

## **E-Notice**

2018-L-005708

CALENDAR: J

To: Alexis Garmey Chardon ali@weilchardon.com

## NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
KYANA AGUILAR vs. CHICAGO BOARD OF EDUCATION

The transmission was received on 06/01/2018 at 2:51 PM and was ACCEPTED with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County on 06/01/2018 at 2:58 PM.

# CIVIL\_ACTION\_COVER\_SHEET (LAW DIVISION) COMPLAINT

Filer's Email: ali@weilchardon.com

Filer's Fax: 773-409-2745

Notice Date: 6/1/2018 2:58:24 PM

Total Pages: 11

DOROTHY BROWN CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

COOK COUNTY RICHARD J. DALEY CENTER, ROOM 1001 CHICAGO, IL 60602

(312) 603-5031 courtclerk@cookcountycourt.com

# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT LAW DIVISION

complaint in all civil actions. The information contained herein for administrative purposes only and cannot be introduced into vidence. Please check the box in front of the appropriate case yield with this cover sheet.  ary Demand	COUNTY DEPARTMEN	1, LAW DIVISION
CHICAGO BOARD OF EDUCATION  CIVIL ACTION COVER SHEET - CASE INITIATION  Civil Action Cover Sheet - Case Initiation shall be filed with the omplaint in all civil actions. The information contained herein for administrative purposes only and cannot be introduced into vidence. Please check the box in front of the appropriate case ppe which best characterizes your action. Only one (1) case type any be checked with this cover sheet.  any Demand  ve No	KYANA AGUILAR	_
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	• – –	2018-L-005708 CALENDAR: J CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
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AX & MISCELLANEOUS REMEDIES  CASE TYPES:  007 Confession Of Judgment  008 Replevin  009 Tax  015 Condemnation  017 Detinue  029 Unemployment Compensation  031 Foreign Transcript  036 Administrative Review Action  085 Petition to Register Foreign Judgment  099 All Other Extraordinary Remedies  062 Property Damage  065 Legal Malpractice  077 Libel/Slander  079 Petition for Qualified Orders  084 Petition to Issue Subpoena  100 Petition for Discovery  **  Primary Email:  ali@weilchardon.cc	<ul> <li>□ 048 Dram Shop</li> <li>□ 049 Product Liability</li> <li>□ 051 Construction Injuries <ul> <li>(including Structural Work Act, Road</li> <li>Construction Injuries Act and Negligence)</li> </ul> </li> <li>□ 052 Railroad/FELA</li> <li>□ 053 Pediatric Lead Exposure</li> <li>☑ 061 Other Personal Injury/Wrongful Death</li> <li>□ 063 Intentional Tort</li> <li>□ 064 Miscellaneous Statutory Action <ul> <li>(Please Specify Below**)</li> <li>□ 065 Premises Liability</li> <li>□ 078 Fen-phen/Redux Litigation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	CASE TYPES:  002 Breach of Contract 070 Professional Malpractice (other than legal or medical) 071 Fraud (other than legal or medical) 072 Consumer Fraud 073 Breach of Warranty 074 Statutory Action (Please Specify Below**) 075 Other Commercial Litigation (Please Specify Below**) 076 Retaliatory Discharge
/ ALEXIO CARAELY CHARRON	<ul> <li>□ 008 Replevin</li> <li>□ 009 Tax</li> <li>□ 015 Condemnation</li> <li>□ 017 Detinue</li> <li>□ 029 Unemployment Compensation</li> <li>□ 031 Foreign Transcript</li> <li>□ 036 Administrative Review Action</li> <li>□ 085 Petition to Register Foreign Judgment</li> <li>□ 099 All Other Extraordinary Remedies</li> </ul>	□ 062 Property Damage □ 066 Legal Malpractice □ 077 Libel/Slander □ 079 Petition for Qualified Orders □ 084 Petition to Issue Subpoena □ 100 Petition for Discovery  ***  Primary Email:
	By: /s ALEXIS GARMEY CHARDON	Tertiary Email:
(Attorney) (ProSe)	(Attorney) (ProSe)	
ro Se Only:   I have read and agree to the terms of the the Clerk's Office Electronic Notice Policy and choose to opt in to electronic Notice Policy.	<b>Pro Se Only:</b> I have read and agree to the terms of the <i>the Clerk's Offi</i>	ce Electronic Notice Policy and choose to opt in to electronic noti

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PAGE 1 of 10
CIRCUIT COURT OF

# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINGORS COUNTY DEPARTMENT – LAW DIVISION CLEED

KYANA AGUILAR,	)
Plaintiff	)
VS.	) Case No.:
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO,	) ) )
Defendants.	)

