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ADMINISTRATIVE CLASS COMPLAINT

COMPLAINANT

Champion Women
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RECIPIENT

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I. PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

1. This complaint is filed by *Champion Women*, pursuant to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 *et seq.* (“Title IX”) and the regulations and policies promulgated thereunder. *See* 34 C.F.R. § 106 *et seq.* Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in federally funded education programs and activities, including athletics.

2. *Champion Women* is a 501(c)(3) that provides legal advocacy for girls and women in sports.

3. As detailed in the Factual and Legal Allegations below, data submitted by the University of St. Francis in Joliet (“St. Francis”) to the Office of Postsecondary Education of the U.S. Department of Education pursuant to the Equity in Athletics Disclosure Act (“EADA”), 20 U.S.C. § 1092, as well as information collected from St. Francis’s website indicates that St. Francis is discriminating on the basis of sex by providing women with unequal athletic participation opportunities, unequal athletic scholarship dollars, and unequal treatment and benefits, including athletic recruitment funding.

4. In order to address these disparities, *Champion Women* requests that the Office for Civil Rights (“OCR”) investigate St. Francis to determine whether it is providing women equal opportunities to participate in varsity sports, equal opportunities to earn athletic scholarships, and equivalent treatment and benefits, including recruitment funding as required by Title IX and, if not, to remedy any unlawful conduct.

II. JURISDICTION

5. The OCR is responsible for ensuring compliance with Title IX and receiving information about, investigating, and remedying violations of Title IX and its implementing regulations and guidelines. 34 C.F.R. §§ 106.71, 100.7.

6. *Champion Women* has not filed this complaint with any other agency or institution.

7. As St. Francis currently violates Title IX’s athletic equity requirements, this complaint is timely.

III. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

8. St. Francis receives federal financial assistance and is therefore prohibited from discriminating on the basis of sex pursuant to Title IX.

9. Data submitted by St. Francis to the U.S. Department of Education pursuant to the EADA that is publicly available on the Office of Postsecondary Education website for academic years 2003-04 through 2021-2022 indicates that St. Francis is discriminating against women. St. Francis not currently and has not in the past been providing female athletes equal opportunities to participate in athletics under Title IX’s three-part participation test.

Year	Undergraduate Enrollment				Men	Women Prong 2: This # should Rise Continuously and Steadily Over Time, Without Going Backwards	Athletic Participation			
	Men	Women	Total	Percent Women			Total	Percent Women	Female Athletes Who Would Need to be Added to Achieve	
2003-04	362	732	1094	66.91%	160	104	264	39.39%	220	
2004-05	360	738	1098	67.21%	163	94	257	36.58%	240	
2005-06	362	796	1158	68.74%	177	93	270	34.44%	296	
2006-07	385	826	1211	68.21%	194	105	299	35.12%	311	
2007-08	376	863	1239	69.65%	192	115	307	37.46%	326	
2008-09	391	861	1252	68.77%	206	104	310	33.55%	350	
2009-10	395	850	1245	68.27%	227	121	348	34.77%	367	
2010-11	424	913	1337	68.29%	244	120	364	32.97%	405	
2011-12	438	945	1383	68.33%	312	179	491	36.46%	494	
2012-13	448	962	1410	68.23%	286	201	487	41.27%	413	
2013-14	479	918	1397	65.71%	303	197	500	39.40%	384	
2014-15	478	870	1348	64.54%	317	192	509	37.72%	385	
2015-16	472	833	1305	63.83%	309	183	492	37.20%	362	
2016-17	493	827	1320	62.65%	346	218	564	38.65%	362	
2017-18	486	803	1289	62.30%	315	201	516	38.95%	319	
2018-19	489	869	1358	63.99%	295	219	514	42.61%	305	
2019-20	519	904	1423	63.53%	314	239	553	43.22%	308	
2020-21	451	914	1365	66.96%	296	235	531	44.26%	365	
2021-22	419	831	1250	66.48%	323	231	554	41.70%	410	

