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* ADMITTED IN VA, DC, MD, NY AND WV

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STATEMENT OF HYLAND LAW PLLC

Today, on behalf of our client, we filed a complaint in the Circuit Court for the City of Alexandria, Virginia, against Matt and Mercedes Schlapp.

Our client is the victim of a sexual assault by Mr. Schlapp. The complaint details claims for battery, defamation, and conspiracy. Our client takes no joy in filing this lawsuit. However, Mr. Schlapp has had ample time to accept responsibility and apologize for his despicable actions. But instead of doing the right thing, Mr. Schlapp, Ms. Schlapp, and their friends and associates embarked on a ridiculous, spurious, and defamatory attempt to smear the reputation of Mr. Schlapp's victim.

The complaint highlights the events of the evening of October 19, 2022, in which Mr. Schlapp made repeated unsolicited and undesired advances toward our client, a staffer on the Hershel Walker for Senate campaign, while the staffer was driving Mr. Schlapp in Atlanta. The evening culminated with Mr. Schlapp groping our client's genitals, and then inviting our client to join him in a hotel room. Our client declined and promptly informed third parties, including his superiors with the Walker campaign. Early the following morning, our client communicated to Mr. Schlapp that he was uncomfortable with Mr. Schlapp's actions, and that he would not drive Mr. Schlapp to an event that day as planned. Mr. Schlapp tried to call our client several times and then, in the early afternoon, asked our client to "see it in [his] heart to call me."

Mr. Schlapp has not directly denied our client's allegations, and with good reason – they are unmistakably true, and corroborated by extensive contemporaneous evidence. Instead, he has through his friends and associates started a whisper campaign and leveled social media attacks spreading lies about our client.

We intend to keep a singular focus: to demonstrate that Matt Schlapp is a sexual predator who assaulted our client. Because Mr. Schlapp has refused to own up to his misbehavior, this suit aims to make Mr. Schlapp, and those who lie for him, accountable for their actions.