## COMPLAINT AT LAW

The Plaintiff, KYANA AGUILAR, by her attorneys, WEIL & CHARDON LLC, and complaining against Defendant, BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO ("BOE" or "Defendant"), states as follows:

## **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

## The Parties

- 1. At all times relevant to this action, the BOE was a government entity doing business in the County of Cook, City of Chicago, and State of Illinois, engaged in operating, managing, and controlling public schools for children in grades kindergarten through high school.
- 2. At all times relevant to this action, the BOE operated, managed, and/or controlled, Gordon S. Hubbard High School ("Hubbard High School"), a public school for grades 9-12 located at 6200 South Hamlin Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60629.
- 3. At all times relevant to this action, Plaintiff Kyana Aguilar was a minor and resident of the City of Chicago.
- 4. On or about 2011-2015, Plaintiff Kyana Aguilar was a student at Hubbard High School.

## **Background**

- 5. At all times relevant to this action, the BOE employed various personnel including, but not limited to, principals, teachers, school counselors, teachers' aides, and security guards, for the purpose of operating, managing, and controlling its schools.
- 6. At all times relevant to this action, all of the aforementioned personnel were acting in the scope of their employment as the agents of BOE.
- 7. At all times relevant to this action, there was in full force and effect an Illinois law called the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act, which identifies persons required to report allegations of sexual abuse to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services ("DCFS").
- 8. At all times relevant to this action, there was in full force and effect BOE policies and procedures which prohibited sexual harassment in Chicago Public Schools and required BOE employees who became aware of allegations of sexual harassment or assault, whether committed against a student or against another employee, to report those allegations to the school principal and the Equal Opportunity Compliance Officer, an employee of the BOE, among others.

## Walter Wells' Assaults and Harassment Were Known to BOE and Its Agents

- 9. On or about 2007-2014, BOE engaged Walter Wells to perform various jobs at Hubbard High School, including the jobs of security guard and athletic coach, which involved and required interaction with students.
- 10. At all times relevant to this action, BOE retained and empowered Walter Wells to be an authority figure, disciplinary figure, and coach for students at Hubbard High School.

- 11. At all times relevant to this action, BOE knew that Walter Wells would, in the course of his employment, interact with students at Hubbard High School.
- 12. Beginning no later than 2010, Walter Wells began molesting female students while on duty in the hallways of Hubbard High School, among other ways by hugging them and then touching them in a sexual manner.
- 13. Beginning no later than 2010, Walter Wells began sexually harassing female students while on duty in the hallways of Hubbard High School, by making inappropriate sexual comments towards them.
- 14. No later than the 2011-2012 school year, BOE possessed information indicating that due to his inappropriate conduct Walter Wells was ill-suited for employment involving interaction with women and minors and that he posed a significant threat of sexual harassment or molestation to such persons.
- 15. No later than the 2011-2012 school year, employees and agents of BOE received complaints about Walter Wells' inappropriate, sexual interactions with both students and teachers.
- Doe 1, reported to Joyce Jones, who was Hubbard High School's school counselor and athletic director, and who was an employee of BOE, that she had witnessed Walter Wells acting inappropriately and in a sexual manner with female students. Jane Doe 1 had heard Walter Wells making overtly sexual comments to minors, such as telling them that he heard they performed oral sex well. Jane Doe 1 believed that following her reports something would be done to stop the behavior, yet nothing was done.

- 17. During the 2011-2012 school year, Walter Wells also sexually harassed and molested Jane Doe 1 herself. This time, Jane Doe 1 reported Walter Wells' inappropriate conduct to a top school administrator who was an employee of BOE. Jane Doe 1 believed that following her reports, something would be done to stop the behavior, yet nothing was done. Walter Wells was permitted to remain a security guard and coach at the school.
- 18. Prior to February 2014, a student, Jane Doe 2, made a report to Joyce Jones that Walter Wells had been making sexually inappropriate contact with her. Beginning when she was a freshman in 2010 and continuing until she graduated in 2014, Walter Wells had hugged Jane Doe 2 and groped her buttocks in a sexual manner each time she passed him in the hallway. His behavior was open and obvious, and yet no one at Hubbard High School did or said anything to stop it. Neither Jones nor BOE did anything in response to the allegation, which Jane Doe 2 felt was merely brushed off.
- 19. In addition to the foregoing specific reports, Walter Wells' inappropriate conduct toward minors was ongoing and obvious during the period of at least 2011-2014, including sexual comments and inappropriate hugging and sexual groping of students in hallways.

