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Civil Lawsuit Filed Against Township High School District 211 and Visual Image Photography After Photo of Female Student's Bare Breasts Posted Online

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CHICAGO, IL – Romanucci & Blandin, LLC and Matthew & Drnovsek Law, LLC announce the filing of a lawsuit on behalf of a female high school student whose bare breasts were captured on a photograph which was later posted on a public website. The lawsuit was filed October 16, 2020 in Circuit Court of Cook County, Law Division, and names Chicago suburban Township High School District 211 and Visual Image Photography of Cedarburg, Wisconsin as defendants. The lawsuit states that Elizabeth White, a minor, was taking part in the Homecoming Dance at James B. Conant High School in Hoffman Estates when her dress slipped, temporarily exposing her breasts. Unknown to Miss White, the photography company hired to capture images of the event photographed her naked breasts, and that photo appeared several days later on a public website that encouraged photos to be viewed and purchased. At least nine people, including members of the school's football team viewed that picture, which was later shared with other male students, posted on the football team's Snapchat and other social media platforms. The photo was taken down five days later, after Miss White was made aware of the situation and reported the violation of her privacy to the school's Dean of Students. The incident has caused injury to Miss White, creating anxiety, anguish and shame that have caused her to need counseling treatment.

The multi-count complaint states that both defendants acted with willful and wanton conduct, negligence, inflicted emotional distress and intruded on the student's right to seclusion.

"The humiliation suffered by this young woman is shameful and should never have happened if the defendants lived up to their duty to protect the children at the school, create a safe and secure environment at the dance and respect the students' privacy. This includes the treatment of photographs related to the event. For the photographers and school administrators not to inform this student about the photo and delete it, but instead to post it on a public website is a violation on many levels," said Antonio M. Romanucci, Founding Partner of Romanucci & Blandin, LLC. "This situation has caused her tremendous distress and for that, she deserves justice."

"High school students are still children, and deserve the adults involved with school events to safeguard their best interests. There is no excuse for this lack of oversight, which literally exposed this young woman in the most humiliating way possible," said Co-Counsel Attorney Abe Matthew of Matthew & Drnovsek Law, LLC.

About Romanucci & Blandin, LLC

Romanucci & Blandin is a national trial practice committed to fighting for victims of negligence, abuse and wrongful death arising from police misconduct, corporate negligence, civil rights actions, medical malpractice, mass torts and class actions. The attorneys' steadfast commitment to fighting for those seeking justice around the country has helped the firm obtain multiple verdicts and settlements in the millions of dollars. The Chicago-based personal injury lawyers are dedicated to providing victims who suffered injury as a result of another's wrongdoing full and fair compensation in a diligent, professional, skilled and caring manner. The lawyers actively support their communities and provide advocacy at the national, state and local levels on issues that support the U.S. tort system. Founded in 1998, Romanucci & Blandin is widely recognized for representing plaintiffs in numerous practice areas including: personal injury, wrongful death, medical malpractice, workers' compensation, pharmaceutical, mass torts, civil rights, police misconduct, excessive force, aviation, product liability and premises liability. For more information about Romanucci & Blandin, please visit www.rblaw.net or call (312) 458-1000.

About Matthew & Drnovsek Law, LLC

Matthew & Drnovsek Law, LLC (MD Law) is the law firm south siders trust when injured by the acts of others. The lawyers of MD Law fight for victims of negligence and wrongful acts through aggressive and skilled trial advocacy combined with ethical tactics. At MD Law our clients enjoy the benefits of our experience and personal attention to every case. MD Law managing partner Abe Matthew is a lawyer and activist from Chicago's Bridgeport neighborhood and was named a "Rising Star" by Superlawyers Magazine for the years 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020. To reach our firm, please call 312-709-1899 or visit www.mdlawchicago.com.