10. *Champion Women* has edited the EADA data in just one instance: <https://titleixschools.com/> to remove male practice players who are counted up in the tally as “women”. These male practice players are not female athletes and have therefore been subtracted from the totals in the EADA.¹

¹ See *Champion Women* website for every college and university receiving federal funds: <https://titleixschools.com/2023/05/20/eada-data/> High school data for these schools receiving federal funds is available here: <https://titleixschools.com/2023/06/06/check-your-high-school/>

11. St. Francis does not and has not provided athletic opportunities to female students in numbers substantially proportionate to their enrollment pursuant to part one of the Title IX participation test. Women are 66.48% of the student body, but just 41.70% of the student-athletes.

12. In 2021-2022, the most recent academic year for which EADA data is available that is not corrupted by disruptions related to Covid-19, St. Francis's participation gap was 410 athletes. In other words, St. Francis must add 410 additional athletic opportunities for women in order to provide athletic opportunities substantially proportionate to enrollment; 410 additional opportunities is almost an entire athletic department; St. Francis currently only has 152 women athletes. 410 athletes is enough to start 16.5 new women's team, assuming an average team has 25 athletes – some more, some less.

13. The EADA data and evidence gathered on St. Francis's website show that St. Francis does not have a history and continuing practice of expanding athletic participation opportunities for women pursuant to Prong 2 of the Title IX participation test. See column "Women" under "Athletic Participation" above. The number of women athletes does not consistently increase over time.

14. Over the 19 academic years covered by the available EADA data, St. Francis opportunities offered for women fluctuated. St. Francis lowered opportunities for women in 2004, 2005, 2008, 2010, 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2017. After 2012, the numbers decline for four years. In 2016, the opportunities drop again. *Champion Women* does not know the history of adding sports since 1975, but it is unlikely to show a history of continuous program expansion that is demonstratively responsive to the growing interests of women in sport.

Meanwhile, the gap between men and women's equality has grown from 93 in 2003 to 392 today.

15. A review of St. Francis's website did not show any policy or procedure for adding new sports or elevating existing club sports to varsity status. Nor did it reveal any athletic gender equity plan, or any gender equity committee.

16. St. Francis sponsors 9 men's varsity sports (Baseball, Basketball, Football, Golf, Soccer, Tennis and Track & Field, Volleyball, Wrestling) providing 251 men with this educational experience, and 12 women's varsity sports (Basketball, Bowling, Golf, Lacrosse, Soccer, Softball, Tennis, Track & Field, Volleyball and Water Polo) providing this educational experience to 175 women.

17. Information available on St. Francis's website suggests that the university is not accommodating the interests and abilities of female athletes as required by part three of the Title IX participation test.

18. St. Francis women participate in the club sports of volleyball, table tennis, bass fishing, ice hockey, rugby, ultimate frisbee and wrestling. *Camps & Clinics*, St. Francis, 2023 (last visited August 2, 2023). The existence of these women’s club teams indicates that there is unmet interest in women’s athletics at St. Francis.

19. Sport Governing Bodies make it very easy to see where other competitors are located. For example, the NCAA publishes the “NCAA Sports Sponsorship and Participation Rates Report, 1956 - 2022” for schools to find competitors within the school’s normal competitive region: NCAA Sports Sponsorship and Participation Rates Report.²

20. Flag Football and Beach Volleyball are NAIA emerging sports. Wrestling and Cheer are now a full sports.

21. A review of the St. Francis website does not reveal that St. Francis undertook any athletic interest surveys or other research into interest and competition to support the addition of women’s varsity sports. While surveys are never sufficient to deny women sports opportunities, they are often helpful in determining *which sports* the school should add.

22. St. Francis is a member of the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference (CCAC), an NAIA Division I conference. Members are from a four-state area, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, with an affiliate member in Wisconsin. This expansive competitive geographic region will offer many competitive opportunities for sport, for which women have expressed interest and ability.