  Teachers and staff of the school were aware of other reports of Wells' inappropriate sexual conduct with students, including information that he was having a sexual relationship with a minor student.
- 20. On information and belief, prior to December 2013, Walter Wells' sexual overtures—both physical and verbal—towards minor students and other teachers, were openly discussed at Hubbard High School among students, staff, and administrators.
- 21. Despite the foregoing knowledge, BOE did not take any steps to discipline Walter Wells or prevent further inappropriate conduct with students. BOE did not fire or discipline

Walter Wells. On information and belief, no one reported Walter Wells' inappropriate conduct to the Equal Opportunity Compliance Officer or to DCFS. Instead, BOE allowed Walter Wells to continue working at the school, in direct interaction with students.

22. On information and belief, administrators and school employees, including secretaries, counselors, teachers, and administrators, including former Principal Andrew Manno and school counselor and athletic director Joyce Jones, had knowledge of reports of Walter Wells' inappropriate, sexual conduct towards students, but did not report this conduct to DCFS, the Equal Opportunity Compliance Officer, or otherwise seek to have Walter Wells terminated.

## Walter Wells' Assaults of Plaintiff

- 23. In the course of his employment as security guard and coach at Hubbard High School, Walter Wells met and interacted with Plaintiff Kyana Aguilar.
- 24. Plaintiff trusted and respected Walter Wells as an authority figure by virtue of his employment by BOE.
- 25. On or about December 2013 or January 2014, while on duty as a security guard for Hubbard High School, Walter Wells sexually assaulted Plaintiff Kyana Aguilar in the hallways of Hubbard High School by hugging her and groping her buttocks.
- 26. Two weeks later, while on duty as a security guard for Hubbard High School, Walter Wells again sexually assaulted Plaintiff Kyana Aguilar in the hallways of Hubbard High School when Kyana asked him what time water polo practice would be held. This time, he hugged her and fondled her breasts, squeezing one of her nipples. Following this occurrence, Walter Wells told Plaintiff to come early to water polo practice and said, "You can show me what you've got. Just don't tell my wife."

- 27. Shortly after these events, another student, Andreanna Paris, reported a similar incident of sexual molestation by Walter Wells to school counselor Joyce Jones.
- 28. Following Andreanna's report, an investigation was conducted into Walter Wells' behavior and four victims were interviewed. During this time, BOE did not remove Walter Wells from the school, but simply moved him to another guard post.
- 29. This first investigation was concluded on or about early March 2014, at which point the BOE allowed Wells to return to his regular post. Upon Wells' return, at the encouragement of her mother, Kyana reported her abuse by Walter Wells to then-Principal Nancy Wiley.
- 30. A second investigation was conducted following Kyana's report, this time with a different investigator. The second investigation verified Kyana's complaint and, on information and belief, similar complaints of at least four other victims.
- 31. Following the second round of investigation, Walter Wells was finally terminated from his employment at Hubbard High School in the spring of 2014.
- 32. In May 2014, Walter Wells was charged with multiple counts of criminal sexual assault against a minor—Kyana.
- 33. At the trial of Walter Wells, Kyana testified about her experiences of having been sexually assaulted by him in the hallways of Hubbard High School. Four other victims testified at the trial to similar experiences.
- 34. In November 2016, Walter Wells was convicted of aggravated sexual abuse of a minor and abuse of the public trust, and aggravated battery in a public place due to sexual assault committed against Kyana at Hubbard High School.

- 35. As of the time of filing of this complaint, Walter Wells is incarcerated within the Illinois Department of Corrections as a result of his conviction, and he is listed as a registered sex offender.
- 36. Kyana has suffered and continues to suffer psychological and emotional harm as a result of her molestation by Walter Wells.

## **COUNT I**

## WILFUL AND WANTON CONDUCT: WILLFUL AND WANTON SUPERVISION AND RETENTION; DELIBERATE INDIFFERENCE TO KNOWN SEXUAL HARASSMENT

- 37. At all times relevant to this cause of action, BOE was responsible for the hiring, training, education, supervision, assignment, promotion, investigation, and removal of its employees and/or agents, including but not limited to Walter Wells.
- 38. At all times relevant to this cause of action, BOE had a duty to refrain from conduct that showed an utter indifference to, or conscious disregard for, the safety of others and, specifically, the students attending its public schools, including Kyana Aguilar.
- 39. Despite these duties, BOE, including through its agents and employees, engaged in the following conduct that demonstrated an utter indifference to, and/or conscious disregard for, the safety of its students, including Kyana Aguilar, in the following ways:
  - Failed to report allegations of sexual abuse of children against Walter Wells to the proper authorities in violation of the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act;
  - Failed to investigate reports of sexual abuse by Walter Wells against females and/or minors,
  - Failed to implement or enforce policies and procedures relating to the prevention, detection, and/or reporting of sexual abuse of minors;

