

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

January 19, 2018

The Honorable Bill Schuette
Attorney General of Michigan
525 W. Ottawa Street
P.O. Box 30212
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Attorney General Schuette:

As the Board of Trustees for Michigan State University, we are writing to request that your office undertake a review of the events surrounding the Larry Nassar matter. Although we have confidence in the integrity of the various reviews already conducted by law enforcement, subject matter experts, and outside counsel to the university, we are making this request because we believe your review may be needed to answer the public's questions concerning MSU's handling of the Nassar situation.

As you know, these questions grew louder this week with the victim impact statements being given in Ingham County Court ahead of Nassar's sentencing on sexual abuse charges. After watching many of these heartbreaking statements and reading accounts about them, we have concluded that only a review by your office can resolve the questions in a way that the victims, their families, and the public will deem satisfactory and that will help all those affected by Nassar's horrible crimes to heal.

Several of us have spoken in recent weeks to legislators and other stakeholders about the Nassar matter. What we heard time and again is a general sentiment that MSU has avoided being transparent or, worse, that it might be involved in a cover-up. Let us be clear: this simply is not true. We have been working diligently with outside counsel, who are providing the Board with regular, direct briefings, and we continue to closely monitor and assess all aspects of the situation.

But because MSU is facing active civil litigation and we are limited in what we can say publicly, there have been continued allegations and accusations against the university. These claims have not subsided even though reviews by the MSU Police, FBI, and U.S. Attorney's Office have not resulted in criminal charges against anyone at MSU other than Larry Nassar, and our outside counsel, former U.S. Attorney Patrick Fitzgerald, stated in a recent letter to you, that he believes "the evidence will show that no MSU official believed that Nassar committed sexual abuse prior to newspaper reports in the summer of 2016."

It has become clear to us, then, that the questions that are still being asked about the Nassar situation will not be satisfactorily resolved until they are answered as part of a separate review. We believe your office, given its involvement in prosecuting the sexual abuse charges against Nassar, is best positioned to conduct this inquiry.

We stand ready to fully cooperate with your review.

Sincerely,



Brian Breslin, Chairman



Joel Ferguson, Vice Chairperson



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