein, the administrators of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, knew or should have known of the improper and illegal personal relationship between its agent/employee, CELINA MONTOYA, and the plaintiff.

9. During the spring of 2013, administrators at the defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, received actual knowledge of the improper and illegal personal relationship maintained by its agent/employee, CELINA MONTOYA, with the plaintiff.

10. During the spring of 2013, administrators at defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, gained actual knowledge that the plaintiff had previously expressed suicidal ideations to defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, and that CELINA MONTOYA had not reported those ideations to anyone.

11. In autumn 2013, plaintiff, JOHN DOE, shared the details of his relationship with CELINA MONTOYA with a therapist, sought medical treatment, and reported the conduct of CELINA MONTOYA to local police.

12. In January 2016, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, was convicted of felony crimes related to her relationship with the plaintiff and was sentenced to four years in a state penitentiary.

13. At all relevant times herein, and specifically from autumn 2011 through autumn 2013, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, was negligent in one or more of the following ways:

- a. Used her position of authority to begin “grooming” the minor plaintiff with the intent of manipulating his emotions and taking advantage of his youth so she could ultimately sexually abuse him;
- b. Used her position of teacher and advisor to spend long periods of time alone with the plaintiff, during school, at private lunches, and during after-school tutoring sessions;
- c. Engaged in inappropriate physical contact with the plaintiff, including kissing him and hugging him on school property;
- d. Engaged in inappropriate romantic and sexual conversations with the plaintiff, including statements that she “loved him” and intended to “marry him”;
- e. Sent inappropriate text messages to the plaintiff of a sexual nature, which included transmittal of nude photographs of herself to the plaintiff;
- f. Failed to take any action to formally report, or otherwise share suicidal ideations expressed by the plaintiff; and
- g. Engaged in an inappropriate and illegal sexual relationship with the minor plaintiff.

14. As a proximate result of one or more of the foregoing negligent acts or omissions of defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, the plaintiff, JOHN DOE, suffered injuries of a personal and pecuniary nature.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff, JOHN DOE, demands judgment against defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, in an amount in excess of the minimum amount required for jurisdiction in the Law Division of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Court of Lake County, Illinois.

Count VI

Wilful and Wanton – Celina Montoya – Sexual Abuse of Student

1. At all times relevant herein, including the time period from autumn 2011 through autumn 2013, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, was a not-for-profit corporation authorized to do business and doing business in the State of Illinois.

2. At all times relevant herein, including the time from autumn 2011 through autumn 2013, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, owned, operated, maintained, managed and controlled a private school with two campuses: 13700 West Laurel Drive, Lake Forest, Lake County, Illinois (“Laurel Drive Campus”); and 32470 Harris Road, Grayslake, Lake County, Illinois (“Blue House Campus”).

3. At all times relevant herein, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, enrolled children in its school ranging from ages 15-months through 9th grade.

4. At all times relevant herein, and specifically including the time period from fall 2011 through fall 2013, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, was the agent/employee of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, and was working as a teacher at the Blue House Campus, where she taught and advised students, including the plaintiff.

5. At all times relevant herein, and specifically beginning in the autumn of the 2011-2012 school year, plaintiff, JOHN DOE, was a minor, aged 13, and was an 8th grade student in the MONTESSORI SCHOOL at the Blue House Campus.

6. At said time and place, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, through her position as a teacher at the Blue House Campus, initiated an improper and illegal personal relationship with the plaintiff who was in 8th grade.

7. At all relevant times herein, and specifically during the school year beginning in autumn 2012 and continuing into autumn 2013, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, remained an agent/employee of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, continued to serve as the teacher and advisor of the plaintiff at the Blue House Campus, and continued to initiate and maintain an improper and illegal personal relationship with the plaintiff, who was in 9th grade.

8. At all relevant times herein, the administrators of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, knew or should have known of the improper and illegal personal relationship between its agent/employee, CELINA MONTOYA, and the plaintiff.

9. During the spring of 2013, administrators at the defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, received actual knowledge of the improper and illegal personal relationship maintained by its agent/employee, CELINA MONTOYA, with the plaintiff.

10. During the spring of 2013, administrators at defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, gained actual knowledge that the plaintiff had previously expressed suicidal ideations to defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, and that CELINA MONTOYA had not reported those ideations to anyone.

11. In autumn 2013, plaintiff, JOHN DOE, shared the details of his relationship with CELINA MONTOYA with a therapist, sought medical treatment, and reported the conduct of CELINA MONTOYA to local police.

12. In January 2016, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, was convicted of felony crimes related to her relationship with the plaintiff and was sentenced to four years in a state penitentiary.

13. At all relevant times herein, and specifically from autumn 2011 through autumn 2013, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, committed wilful and wanton acts and/or omissions that exhibited an utter indifference and conscious disregard for the safety of her minor student in one or more of the following ways:

- a. Used her position of authority to begin “grooming” the minor plaintiff with the intent of manipulating his emotions and taking advantage of his youth so she could ultimately sexually abuse him;

- b. Used her position of teacher and advisor to spend long periods of time alone with the plaintiff, during school, at private lunches, and during after-school tutoring sessions;
- c. Engaged in inappropriate physical contact with the plaintiff, including kissing him and hugging him on school property;
- d. Engaged in inappropriate romantic and sexual conversations with the plaintiff, including statements that she “loved him” and intended to “marry him”;
- e. Sent inappropriate text messages to the plaintiff of a sexual nature, which included transmittal of nude photographs of herself to the plaintiff;
- f. Failed to take any action to formally report, or otherwise share suicidal ideations expressed by the plaintiff; and
- g. Engaged in an inappropriate and illegal sexual relationship with the minor plaintiff.