- d. Allowed Walter Wells to continue working at Hubbard High School despite reports that he had sexually abused minors and females and despite actual or constructive knowledge that he posed a threat to such persons, including Kyana Aguilar;
- e. Allowed Walter Wells to have contact with students in his role as security guard and athletic coach despite actual or constructive knowledge that he had engaged in inappropriate sexual conduct towards students and female staff members;
- f. Bestowed Walter Wells with the authority to supervise and discipline students and the trappings of authority attendant with the role of security guard, despite actual or constructive knowledge of his dangerous propensities;
- g. Failed to properly supervise Walter Wells when he was engaged as a security guard despite actual and constructive knowledge of his dangerous propensities;
- h. Failed to report allegations of sexual abuse of children against Walter Wells to the proper authorities in violation of the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act;
- Failed to educate and/or train employees with respect to the urgency and necessity
  of reporting allegations of sexual abuse and/or sexually inappropriate conduct by
  an adult towards a child;
- j. Failed to educate and/or train school employees with respect to conduct that
  indicates a person is unfit to work with minors and the importance and urgency of
  reporting the same;
- k. Continued to employ Walter Wells despite having actual and/or constructive
   knowledge of evidence that indicated his unfitness for employment with children;
   and

- Was otherwise willful and wanton in the hiring, supervision, and control of Walter Wells.
- 40. That as a proximate result of the willful and wanton conduct by the BOE, Plaintiff Kyana Aguilar was sexually assaulted by Walter Wells which caused her physical harm, educational harm, severe emotional distress, pain and suffering, economic losses, future medical bills, the loss of a normal life, and all other damages allowed by law and demonstrated by the evidence.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff Kyana Aguilar, by and through her attorneys, WEIL & CHARDON LLC, asks for judgment against the Defendant, BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO, in an amount in excess of \$50,000, plus costs, reasonable attorney's fees, interest, and all other relief that this Court deems equitable and just.

Dated: June 1, 2018

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Alexis G. Chardon

Alexis G. Chardon – <u>ali@weilchardon.com</u> Stephen H. Weil – <u>steve@weilchardon.com</u> Weil & Chardon LLC Firm No.: 61804 333 S. Wabash, Suite 2700 Chicago, IL 60604 (312) 585-7404

# ELECTRONICALLY FILED 6/1/2018 2:51 PM 2018-L-005708 PAGE 10 of 10

# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT – LAW DIVISION

KYANA AGUILAR,	)	
	)	
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	
VS.	)	Case No.
	)	
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF	)	
THE CITY OF CHICAGO	)	
	)	
Defendant.	)	

## **RULE 222 AFFIDAVIT**

NOW COMES the affiant, Alexis Chardon, an attorney, and upon oath states:

- 1. That the affiant is testifying to matters on affiant's own personal knowledge and is competent to testify to the same if called upon to do so.
- 2. That she is the attorney for the Plaintiffs, licensed to practice law in the State of Illinois.
- 3. That the affiant is the duly authorized agent for the Plaintiffs for purposes of making this affidavit.
- 4. That the damages sought for each Plaintiff are in excess of \$50,000.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Alexis G. Chardon

Alexis G. Chardon – <u>ali@weilchardon.com</u> Stephen H. Weil – <u>steve@weilchardon.com</u> Weil & Chardon LLC Firm No.: 61804 333 S. Wabash, Suite 2700 Chicago, IL 60604 (312) 585-7404

Summons - Alias Summons (12/31/15) CCG N001

#### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

## **KYANA AGUILAR**

v.

## **CHICAGO BOARD OF EDUCATION**

No. 2018-L-005708

Defendant Address: CHICAGO BOARD OF EDUCATION 1 N DEARBORN ST

#950

CHICAGO, IL, IL 60602

~	SUMMONS	ALIAS -	SUMMONS

To each defendant:

YOU ARE SUMMONED and required to file an answer to the complaint in this case, a copy of which is hereto attached, or otherwise file your appearance, and pay the required fee, in the Office of the Clerk of this Court at the following location:

✓ Richard J. Daley Center,	50 W. Washington, Room <sub>801</sub>	,Chicago, Illinois 60602
☐ District 2 - Skokie	☐ District 3 - Rolling Meadows	☐ District 4 - Maywood
5600 Old Orchard Rd.	2121 Euclid 1500	Maybrook Ave.
Skokie, IL 60077	Rolling Meadows, IL 60008	Maywood, IL 60153
☐ District 5 - Bridgeview	☐ District 6 - Markham	☐ Richard J. Daley Center
10220 S. 76th Ave.	16501 S. Kedzie Pkwy.	50 W. Washington, LL-01
Bridgeview, IL 60455	Markham, IL 60428	Chicago, IL 60602

You must file within 30 days after service of this Summons, not counting the day of service.

