How Attorney Pamela Price Failed Celeste Guap

The back story. At age 17, Celeste Guap was a domestic trafficking victim. She was running away from a violent pimp and she approached a police cruiser for help, but rather than help her, the officer had sex with her. 2 other officers also had sex with her when she was still 17, and they nicknamed her juvi and they said "that they couldn't wait until she turned 18."

Once Celeste turned 18, Thirty officers in 7 different police departments passed her around and sexually exploited her. Some of the officers paid her for sex, some only bought her dinner, some gave her information on upcoming stings. It all came to light when one of the officers committed suicide, and all the proof that tied Celeste to these officers was found all over Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.

Months Later, Still No Charges Against Oakland Cops

Next, Richmond police dept accessed victim compensation fund and send Celeste to a FL rehab. Once at the rehab Celeste wanted to leave, and a rehab worker tried to illegally restrain her and he tried to inject her with something. Celeste bit the man in self defense. The police were called, and the victim, Celeste Guap was thrown into Martin County Jail with a 300,000 bond for felony assault.

Within hours, O'Malley, <u>Alameda County Prosecutor told the media that they couldn't charge the 7 officers if they don't have a witness.</u>

US sex workers were very concerned for the safety of the victim while she was being held in a FL jail and we were outraged that these predatory police officers might walk away without being prosecuted. So these sex worker organizations formed an outreach team, consisting of several US sex workers rights groups, which was coined #Whorenation.

Our team did a 3 way call and spoke to Celeste while she was held at Martin County Jail, and we got permission from Celeste to launch a crowdrise to raise money for an attorney for her. Celeste asked us to put her mother in charge of the fund, and we also launched a petition that had over 1600 signatures within just a few days. We referred Celeste's mother to a FL attorney that was working on a similar case, and arranged for the attorney to go see Celeste in jail the next day.

The next day Pamela Price arrived at Martin County jail to visit Celeste and she explained that the victim's father had hired her. So our outreach team turned over the crowdrise funds to Celeste mother, and started collaborating with Pamela Price through a group email. Other than thanking us, we didn't hear anything for several weeks. At which time Pamela Price emailed us with just 2 words "SHE RAN". I guess this was meant to create some hysteria, or maybe Pamela Price was worried about losing her commission on the 66 million dollar lawsuit.

Within hours of me receiving Price's email, Celeste contacted a member of our team to explain that she had fired her prohibitionist attorney for, apparently, refusing to stop spewing anti-whore bullshit at her. Which isn't surprising since Price didn't stop even after she was fired. Price went on to tell the media that the victim was in need of redemption. Fortunately, a competent and less-judgmental defense attorney immediately took her place on the legal team.

Pamela Price went on to say "In bringing Jasmine home and working on her case, I have tried to provide new opportunities and guidance for her to rebuild her life. It is my hope that she will someday be able to take advantage of those opportunities. I hope that she will come to understand that the life she was living can lead to death and destruction. Her safety and security have been my paramount concerns. Her redemption as a lost child has been my mission. I believe that Jasmine deserves a second chance at a first class life. I would never abandon her in that effort. Effective immediately, however, I regret that I will no longer be representing her as her attorney."

Well it seems that Price seems to think badly of people who make their living selling sexual services. She seemed more concerned that she convince the victim to conform rather than using her voice to call out the fact that police officers are robbing, raping and exploiting sex workers, and minor's with impunity. Ironically Price has no concern for the health and safety of US Sex Workers.

ALAMEDA CO. DA SAYS 7 COPS WILL BE CHARGED IN SEX SCANDAL CASE

Yet O'Malley is not planning on charging any of these officers with sex trafficking of a minor. Or felony pimping, pandering or promoting prostitution. Or providing information on vice stings in exchange for sex.

But what happens next is just insane. <u>Kalma Harris, CA Attorney General</u>, who is running for a senate seat, issued arrest warrants for the CEO and 2 top executives of

backpage.com charging them with felony pimping, just because they own and profit off of a website. Several judges have already ruled that websites could not be held responsible for 3rd party content.

Sex Worker Rights Joint Statement 2016 regarding this, explains this in more detail.

Ironically Kamala Harris is a defendant in ESPLER v GASCON, which is a constitutional challenge to California prostitution laws 647 (b). <u>ESPLERs appeal brief</u> was filed in the 9th district court on September 30th 2016. Amicus briefs have been filed by, Lambda Brief, Brief Of American Civil Liberties Union Foundation1, Brief Of Amici Curiae First Amendment Lawyers Association and Woodhull Freedom Foundation, Children Of The Night Amicus.

Vice fraud: California criminal prosecution against Backpage represents latest flashpoint in century-old prostitution debate

<u>"SN&R asked Harris' office what services, if any.</u> it or other partner organizations provided to the nine victims the state cited in its criminal complaint against Backpage.

A DOJ spokeswoman declined comment."

"Harris will be warmly ensconced in the United States Senate by the time her blatant violations of the First Amendment and federal law are finally adjudicated," they wrote. "She won't pay. The taxpayers of California will. And, as Kamala Harris knows, it probably won't even make the evening news."

Sadly, while O'Malley and Harris supported all of California trafficking legislation, they don't seem to think that predatory police officers should be charged with the same crimes as civilians who exploit and pimp out minors.

ESPLER v GASCON was funded through small private donations. <u>ESPLER</u> does not have access to the same resources as the state of California. Please make your <u>tax</u> <u>deductible donation</u> today and support the rights of US Sex Workers.