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**DA'S CHARGING DECISION**  
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Officer: Chuck Anderson	Agency & Case No.: HBS, 50-193540772
Suspect/Defendant: Multiple Catlin Gabel Employees	DA # 392310
Victim(s): Various	
Charge(s): Various	Incident Date: 1960-2016
DDA Assigned: Andrew D. Pulver	Date Assigned: 07/10/2020

The DA's Office will not prosecute due to the following:

This investigation surrounds allegations of extensive historical sexual abuse, physical abuse, and other inappropriate interactions between the faculty and students of Catlin Gabel School. Catlin Gabel is a Washington County private school encompassing the grade levels of preschool through 12th grade.

On December 11, 2019 Catlin Gabel School released a report entitled "SUMMARY OF KEY FACTUAL FINDINGS FROM INVESTIGATION OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT AT CATLIN GABEL SCHOOL PRESENTED BY THE CATLIN GABEL BOARD OF TRUSTEES." The report contained information gathered during an attorney-led investigation conducted by the school after the emergence of Facebook posts alleging sexual misconduct in the fall of 2018. The report referenced 21 former Catlin Gabel faculty members alleged to have engaged in sexual misconduct dating back to the mid-1960s. Based upon Catlin Gabel's own criteria governing the disclosure of faculty/student identities, some of the alleged victims and suspects were not identified in the report.

Detectives with the Washington County Sheriff's Office were tasked with reviewing the report and conducting follow-up investigation to determine the potential for criminal prosecution. Over several months Washington County detectives conducted a thorough investigation that included the execution of a search warrant on Catlin Gabel records, the review of thousands of pages of records produced in the process, and the identification and interview of numerous potential victims and witnesses. The Washington County District Attorney's Office worked in conjunction with detectives to identify investigation priorities, assess potentially criminal behavior, and analyze the ability to prosecute in light of Oregon's statute of limitations.

The following has been determined:

- The most notorious and potentially chargeable sexual offender, former faculty member Richardson Shoemaker, is deceased
- Another potentially chargeable sexual offender, former faculty member Robert Ashe, is also deceased
- Faculty member Deonte Huff was prosecuted by the Washington County District Attorney's Office in 2013 for his sexual interactions with a student at Catlin Gabel. Additional information obtained regarding Deonte Huff's interactions with students did not reveal additional criminally prosecutable behavior
- Interviews produced numerous potential victims who described behavior that—while highly inappropriate and likely grooming behavior—cannot not be prosecuted because the conduct itself does not constitute criminal behavior under Oregon law
- Interviews produced multiple potential victims who described behavior that—while constituting

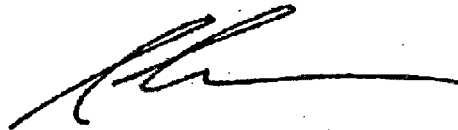
criminal behavior under Oregon law—is barred by Oregon’s statute of limitations

- One potential victim elected not to cooperate with the investigation, preventing the State’s ability to determine the potential for criminal charges
- Three potential victims reported grooming behavior by a faculty member (barred by the statute of limitations) which led to a consensual sexual relationship after reaching the age of consent
- Many interviews revealed rumors of sexualized behaviors by faculty members that were unsubstantiated or too vague to pursue
- A few reports of physical force and/or physical abuse by Catlin Gabel faculty were uncovered, all of which were barred by the statute of limitations

The investigation revealed that during the relevant time periods covered by this investigation members of Catlin Gabel’s administration failed in their duties to investigate and report claims of inappropriate behavior and otherwise take reasonable steps to protect their students from abuse. The absence of action taken by administrative faculty in these circumstances was considered by the District Attorney’s Office for potential criminal charges. All reasonably pursuable charges are unfortunately barred the statute of limitations.

According to the Washington County Sheriff’s Office’s investigation reports, all viable leads have been exhausted. Based upon the evidence at hand the State is unable to proceed with criminal charges. In the event that additional evidence, incidents, or suspects are discovered, the Washington County District Attorney’s Office will reevaluate the potential for prosecution.

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Date of Decision: March 11, 2021

Andrew D. Pulver, Senior Deputy District Attorney