IF YOU FAIL TO DO SO, A JUDGMENT BY DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF REQUESTED IN THE COMPLAINT.

## To the officer:

This Summons must be returned by the officer or other person to whom it was given for service, with endorsement of service and fees, if any, immediately after service. If service cannot be made, this Summons shall be returned so endorsed. This Summons may not be served later than thirty (30) days after its date.

✓ Atty. No.: <sub>61804</sub>	Friday, 01 June 2018
Name: WEIL CHARDON LLC	/s DOROTHY BROWN
Atty. for: KYANA AGUILAR	DOROTHY BROWN, Clerk of Control of the state
Address: 333 S WABASH #2700	Date of Service:
City/State/Zip Code: CHICAGO, IL 60604	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Telephone: (312) 585-7404	(To be inserted by officer on copy left with Defendant or other person)
Primary Email Address: ali@weilchardon.com	
Secondary Email Address(es):	**Service by Facsimile Transmission will be accepted at:
steve@weilchardon.com	
	(Area Code) (Facsimile Telephone Number)

# **Law DIVISION**

# Litigant List

Printed on 06/01/2018

Case Number: 2018-L-005708 Page 1 of 1

**Plaintiffs** 

Plaintiffs Name Plaintiffs Address State Zip Unit #

**KYANA AGUILAR** 

Total Plaintiffs: 1

## **Defendants**

Defendant Name	Defendant Address	State		Unit #	Service By
CHICAGO BOARD OF EDUCATION	1 N DEARBORN ST CHICAGO, IL,	IL	60602	#950	Sheriff-Clerk

Total Defendants: 1



## **E-Notice**

2018-L-005710

CALENDAR: A

To: Alexis Garmey Chardon ali@weilchardon.com

## NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS ANDREANNA PARIS vs. CHICAGO BOARD OF EDUCATION

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# CIVIL\_ACTION\_COVER\_SHEET (LAW DIVISION) COMPLAINT

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DOROTHY BROWN
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
COOK COUNTY

RICHARD J. DALEY CENTER, ROOM 1001 CHICAGO, IL 60602

(312) 603-5031 courtclerk@cookcountycourt.com

# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT LAW DIVISION

COUNTY DEPARTMEN	1, LAW DIVISION
ANDREANNA PARIS	_
v.	No
CHICAGO BOARD OF EDUCATION	
CIVIL ACTION COVER SHEET - CASE INITIATION	
A Civil Action Cover Sheet - Case Initiation shall be filed with the complaint in all civil actions. The information contained herein is for administrative purposes only and cannot be introduced into evidence. Please check the box in front of the appropriate case type which best characterizes your action. Only one (1) case type may be checked with this cover sheet.  Jury Demand  Yes  No	ELECTRONICALLY FILED 6/1/2018 2:56 PM 2018-L-005710 CALENDAR: A CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS LAW DIVISION CLERK DOROTHY BROWN
PERSONAL INJURY/WRONGFUL DEATH	
CASE TYPES:   027 Motor Vehicle  040 Medical Malpractice	(FILE STAMP)  COMMERCIAL LITIGATION
<ul> <li>□ 047 Asbestos</li> <li>□ 048 Dram Shop</li> <li>□ 049 Product Liability</li> <li>□ 051 Construction Injuries <ul> <li>(including Structural Work Act, Road</li> <li>Construction Injuries Act and Negligence)</li> </ul> </li> <li>□ 052 Railroad/FELA</li> <li>□ 053 Pediatric Lead Exposure</li> <li>☑ 061 Other Personal Injury/Wrongful Death</li> <li>□ 063 Intentional Tort</li> <li>□ 064 Miscellaneous Statutory Action <ul> <li>(Please Specify Below**)</li> </ul> </li> <li>□ 065 Premises Liability</li> <li>□ 078 Fen-phen/Redux Litigation</li> <li>□ 199 Silicone Implant</li> </ul>	CASE TYPES:  002 Breach of Contract 070 Professional Malpractice (other than legal or medical) 071 Fraud (other than legal or medical) 072 Consumer Fraud 073 Breach of Warranty 074 Statutory Action (Please Specify Below**) 075 Other Commercial Litigation (Please Specify Below**) 076 Retaliatory Discharge
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· ·	Secondary Email: steve@weilchardon.com
By: /s ALEXIS GARMEY CHARDON (Attorney) (ProSe)	Tertiary Email:
Pro Se Only:   I have read and agree to the terms of the the Clerk's Office form the Clerk's Office for this case at this email address:	ce Electronic Notice Policy and choose to opt in to electronic not