² See

https://ncaaorg.s3.amazonaws.com/research/sportpart/2022RES_SportsSponsorshipParticipationRatesReport.pdf

See individual sports’ governing bodies for more, e.g.,

Women’s College Rugby: <https://www.urugby.com/teams/womens-teams>

Collegiate Equestrian: <https://collegiateequestrian.com/sports/2020/5/6/schools.aspx>

Women’s Collegiate Wrestling: <https://wrestlelikeagirl.org/college-opportunities>

Collegiate Competitive Cheer Teams: <https://www.ncsasports.org/cheerleading/colleges> (not to be confused with sideline cheerleading)

Women’s Collegiate Triathlon: <https://www.usatriathlon.org/multisport/ncaa-triathlon>

Collegiate Sailing is governed by the Inter-Collegiate Sailing Association (ICSA) with 220 schools: <https://www.collegesailing.org/about/overview>

Women’s Collegiate Ice Hockey: <https://www.uscho.com/teams/#d1women>

Collegiate Field Hockey: <https://www.teamusa.org/USA-Field-Hockey/PLAYERS/College/Team-Websites>

Collegiate Synchronized/ Artistic Swimming: <https://www.collegexpress.com/lists/list/colleges-with-notable-synchronized-swimming-teams/581/>

Collegiate Bowling - <https://collegebowling.bowl.com/teams>

Collegiate Rifle - <https://competitions.nra.org/competitions/nra-national-matches/collegiate-championships/collegiate-shooting-sports-directory/>

Collegiate Skiing – <https://www.uscsa.org/>

Collegiate Water Polo - <https://collegiatewaterpolo.org/>

Collegiate Women’s Gymnastics <https://www.ncaa.com/sports/gymnastics-women>

23. St. Francis is in Illinois, where high school girls play Badminton, Field Hockey, Flag Football, Gymnastics, Swimming & Diving, Water Polo and Weightlifting and Wrestling, sports St. Francis does not offer for women, even though the state could offer a steady supply of women interested and athletically able to compete in these sports.

<https://www.nfhsnetwork.com/states/IL>

In Indiana, high school girls compete in Flag Football and Wrestling, two sports Saint Francis does not offer for women, even though the state could offer a steady supply of women interested and athletically able to compete in these sports.

<https://www.nfhsnetwork.com/states/IN>

In Iowa, high school girls compete in Swimming & Diving, Weightlifting and Wrestling, All sports St. Francis does not offer women.

High school-age girls in the Illinois, Indiana and Iowa and Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference competitive geographic region also compete in club sports, travel teams, sports, not associated with schools, like Basketball, Soccer, Golf, Tennis, and Track & Field, Wrestling, Badminton, Cycling, Table Tennis, Team Handball, Speedskating, Sailing, Field Hockey, Fencing, Swimming & Diving, Skateboarding, Water Polo, Archery, Field Hockey, Rifle, Triathlon, Ice Hockey, Sport Climbing, Artistic Swimming, Skiing, Snowboarding, Equestrian, Gymnastics, Rowing, Rugby, and all sorts of combat sports, like Judo, Karate, and Taekwondo, to name a few.

These sports in the competitive geographic area demonstrate that women are athletically ready, and they have expressed enormous demand to compete in sports, that that the demand for women's sports is unmet.

24. The failure to provide women with equal opportunities to play impacts the availability of athletic scholarship dollars for women. These are important sources of funding for educational attainment that women are being denied because of their sex. If University of St. Francis provided its male and female students with the same opportunities to participate, St. Francis would need to add **\$3,510,906** additional athletic scholarship dollars, to balance out the amount St. Francis provides to its male students.

