

Bill: HB0931

Support of Bill

Good Afternoon Committee Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Members:

Thank you for allowing me to testify today.

January 12th 2018 I received a phone call at 11:01 am from Kelly Amrein who proceeded to advise me about an incident involving my son, Aiden.

She advised that she came across a video that showed my son being sexually touched by another. I didn't stay on the phone to find out more information and left work that day and went straight to the center to get my son. When I arrived, I walked into the office to find Kelly there and Becky Luber there sitting at their desks. I walked into their office and proceeded to ask questions and ask what happened. Kelly proceeded to let me know that she thought "I had the right to know". I asked her who did it and when did it happen. She then proceeded to tell me that back at the end of August 2017/September 2017, there was a report made by another child of inappropriate sexual touching. That it was reported to the proper agency in Harford County and that it prompted them to look through the videos and investigate. She then during the investigation they found the video of my son being touched. I then asked when was the video and she advised that it was during December but could not show me the video due to privacy issues. I then talked to her about who did it and she advised that she could not tell me but I got her to tell me eventually due to the nature of our relationship and how long we have known each other. She advised me that there were other victims and that it was a child with special needs who did the acts and that the child was removed from Celebree Center at the end of October 2017. She then confirmed by nodding when I guessed that it was Todd Charpie. I then questioned as to why the first report came in end of August 2017/beginning September 2017 and why I was just being told about a video that was found approximately Dec 2017 in January 2018? She advised that they had to look into all allegations before informing anyone and that she knew what I was dealing with because she had been through it with her son in a separate unrelated situation. During this conversation in their office, Becky sat at her desk smiling and giggling as Kelly told me all this as if all of this was something to laugh about or to be happy about.

This incident destroyed our family. We have lost trust in people. This destroyed our son who isn't the same anymore. Our family has been torn. I ask that this law be passed so that no family need to wait get information that they deserve to know immediately about their child(ren). Thank you for reading my testimony and thank you for allowing me to speak today. I urge you to support this legislation.

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