ELECTRONICALLY FILED 6/1/2018 2:56 PM 2018-L-005710 CALENDAR: A PAGE 1 of 10

# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINGOISK COUNTY DEPARTMENT – LAW DIVISION CLERK DOE

ANDREANNA PARIS,	)
Plaintiff	)
vs.	) Case No.:
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO,	
Defendants.	)

## **COMPLAINT AT LAW**

The Plaintiff, ANDREANNA PARIS, by her attorneys, WEIL & CHARDON LLC, and complaining against Defendant, BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO ("BOE" or "Defendant"), states as follows:

## **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

## The Parties

- 1. At all times relevant to this action, the BOE was a government entity doing business in the County of Cook, City of Chicago, and State of Illinois, engaged in operating, managing, and controlling public schools for children in grades kindergarten through high school.
- 2. That all times relevant to this action, the BOE operated, managed, and/or controlled, Gordon S. Hubbard High School ("Hubbard High School"), a public school for grades 9-12 located at 6200 South Hamlin Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60629.
- 3. At all times relevant to this action, Plaintiff Andreanna Paris was a minor and resident of the City of Chicago.
- 4. On or about 2014-2015, Plaintiff Andreanna Paris was a student at Hubbard High School.

## **Background**

- 5. At all times relevant to this action, the BOE employed various personnel including, but not limited to, principals, teachers, school counselors, teachers' aides, and security guards, for the purpose of operating, managing, and controlling its schools.
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- 14. No later than the 2011-2012 school year, BOE possessed information indicating that due to his inappropriate conduct Walter Wells was ill-suited for employment involving interaction with women and minors and that he posed a significant threat of sexual harassment or molestation to such persons.
- 15. No later than the 2011-2012 school year, employees and agents of BOE received complaints about Walter Wells' inappropriate, sexual interactions with both students and teachers.
- Doe 1, reported to Joyce Jones, who was Hubbard High School's school counselor and athletic director, and who was an employee of BOE, that she had witnessed Walter Wells acting inappropriately and in a sexual manner with female students. Jane Doe 1 had heard Walter Wells making overtly sexual comments to minors, such as telling them that he heard they performed oral sex well. Jane Doe 1 believed that following her reports something would be done to stop the behavior, yet nothing was done.

- 17. During the 2011-2012 school year, Walter Wells also sexually harassed and molested Jane Doe 1 herself. This time, Jane Doe 1 reported Walter Wells' inappropriate conduct to a top school administrator at Hubbard High School who was an employee of BOE. Jane Doe 1 believed that following her reports, something would be done to stop the behavior, yet nothing was done. Walter Wells was permitted to remain a security guard and coach at the school.
- 18. At some point prior to February 2014, a student, Jane Doe 2, made a report to Joyce Jones that Walter Wells had been making sexually inappropriate contact with her Beginning when she was a freshman in 2010 and continuing until she graduated in 2014, Walter Wells had hugged Jane Doe 2 and groped her buttocks in a sexual manner each time she passed him in the hallway. His behavior was open and obvious, and yet no one at Hubbard High School did or said anything to stop it. Neither Jones nor BOE did anything in response to the allegation, which Jane Doe 2 felt was merely brushed off.
- 19. In addition to the foregoing specific reports, Walter Wells' inappropriate conduct toward minors was ongoing and obvious during the period of at least 2011-2014, including sexual comments and inappropriate hugging and sexual groping of students in hallways.

  Teachers and staff of the school were aware of other reports of Wells' inappropriate sexual conduct with students, including information that he was having a sexual relationship with a minor student.
- 20. On information and belief, prior to December 2013, Walter Wells' sexual overtures—both physical and verbal—towards minor students and other teachers, were openly discussed at Hubbard High School among students, staff, and administrators.

- 21. Despite the foregoing knowledge, BOE did not take any steps to discipline Walter Wells or prevent further inappropriate conduct with students. BOE did not fire or discipline Walter Wells. On information and belief, no one reported Walter Wells' inappropriate conduct to the Equal Opportunity Compliance Officer or to DCFS. Instead, BOE allowed Walter Wells to continue working at the school, in direct interaction with students.
- 22. On information and belief, administrators and school employees, including secretaries, counselors, teachers, and administrators, including former Principal Andrew Manno and school counselor and athletic director Joyce Jones, had knowledge of reports of Walter Wells' inappropriate, sexual conduct towards students, but did not report this conduct to DCFS, the Equal Opportunity Compliance Officer, or otherwise seek to have Walter Wells terminated.