25. If, for some reason, the OCR determines that St. Francis is, in fact, not discriminating against women in providing opportunities in sport, then St. Francis would still need to provide its women students participating in sports with **\$187,702.59** more in athletic scholarship aid, to match the amount St. Francis provides its male athletes.

26. St. Francis's EADA data further indicates that the university provides inadequate and unequal funding for recruitment of female athletes. In 2021-2022, St. Francis spent \$8,275 on men's recruitment and only \$2,920 on women's recruitment; women were allocated only 26.08 percent of the recruiting budget even though they account for 41.7 percent of the athletic population and 66.48 percent of the full-time undergraduate population. If the University of St. Francis provided its male and female students with the same opportunities to participate, St. Francis would need to add **\$69,701** additional recruiting dollars, to balance out the amount St. Francis provides to its male students.

27. If, for some reason, the OCR determines that St. Francis is, in fact, not discriminating against women in providing opportunities in sport, St. Francis would still need to provide its women's sports teams – and women's coaches – with **\$1,678** more recruiting dollars in order to be consistent with the school's investment in men's sports.

IV. LEGAL ALLEGATIONS

28. Title IX provides that “[n]o person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.” 20 U.S.C. §1681(a).

29. Title IX regulations prohibit athletic programs from discriminating on the basis of sex in interscholastic, intercollegiate, club or intramural athletics offered by the institution. 34 C.F.R. §106.41(a) (2000).

30. Title IX regulations require institutions that offer athletics programs to provide equal athletic opportunities to members of both sexes to participate in athletics. 34 C.F.R. §106.41(c)(1).

31. Pursuant to the 1979 Title IX Policy Interpretation, compliance with Title IX's equal athletic participation requirement is measured by determining whether the educational institution meets one part of the following three-part test:

1. Prong 1: Whether intercollegiate level participation opportunities for male and female students are provided in numbers substantially proportionate to their respective enrollments; or
2. Prong 2: Where the members of one sex have been and are underrepresented among intercollegiate athletes, whether the institution can show a history and continuing practice of program expansion which is demonstrably responsive to the developing interests and abilities of the members of that sex; or
3. Prong 3: Where the members of one sex are underrepresented among intercollegiate athletes, and the institution cannot show a history and continuing practice of program expansion, as described above, whether it can be demonstrated that the interests and abilities of the members of that sex have been fully and effectively accommodated by the present program.

United States Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Office for Civil Rights, *Policy Interpretation; Title IX and Intercollegiate Athletics*, 44 Fed. Reg. 71413 (Dec. 11, 1979) [hereinafter *Policy Interpretation*].

32. In determining substantial proportionality under part one of the three-part test, OCR considers the number of opportunities that would have to be added to achieve proportionality and whether it would be sufficient to support another team. If there are a significant number of unaccommodated women, it is likely that a viable sport could be added and therefore the institution has not satisfied part one of the three-part test. United States Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, *Clarification of Intercollegiate Athletics Policy Guidance: the Three-Part Test* (Jan. 16, 1996) [hereinafter *1996 Clarification*].

33. In determining whether certain sports “count” for Title IX purposes, the OCR will inquire “Whether the regular season competitive opportunities differ quantitatively and/or qualitatively from established varsity sports; whether the team competes against intercollegiate or interscholastic varsity opponents in a manner consistent with established varsity sports;” and “whether the primary purpose of the activity is to provide athletic competition at the intercollegiate or interscholastic varsity levels rather than to support or promote other athletic activities. When analyzing this factor, the following may be taken into consideration:

- a. Whether the activity is governed by a specific set of rules of play adopted by a state, national, or conference organization and/or consistent with established varsity sports, which include objective, standardized criteria by which competition must be judged;
- b. Whether resources for the activity (e.g., practice and competition schedules, coaching staff) are based on the competitive needs of the team;
- c. If post-season competition opportunities are available, whether participation in post-season competition is dependent on or related to regular season results in a manner consistent with established varsity sports; and
- d. Whether the selection of teams/participants is based on factors related primarily to athletic ability.

