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Statement From Legal Team Representing 83 Survivors on OSU's Announcement of Settlement of Some Strauss Abuse Claims

Legal advocates for 83 individuals abused by Dr. Richard Strauss expressed dismay today that the Ohio State University announced a settlement with some survivors involved in separate litigation without offering any details about what is contained in the University's settlement offer.

The legal team representing survivors of abuse by Dr. Richard Strauss in the *Snyder-Hill* and *Khalil* cases against Ohio State was excluded from the settlement negotiations that Ohio State claims have resulted in a settlement with some survivors today.

The *Snyder-Hill* and *Khalil* team is extremely concerned that this is not a full and fair settlement for survivors. It is imperative that Ohio State release details of any settlement immediately, so that all survivors can judge the settlement for themselves.

Any comprehensive resolution to this case must:

- 1) Include a commitment to comprehensive changes to ensure future students are never put in harm's way again by the University
- 2) Offer true restorative justice to the men who suffered decades of trauma stemming from abuse on Ohio State's watch

The following can be attributed to Adele Kimmel of Public Justice, an attorney for the plaintiffs in these two cases:

"For over 40 years, OSU has allowed survivors to suffer in the shadows. Today, they released a secretly negotiated settlement, reached without giving every survivor a seat at the table. It is hard to imagine how any settlement negotiated in this way could include sufficient compensation for all those who were abused by Dr. Strauss on OSU's watch. By refusing to release any substantive details, OSU has failed to inform survivors if today's settlement is a true opportunity to begin addressing some of the trauma and financial burden the University's wrongdoing has forced upon them.

Recovering from, and rebuilding one's life after, the trauma inflicted by Ohio State and Dr. Strauss is a life-long journey that will entail significant financial obligations. Any settlement worthy of serious consideration must cover the true costs inflicted on survivors and the true compensation that justice demands. At the very least, OSU owes survivors transparency and honesty about what they are offering in response to the awful situation that happened on their watch. Too often, OSU's assurances that it has taken what happened seriously, and have taken responsibility, have proven to be false. Today's settlement must not repeat that dismissive behavior."

The survivors in the *Snyder-Hill* and *Khalil* cases are represented by [Scott Elliot Smith, LPA](#); [Emery Celli](#); and [Public Justice](#).