## Walter Wells' Assaults of Plaintiff

- 23. In the course of his employment as security guard at Hubbard High School, Walter Wells met and interacted Plaintiff Andreanna Paris.
- 24. Plaintiff trusted and respected Walter Wells as an authority figure by virtue of his employment by BOE.
- 25. On or about February 2014, while on duty as a security guard for Hubbard High School, Walter Wells sexually assaulted Plaintiff Andreanna Paris in the hallways of Hubbard High School when she leaned over to pick up a purchase from a vending machine. He stroked her back, groped her buttocks, and made a sexual comment about her buttocks.
  - 26. Andreanna Paris reported this incident to school counselor Joyce Jones.
- 27. Following Andreanna's report, an investigation was conducted into Walter Wells' behavior and four victims were interviewed. During this time, BOE did not remove Walter Wells from the school, but simply moved him to another guard post.

- 28. The first investigation was concluded on or about early March 2014, at which point the BOE allowed Wells to return to his regular post. At that time, another victim, Kyana Aguilar, reported two incidents of abuse by Walter Wells to then-Principal Nancy Wiley.
- 29. Following Kyana's report, a second investigation was conducted, this time with a different investigator. The second investigation verified Kyana's complaint and, on information and belief, similar complaints of at least four other victims.
- 30. Following the second round of investigation, Walter Wells was finally terminated from his employment at Hubbard High School in the spring of 2014.
- 31. In May 2014, Walter Wells was charged with multiple counts of criminal sexual assault against a minor, Kyana Aguilar.
- 32. At the trial of Walter Wells, Andreanna testified about her experiences of having been sexually assaulted by him in the hallways of Hubbard High School. Four other victims testified at the trial to similar experiences.
- 33. In November 2016, Walter Wells was convicted of aggravated sexual abuse of a minor and abuse of the public trust, and aggravated battery in a public place due to sexual assault committed against at Hubbard High School.
- 34. As of the time of filing of this complaint, Walter Wells is incarcerated within the Illinois Department of Corrections as a result of his conviction, and he is listed as a registered sex offender.
- 35. Andreanna has suffered and continues to suffer psychological and emotional harm as a result of her molestation by Walter Wells.

## **COUNT I**

## WILFUL AND WANTON CONDUCT: WILLFUL AND WANTON SUPERVISION AND RETENTION; DELIBERATE INDIFFERENCE TO KNOWN SEXUAL HARASSMENT

- 36. At all times relevant to this cause of action, BOE was responsible for the hiring, training, education, supervision, assignment, promotion, investigation, and removal of its employees and/or agents, including but not limited to Walter Wells.
- 37. At all times relevant to this cause of action, BOE had a duty to refrain from conduct that showed an utter indifference to, or conscious disregard for, the safety of others and, specifically, the students attending its public schools, including Andreanna Paris.
- 38. Despite these duties, BOE, including through its agents and employees, engaged in the following conduct that demonstrated an utter indifference to, and/or conscious disregard for, the safety of its students, including Andreanna Paris, in the following ways:
  - Failed to report allegations of sexual abuse of children against Walter Wells to the proper authorities in violation of the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act;
  - Failed to investigate reports of sexual abuse by Walter Wells against females and/or minors,
  - Failed to implement or enforce policies and procedures relating to the prevention, detection, and/or reporting of sexual abuse of minors;
  - d. Allowed Walter Wells to continue working at Hubbard High School despite reports that he had sexually abused minors and females and despite actual or constructive knowledge that he posed a threat to such persons, including Andreanna Paris;

- e. Allowed Walter Wells to have contact with students in his role as security guard and athletic coach despite actual or constructive knowledge that he had engaged in inappropriate sexual conduct towards students and female staff members;
- f. Bestowed Walter Wells with the authority to supervise and discipline students and the trappings of authority attendant with the role of security guard, despite actual or constructive knowledge of his dangerous propensities;
- g. Failed to properly supervise Walter Wells when he was engaged as a security guard despite actual and constructive knowledge of his dangerous propensities;
- h. Failed to report allegations of sexual abuse of children against Walter Wells to the proper authorities in violation of the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act;
- Failed to educate and/or train employees with respect to the urgency and necessity
  of reporting allegations of sexual abuse and/or sexually inappropriate conduct by
  an adult towards a child;
- j. Failed to educate and/or train school employees with respect to conduct that indicates a person is unfit to work with minors and the importance and urgency of reporting the same;
- k. Continued to employ Walter Wells despite having actual and/or constructive
   knowledge of evidence that indicated his unfitness for employment with children;
   and
- Was otherwise willful and wanton in the hiring, supervision, and control of Walter Wells.
- 39. That as a proximate result of the willful and wanton conduct by the BOE, Plaintiff
  Andreanna Paris was sexually assaulted by Walter Wells which caused her physical harm,

educational harm, severe emotional distress, pain and suffering, economic losses, future medical bills, the loss of a normal life, and all other damages allowed by law and demonstrated by the evidence.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff Andreanna Paris, by and through her attorneys, WEIL & CHARDON LLC, asks for judgment against the Defendant, BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO, in an amount in excess of \$50,000, plus costs, reasonable attorney's fees, interest, and all other relief that this Court deems equitable and just.