For more, please see *Letter from Stephanie Monroe, Assistant Sec’y for Civil Rights, Dear Colleague Letter: Athletic Activities Counted for Title IX Compliance*, (Sept. 17, 2008) (“2008 OCR Letter”) Available at: <http://www2.ed.gov/print/about/offices/list/ocr/letters/colleague-20080917.html>

34. In 1975, schools were given three years to be in compliance with the equal participation mandate under Title IX. Schools had only one year to end sex-discrimination in all other areas of Title IX’s non-discrimination mandate. Only athletics gave schools three years to add athletic opportunities and to stop discriminating against women – or until 1978. That deadline passed 45 years ago. 34 C.F.R. §106.41(d).³

³ 34 C.F.R. §106.41(d) “*Adjustment period*. A recipient which operates or sponsors interscholastic, intercollegiate, club or intramural athletics at the elementary school level shall comply fully with this section as *Champion Women, Sex Discrimination in Athletics in Violation of Title IX, 2023*

It is worth noting how odd Prong 2 is as a legal test, in comparison to other non-discrimination civil rights. For a school to be able to argue that it is still playing catch-up with non-discrimination – exists nowhere else in law. This is especially true 51 years after the passage of Title IX, and 48 years after the passage of the regulations OCR depends on, regulations that were passed by Congress. When a school uses Prong 2, it is admitting that it is not providing women with equal educational opportunities, but that their actions are acceptable, because the school is “improving.” Title IX’s Prong 2 allows schools to provide girls and women with less.

35. Therefore, it is understandable that Prong 2 is a strict legal test. In determining whether an institution has a history and continuing practice of expansion under Prong 2 of the three-part test, OCR reviews the entire history of the athletic program and evaluates whether the institution has expanded participation opportunities for the underrepresented sex in a manner that was demonstrably responsive to their developing interests and abilities, considering a number of factors, including:

- an institution’s record of adding intercollegiate teams, or upgrading teams to intercollegiate status, for the underrepresented sex;
- an institution’s record of increasing the numbers of participants in intercollegiate athletics who are members of the underrepresented sex;
- an institution’s affirmative responses to requests by students or others for addition or elevation of sports; and
- whether the institution has effective ongoing procedures for collecting, maintaining and analyzing information on the interest and abilities of students of the underrepresented sex, including monitoring athletic participation, and assessing interest and ability on a periodic basis.

United States Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, *Intercollegiate Athletics Policy Clarification: The Three-Part Test- Part Three* (Apr. 20, 2010) [hereinafter *2010 Clarification*]; *1996 Clarification*.

36. In determining whether an institution has a continuing practice of program expansion under Prong 2, OCR will consider a number of factors, including:

- an institution’s current implementation of a non-discriminatory policy or procedure for requesting the addition of sports (including the elevation of club or intramural teams) and the effective communication of the policy or procedure to students;
- an institution’s current implementation of a plan of program expansion that is responsive to developing interests and abilities; and

expeditiously as possible but in no event later than one year from the effective date of this regulation. A recipient which operates or sponsors interscholastic, intercollegiate, club or intramural athletics at the secondary or post-secondary school level shall comply fully with this section as expeditiously as possible but in no event later than three years from the effective date of this regulation.”

- an institution's efforts to monitor developing interests and abilities of the underrepresented sex, for example, by conducting periodic nondiscriminatory assessments of developing interests and abilities and taking timely actions in response to the results.

2010 Clarification, 1996 Clarification.

37. OCR will not find a history and continuing practice of program expansion where an institution increases the proportional participation opportunities for the underrepresented sex by reducing opportunities for the overrepresented sex alone or by reducing participation opportunities for the overrepresented sex to a proportionately greater degree than for the underrepresented sex. *2010 Clarification, 1996 Clarification.*

38. Courts have found that schools must have both a history *and* continuing practice of expanding opportunities for women for Prong 2 compliance. *Mansourian v. Bd. Of Regents of Univ. of Cal.*, 594 F. 3d 1095, 1108. (9th Cir. Cal. 2010).