14. As a proximate result of one or more of the aforesaid wilful and wanton acts and/or omissions of defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, the plaintiff, JOHN DOE, sustained injuries of a personal and pecuniary nature.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff, JOHN DOE, demands judgment against defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, in an amount in excess of the minimum amount required for jurisdiction in the Law Division of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Court of Lake County, Illinois.

Count VII

Childhood Sexual Abuse Act – Celina Montoya

1. At all times relevant herein, including the time period from autumn 2011 through autumn 2013, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, was a not-for-profit corporation authorized to do business and doing business in the State of Illinois.

2. At all times relevant herein, including the time from autumn 2011 through autumn 2013, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, owned, operated, maintained, managed and controlled a private school with two campuses: 13700 West Laurel Drive, Lake Forest, Lake County, Illinois (“Laurel Drive Campus”); and 32470 Harris Road, Grayslake, Lake County, Illinois (“Blue House Campus”).

3. At all times relevant herein, defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, enrolled children in its school ranging from ages 15-months through 9th grade.

4. At all times relevant herein, and specifically including the time period from fall 2011 through fall 2013, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, was the agent/employee of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, and was working as a teacher at the Blue House Campus, where she taught and advised students, including the plaintiff.

5. At all times relevant herein, and specifically beginning in the autumn of the 2011-2012 school year, plaintiff, JOHN DOE, was a minor, aged 13, and was an 8th grade student in the MONTESSORI SCHOOL at the Blue House Campus.

6. At said time and place, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, through her position as a teacher at the Blue House Campus, initiated an improper and illegal personal relationship with the plaintiff who was in 8th grade.

7. At all relevant times herein, and specifically during the school year beginning in autumn 2012 and continuing into autumn 2013, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, remained an agent/employee of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, continued to serve as the teacher and advisor of the plaintiff at the Blue House Campus, and continued to initiate and maintain an improper and illegal personal relationship with the plaintiff, who was in 9th grade.

8. At all relevant times herein, the administrators of defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, knew or should have known of the improper and illegal personal relationship between its agent/employee, CELINA MONTOYA, and the plaintiff.

9. During the spring of 2013, administrators at the defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, received actual knowledge of the improper and illegal personal relationship maintained by its agent/employee, CELINA MONTOYA, with the plaintiff.

10. During the spring of 2013, administrators at defendant, MONTESSORI SCHOOL, gained actual knowledge that the plaintiff had previously expressed suicidal ideations to defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, and that CELINA MONTOYA had not reported those ideations to anyone.

11. In autumn 2013, plaintiff, JOHN DOE, shared the details of his relationship with CELINA MONTOYA with a therapist, sought medical treatment, and reported the conduct of CELINA MONTOYA to local police.

12. In January 2016, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, was convicted of felony crimes related to her relationship with the plaintiff and was sentenced to four years in a state penitentiary.

13. At all relevant times herein, there was and is in full force and effect in the State of Illinois, a certain Act, commonly referred to as the "Childhood Sexual Abuse Act", 735 ILCS 5/13 202.2, which establishes a cause of action for personal injury for childhood sexual abuse that occurs when the person abused is under the age of 18 years old.

14. Based on the conduct referenced in paragraphs 1 through 12 above, defendant, defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, was in violation of the Illinois Childhood Sexual Abuse Act.

15. As a proximate result of defendant, CELINA MONTOYA's, violation of the Illinois Childhood Sexual Abuse Act, plaintiff, JOHN DOE, suffered injuries of a personal and pecuniary nature.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff, JOHN DOE, demands judgment against defendant, CELINA MONTOYA, in an amount in excess of the minimum amount required for jurisdiction in the Law Division of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Court of Lake County, Illinois.



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**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

JOHN DOE,

Plaintiff,

v.

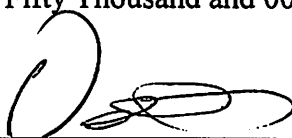
MONTESSORI SCHOOL OF LAKE
FOREST, a not-for-profit corporation; and
CELINA MONTOYA,

Defendants.

No.

AFFIDAVIT PURSUANT TO SUPREME COURT RULE 222(B)

Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 222(B), counsel for the above-named plaintiff certifies that plaintiff seeks money damages in excess of Fifty Thousand and 00/100ths Dollars (\$50,000).



TOMASIK KOTIN KASSERMAN, LLC

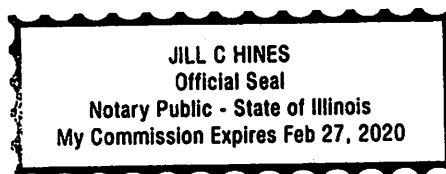
By: Daniel M. Kotin

SUBSCRIBED and SWORN to before me
this 13th day of February, 2018.



NOTARY PUBLIC

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