

1 **Declaration of Harold Senna**

2 I, Harold Senna, 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 am currently a freshman at Fremont High School. I also attended Fremont last
6 year, but I am repeating my freshman year in large part because of the terrible conditions at
7 Fremont.

8 3. During the 2000-2001 school year, my algebra teacher left the school three
9 months before the school year ended. For three months our class had day to day substitutes and
10 each time one substitute would come in he or she would teach us something different from the
11 teacher who had come in before. It was extremely confusing, and I was already behind so I had a
12 really hard time.

13 4. In my physical science class during the 2000-2001 school year, I did not even
14 know the name of the teacher I was supposed to have because we did not get put with a
15 permanent teacher until the last two or three months of schools. For the rest of the school year
16 we had different substitutes sometimes every day, sometimes every other week, just depending
17 on how long each substitute would stay. It was horrible and I flunked because I just did not
18 know what we were doing from day to day and each teacher would teach something different and
19 some days the substitutes just didn't teach us anything. It was horrible and unfair. When the
20 school finally put me with a permanent teacher it was in the last two or three months of school
21 and basically they just split up our class and had some of us go with several different teachers.
22 That was rough because the students in the class I was put into had been there already for the
23 entire year and we just had to come in and catch up. I really did not learn what I should have
24 learned in that class.

25 5. During 2000-2001 school year, my algebra books were really messed up. The
26 books had pages ripped out and so when I would turn to a page that was missing the teacher
27 would either tell me to share or he would instruct us just to sit there. In my French class during
28 the 2000-2001 school year, the books were all bent up, tagged, and the pages were ripped. The

1 teacher said that she had not been given a new set of textbooks in about 10 years. It is very hard
2 to read a textbook that has writing all over it and pages that are ripped up. When I couldn't read
3 a page in the book the teacher would tell me to share with another student. In my physical
4 science class during the 2000-2001 school year, I did not get a textbook until the end of the year
5 when the school administration finally placed me with a permanent teacher. The book I did
6 receive was really ripped up. When I told the teacher that I had been unable to complete my
7 homework assignment because a page was missing he told me that I should have called another
8 student to see if they had the page in their book, but because I had just been transferred into that
9 class I didn't know any of the other students' phone numbers.

10 6. In my English class during the 2000-2001 school year, my teacher had a class set
11 of literature books but there weren't enough books for us to be able to take the books home. We
12 also were not allowed to take home the novel we were reading, *Of Mice and Men*. The teacher
13 told us we could not take the novel home because she did not have enough copies for all of us to
14 take one home. I just don't understand why there are not enough books for us to be able to take
15 the book home to study, to read on our own, and to re-read a section if we did not understand it in
16 class.

17 7. During the 2000-2001 school year in my algebra class we did not have any air
18 conditioning and it would get really hot in that classroom. Everyone was sweating and it really
19 affects your ability to learn because you are really uncomfortable and you also feel really groggy
20 and dehydrated.

21 8. My French class during the 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 school year is really dingy -
22 - the walls are dirty, there are holes in different places, and the paint is peeling off.

23 9. In my English class during the 2000-2001 school year, it was really crowded.
24 Several students had to sit on chairs without desks for the entire year and they would write on
25 their notebooks on their laps. The teacher complained about how crowded it was and she would
26 try to kick people out of the class if they came late or were disruptive. It made me feel bad that
27 we did not have enough space for everyone. It is unfair that other schools have enough desks for
28 all of the students and places for people to write on. At the poorer schools we have to improvise

1 and write on our laps or squish onto the edge of another student's table.

2 10. In our gym at Fremont we don't have a lot of resources for the students and so a
3 local prison recently donated a set of weights for the students to use.

4 11. There are rats in the cafeteria at Fremont High School. During the 2000-2001
5 school year I saw rat traps on the floor inside the cafeteria.

6 12. The bathrooms at Fremont High are disgusting. They are dirty and they don't
7 have basic supplies such as toilet paper or paper towels. The sinks barely work and there is
8 tagging everywhere. It really smells inside the bathrooms and so I try to hold it until lunch time
9 and then I run over to the Albertson's grocery store to use their bathrooms instead of the ones at
10 the school.

11

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 25 day of October, 2001 in
14 Oakland, California.

15

HAROLD Senna?
Harold Senna

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

PLTF 06535