39. Prong 3 of the three-part test requires an examination of whether there is an unmet interest in a particular sport, a sufficient ability to sustain a team in the sport, and a reasonable expectation for competition for a team in the sport. *2010 Clarification, 1996 Clarification.*

40. Whether there is unmet interest and ability will be determined by examining a broad range of indicators, including whether the institution uses non-discriminatory methods of assessing interest and ability, the elimination of a viable team for the unrepresented sex, multiple indicators of interest and ability, and frequency of conducting assessments. *2010 Clarification.*

41. Sufficient interest can be established by student requests to add a sport or elevate a club sport, increases in club or intramural sport participation, responses to interviews and interest surveys, assessments of student athletic participation before entering the institution or in the secondary schools from which the university draws its students, and assessments of participation in intercollegiate sports in the institution's normal competitive regions. *Id.*

42. Ability may be established by the athletic accomplishments and competitive experience of club sports and admitted students, the opinions of coaches, administrators, and athletes, and student participation in other sports. *Id.*

43. Expectation of competition may be established through athletic opportunities offered by other schools with which the school competes or opportunities at other schools in the school's geographic area, including those against which the institution does not compete. *Id.*

44. Under Prong 3 of the three-part test, OCR will also examine an institution's recruitment practices. If an institution recruits potential student-athletes for its men's teams, OCR will examine whether the institution is providing women's teams with substantially equal opportunities to recruit potential student-athletes. *Id.*

45. Title IX also requires schools to provide equal scholarship dollars, in proportion to the number of students of each sex participating in athletics. 34 C.F.R. §106.37(c) (2000). NAIA limits on scholarships per team is not a legal defense; schools cannot blame a third-party for sex discrimination; recipients are responsible for equality. Schools choose which sports to sponsor, and some schools have chosen scholarship-dense sports for men, such as football and basketball, and scholarship-light sports for women, such as track.

46. Title IX also requires equal opportunity in the recruitment of student-athletes where equal athletic opportunities are not present for male and female students. Compliance will be assessed by examining the recruitment practices of the athletic programs for both sexes and evaluating whether the financial and other resources made available for recruitment in male and female athletic programs are equivalently adequate to meet the needs of each program. *1979 Policy Interpretation*.

47. Title IX requires schools to provide women with equal treatment, including equipment and supplies; game and practice times; travel and per diem allowances; coaching and academic tutoring; assignment and compensation of coaches and tutors; locker rooms, practice and competitive facilities; medical and training facilities and services; housing and dining facilities and services; and publicity. 34 C.F.R. §106.41(a) (2000), *Policy Interpretation*.

48. Lack of money is not a legal defense to sex discrimination. *See, e.g., Roberts Colorado State Univ.*, 814 F. Supp. 1507, 1518 (D. Colo. 1993) (“[A] financial crisis cannot justify gender discrimination.”); *Favia v Indiana University of Pennsylvania*, 812 F. Supp. 578, 585 (W.D. Pa. 1993) (finding that financial concerns alone cannot justify gender discrimination); *Cook v. Colgate University*, 802 F. Supp. 737, 750 (1992) (“[I]f schools could use financial concerns as a sole reason for disparity of treatment, Title IX would become meaningless.”); *Haffer v. Temple*, 678 F. Supp. 517, 520 (1987) (finding that financial concerns alone cannot justify gender discrimination).