Dated: June 1, 2018

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Alexis G. Chardon

Alexis G. Chardon – <u>ali@weilchardon.com</u> Stephen H. Weil – <u>steve@weilchardon.com</u> Weil & Chardon LLC Firm No.: 61804 333 S. Wabash, Suite 2700 Chicago, IL 60604 (312) 585-7404

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# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT – LAW DIVISION

ANDREANNA PARIS,	)
Plaintiff	)
VS.	) Case No.:
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO,	) ) )
Defendants.	) )

## **RULE 222 AFFIDAVIT**

NOW COMES the affiant, Alexis Chardon, an attorney, and upon oath states:

- 1. That the affiant is testifying to matters on affiant's own personal knowledge and is competent to testify to the same if called upon to do so.
- 2. That she is the attorney for the Plaintiffs, licensed to practice law in the State of Illinois.
- 3. That the affiant is the duly authorized agent for the Plaintiffs for purposes of making this affidavit.
- 4. That the damages sought for each Plaintiff are in excess of \$50,000.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Alexis G. Chardon

Alexis G. Chardon – <u>ali@weilchardon.com</u> Stephen H. Weil – <u>steve@weilchardon.com</u> Weil & Chardon LLC Firm No.: 61804 333 S. Wabash, Suite 2700 Chicago, IL 60604 (312) 585-7404

Summons - Alias Summons (12/31/15) CCG N001

#### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

## **ANDREANNA PARIS**

v.

## **CHICAGO BOARD OF EDUCATION**

No. 2018-L-005710

Defendant Address: CHICAGO BOARD OF EDUCATION 1 NORTH DEARBORN STREET SUITE 950 CHICAGO, IL 60602

**✓** SUMMONS ☐ ALIAS - SUMMONS

To each defendant:

YOU ARE SUMMONED and required to file an answer to the complaint in this case, a copy of which is hereto attached, or otherwise file your appearance, and pay the required fee, in the Office of the Clerk of this Court at the following location:

✓ Richard J. Daley Center,	50 W. Washington, Room 801	,Chicago, Illinois 60602
☐ District 2 - Skokie	☐ District 3 - Rolling Meadows	☐ District 4 - Maywood
5600 Old Orchard Rd.	2121 Euclid 1500	Maybrook Ave.
Skokie, IL 60077	Rolling Meadows, IL 60008	Maywood, IL 60153
☐ District 5 - Bridgeview	☐ District 6 - Markham	☐ Richard J. Daley Center
10220 S. 76th Ave.	16501 S. Kedzie Pkwy.	50 W. Washington, LL-01
Bridgeview, IL 60455	Markham, IL 60428	Chicago, IL 60602

You must file within 30 days after service of this Summons, not counting the day of service.

IF YOU FAIL TO DO SO, A JUDGMENT BY DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF REQUESTED IN THE COMPLAINT.

## To the officer:

This Summons must be returned by the officer or other person to whom it was given for service, with endorsement of service and fees, if any, immediately after service. If service cannot be made, this Summons shall be returned so endorsed. This Summons may not be served later than thirty (30) days after its date.

✓ Atty. No.: <sub>61804</sub>	Witness: Friday, 01 June 2018
Name: WEIL CHARDON LLC	/s DOROTHY BROWN
Atty. for: ANDREANNA PARIS	DOROTHY BROWN, Clerk of Court
Address: 333 S WABASH #2700	Date of Service:
City/State/Zip Code: CHICAGO, IL 60604	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Telephone: (312) 585-7404	(To be inserted by officer on copy left with Defendant or other person)
Primary Email Address: ali@weilchardon.com	
Secondary Email Address(es):	**Service by Facsimile Transmission will be accepted at:
steve@weilchardon.com	
	(Area Code) (Facsimile Telephone Number)

# **Law DIVISION**

# Litigant List

Printed on 06/01/2018

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## **Plaintiffs**

Plaintiffs Name Plaintiffs Address State Zip Unit #

ANDREANNA PARIS

Total Plaintiffs: 1

# **Defendants**

Defendant Name	Defendant Address	State		Unit #	Service By
CHICAGO BOARD OF EDUCATION	1 NORTH DEARBORN STREET CHICAGO,	IL	60602	SUITE 950	Sheriff-Clerk

Total Defendants: 1