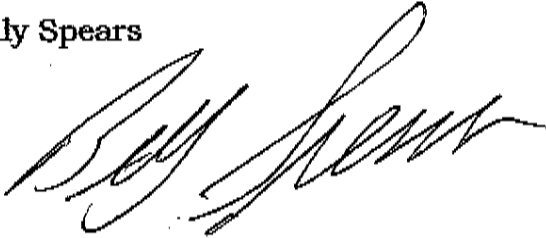


PUBLIC STATEMENT BY BILLY SPEARS

Dear friends and supporters,

I have been overwhelmed by the kindness and the encouragement that I have received from so many people, most of them strangers. I am honored and grateful, and I hope that you will not interpret my silence as a lack of gratitude. I have not spoken publicly or given any interviews because I do not want to be accused of violating any DPS rules or policies. I hope you understand. Thank you again.

/s/ Billy Spears

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Billy Spears". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "B".