

1 **Declaration of Dominique Morris**

2 I, Dominique Morris, hereby declare:

3 1. I make this declaration based on my own personal knowledge and if called to  
4 testify I could and would do so competently as follows:

5 2. I have just finished the tenth grade at Locke High School in Los Angeles, and I  
6 will return to Locke this fall to begin the eleventh grade. I also attended Locke during the ninth  
7 grade.

8 3. Many times at my school, I have not had a permanent teacher, and instead I have  
9 had many different substitutes for a class. In my tenth grade science class, during the 2000-2001  
10 school year, we had different substitutes for the whole first semester. In my ninth grade English  
11 class, in the first semester of the 1999-2000 school year, my teacher came for the first two days  
12 and then never came back. We had many different substitutes for three weeks, before we finally  
13 got a permanent substitute. In my ninth grade integrated science class, during the 1999-2000  
14 school year, our teacher only came to class for a few days, and then never came back. After that  
15 we had a bunch of substitutes for a couple of months, before we finally got a permanent  
16 substitute. I did not learn anything at all in that class. It is hard to learn when you do not have a  
17 permanent teacher or a permanent substitute. When you have a lot of different substitutes, only  
18 for a short time each, they don't teach you anything. You end up just wasting a lot of time in that  
19 class, and not learning at all.

20 4. There are often not enough books, or no books at all, in my classes. In the tenth  
21 grade, during the 2000-2001 school year, we had no books at all in my English class. Our  
22 teacher just had us copy stories out of the newspaper. In my tenth grade geometry class, there  
23 were not enough books. We could not take them home. We had to leave them in class, and I  
24 think this was so that the teacher could use them for the next period. We did not even have  
25 enough to use in class, though, and a lot of us had to share books. It is important to be able to  
26 take your books home, because otherwise you can't study at home, and you can't use your book  
27 when you are doing homework to make sure that you are doing the problems correctly. In my  
28 tenth grade science class, we had no textbooks at all. I do not even know what a science book

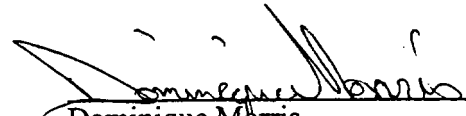
1 looks like. We didn't have labs. All we did in that class was copy notes off of the board. In my  
2 tenth grade history class, we also had no textbooks. Our teacher just had us read the newspaper,  
3 and gave us maps to label. During the second semester, our teacher got books from another  
4 teacher. We had them for three months, and we started to learn things, but then the other teacher  
5 needed them again, and so we had to give them back. For the rest of the year we had no books  
6 again. In my ninth grade English class, in the first semester of the 1999-2000 school year, we did  
7 not have enough books. This was also the class where my teacher had left after two days. When  
8 we finally got a permanent substitute, the substitute bought us books with his own money. I  
9 know this because he told us. He said that the school did not have enough books for us. During  
10 the second semester of my ninth grade English class, we had literature books, but we were not  
11 allowed to take them home to read. I think it was because there was only enough books for a  
12 class set, so we had to leave them in the classroom for all of the English classes to use. In my  
13 ninth grade Spanish class, we did not have any textbooks at all. Our teacher made packets at the  
14 copy machine for us to use in class. We would use these in class to do work from. If we didn't  
15 finish our work in class, we could not take it home, because we had to leave the packets in the  
16 classroom. We would have to finish the work the next day in class. In my ninth grade integrated  
17 science class, we had no books at all, and we did not even have any worksheets. Our permanent  
18 substitute, when we had one, wrote notes on the board and told us to copy them down. Also in  
19 my algebra I class, during the 1999-2000 school year, we had no textbooks at all. Our teacher  
20 wrote problems up on the board or on the overhead projector for us to copy and work on. I wish  
21 I had had a book in that class. I think I would have learned more. I would not have had to waste  
22 so much time copying down everything that the teacher wrote on the board.

23           5.       I have been put in the wrong class because there are not enough counselors to fix  
24 our schedules. In the tenth grade, during the 2000-2001 school year, I was put into a P.E. class  
25 instead of English. It took four weeks before the counselors would finally change me into an  
26 English class. In the first semester of the ninth grade, during the 1999-2000 school year, I was  
27 supposed to be in algebra I, but instead I was put in geometry. There are not enough counselors  
28 to help all of the students. I could not get to see a counselor for three whole weeks, so I had to

1 stay in geometry during that time. Finally I got to change to algebra I, but by that time I had  
2 missed almost a month of class. The same problem then happened again during the second  
3 semester of ninth grade. I had already taken algebra I(a) during the first semester, but I was put  
4 in it again the second semester. Again, it took three weeks before a counselor would see me and  
5 help me get into algebra I(b), and I missed three weeks of algebra I(b) before I was finally  
6 allowed to change into that class.

7 6. I have had classes where there are not enough seats for all of the students. In my  
8 ninth grade integrated science class, during the 1999-2000 school year, the class was too crowded  
9 and we did not have enough desks. A few of us had to sit on top of the faucet counters for the  
10 whole year.

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12 I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of California and the United  
13 States that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 17 day of July, 2001 in Los  
14 Angeles, California.

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17 Dominique Morris

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