49. Monies and in-kind benefits from third-party sources, such as donors, sponsorships, television rights, ticket sales, and student fees, are not a defense to a sex discrimination charge, whether those resources were used to build facilities, fund scholarships, provide equipment and uniforms, or any other benefit of sports participation. None of those sources of money creates a legal defense against sex discrimination. Schools must ensure that their students are not receiving second-class educational opportunities because they are female. *See* 20 U.S.C. § 1687 (2005); *See* Office for Civil Rights, *Department of Education, Further Clarification of Intercollegiate Athletics Policy Guidance Regarding Title IX Compliance* (June 11, 2003), *Cohen v. Brown Univ.*, 809 F. Supp. 978, 996 (D.R.I. 1992) (concluding that “all monies spent by Brown’s Athletic Department, whether originating from university coffers or from the Sports Foundation [booster club] must be evaluated as a whole under § 106.41(c)”)

50. It is *Champion Women’s* experience that most athletes and former athletes are acutely aware of all the ways they are treated as second-class within their athletics department, because they are women. As NIL monies become more available, equal promotion and publicity

will be important for female athletes. *Champion Women* asked current collegiate athletes what equality would look like under this list. Here's what the athletes came up with:

- i. Men's and Women's sports would be equally featured, with equal prominence, on school and Athletic Department websites and social media.
- ii. Schools would invest equally in cameras and production equipment for Women's and Men's sports.
- iii. Schools would optimize Google searches for their Men's and Women's teams to receive equal search results.
- iv. Women's and Men's sports would employ an equal caliber of talent in their sports information and marketing departments, and they would be paid and promoted equally.
- v. Women's and Men's sports jerseys, apparel and memorabilia would be equally and easily accessible.
- vi. The needs of Women's teams would not revolve around Men's football and men's basketball teams.
- vii. The Women's and Men's teams would have equal access to dining halls, nutrition, etc. at times equally convenient to both teams.
- viii. Men's and Women's teams would have equal access to optimal practice times when they share facilities.
- ix. Men's and Women's sports marketing efforts would focus on performance; Broadcasters and schools would not focus on a woman athlete's appearance or sexuality.
- x. Women's and Men's medical care and athletic training access would be equal; Neither male nor female athletes would have priority accessing these resources.
- xi. Schools would hire competition officials of the same quality, with equal compensation, for the Women's and Men's teams.
- xii. Men's and Women's sports performance staff would be equal and would be paid and promoted comparably.
- xiii. Schools would intentionally use language that equally prioritizes Men's and Women's sports.
 1. Teams would be referred to as "Women's Basketball" and "Men's Basketball."
 2. "Basketball" would not be used to refer to Men's Basketball.
 3. Schools would have Social Media handles that referred to men's and women's teams; "Oregon Soccer" would be changed to "Oregon Men's Soccer."

51. St. Francis's own data, as outlined in the Factual Allegations above, demonstrate that it is not providing equal opportunities for its female students to participate in sports under Title IX's three-part participation test, in addition to equal scholarship, treatment and benefits, as outlined in Title IX.

V. RELIEF REQUESTED

52. *Champion Women* expects OCR investigators will find additional violations of Title IX, the law guaranteeing women equal educational opportunities, including athletics. *Champion Women* requests that OCR:

- a. Investigate the University of St. Francis to determine whether the university is discriminating against women. This would include whether it is providing female students with equal participation opportunities in varsity athletics, equal and proportionate athletic scholarship dollars, and are receiving equal treatment, including equal recruiting budgets.
- b. Take all necessary steps to remedy any unlawful conduct that you identify in your investigation, as required by Title IX and its implementing regulations.
- c. If any violations are found, secure assurances of compliance with Title IX from the St. Francis, that include full remedies for all the violations found.
- d. Among other steps to achieve compliance with Title IX, require St. Francis to add more athletic opportunities for women, accord to additional teams and athletes the full range of benefits accorded to men's varsity teams and athletes, increase athletic scholarship and recruiting budgets and opportunities, and adopt and implement a plan to achieve compliance with Title IX.
- e. Monitor any resulting agreement with the University of St. Francis to ensure that the school achieves compliance with Title IX, now and in the future.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy Hogshead, J.D., OLY
September 25, 2023

