

Joint Statement on Behalf of Andrea Constand and Acting Victim Advocate Jennifer Storm: PA Supreme Court Decision to Review Cosby Conviction

Harrisburg, PA – On Tuesday June 23rd, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court announced they will review part of Bill Cosby's sexual assault conviction, regarding the admissibility of the courageous prior bad act victims who fearlessly came forward and testified at trial.

Acting Commonwealth Victim Advocate Jennifer Storm will be responding in a brief, along with other organizations in support of the victims/survivors.

"I respectfully ask the Supreme Court of PA to consider the enormous prospect of putting my perpetrator back into the community after being labeled a convicted sexually violent predator.

While everyone deserves for their cries and appeals to be heard, even convicted criminals, if anyone's cries matter most right now, it's the women who have lifted their voices and selflessly put themselves in harms way, such as the prior bad act witnesses in my case. They are the true heroes. Regardless of our national heritage, colour, creed or identity, we all deserve justice - that is a fact. I have no doubt that the Supreme Court will do the right thing and not allow Cosby's wealth, fame and fortune to win an escape from his malignant and downright criminal past and seek justice at all costs." said Andrea Constand, Hope Healing and Transformation Director.

"The survivors in this case deserved to be heard in that courtroom. Case law allows the admission of their truths as a means to provide an overall understanding of Cosby's pattern of abuse. Allowing prior bad act witnesses is vital in sexual assault cases, particularly with regard to sexually violent predators. In this case, as is true in far too many, victims have been forced into silence for so long that their statutes of limitations have expired - but the truth of the harm done never expires. The courts need to be able to consider all facts" stated Jennifer Storm, Acting Commonwealth Victim Advocate.

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