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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**ALBANY MIDDLE SCHOOL 6TH GRADE TEACHER
JAMES IZUMIZAKI
ALBANY POLICE DEPARTMENT'S INVESTIGATION CONCLUDED**

Albany, CA MARCH 12, 2013 – Albany Unified School District (AUSD) would like to alert the community to the fact that Albany Police Department has concluded its investigation in the James Izumizaki case.

The following correspondence was provided by Albany Police Department on March 12, 2013:



Albany Police Department
1000 San Pablo Ave.
Albany, CA 94706
510-525-7300
Michael McQuiston - Chief of Police



March 12, 2013

Marla Stephenson, Superintendent
Albany Unified School District
1051 Monroe St.
Albany, CA 94706

Dear Marla:

As you know, after receiving mandatory notification from the AUSD, on September 25, 2012 the Albany Police Department began an investigation into allegations of an inappropriate relationship between Albany Middle School teacher Mr. James Izumizaki and a juvenile victim; that investigation has now come to a conclusion. I know you're familiar with the facts of the initial report and investigation (all of which are in the public domain and have been previously reported by various news media) so I don't feel any need to recap them for you here. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide you with information concerning the criminal investigation of one of your employees that began shortly before his untimely death.

The Albany Police investigation has revealed that Mr. Izumizaki engaged in unlawful sexual activity involving two juvenile students. The date range of the offenses known to police ranged from April through September of 2012. These crimes took place at Albany Middle School, at Mr. Izumizaki's residence on Peralta Ave., and in his vehicles in both Albany and Berkeley. Apart from the corroborating statements of his victims and witnesses, various digital media stand alone as incontrovertible evidence of Mr. Izumizaki's involvement: among the evidence recovered from Mr. Izumizaki's personal telephones and home computers were video recordings and images that constitute sexually explicit evidence of the crimes under investigation.

Evidence of additional crimes was also discovered, specifically: possession of child pornography unrelated to the matter under investigation by Albany Police, and the unlawful recording of surreptitious voyeuristic videos of adults and juveniles. None of the criminal evidence we recovered was found on the AUSD computer used by Mr.

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1000 San Pablo Ave.

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Izumizaki at AMS when it was searched as part of this investigation; moreover no other AUSD employees appear to have been involved in or knowledgeable of these crimes.

I recognize that the initial arrest and the length of the ensuing investigation have been difficult and at times disruptive to the AUSD staff and students. I can only offer that the length of time necessary to conclude this investigation is a reflection of the seriousness with which we receive and pursue these types of reports, and the amount of data we recovered in this particular case. With the technical assistance of the Alameda County Sheriff's Office Criminalistics Laboratory, the Child Abuse Listening, Interviewing and Coordination Center, and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, Albany Police executed nine search warrants, analyzed data extracted from seven cellular telephones and four personal computers and conducted over 30 interviews. I hope this helps put the length of our investigation into perspective. As I have previously said, it was important to recover as much of the digital evidence as possible to protect the victims and prevent it from being perpetually obtainable via the Internet; I believe we were successful in this regard.

We have advised the Coroner's office that they are clear to release their report regarding Mr. Izumizaki's suicide (it is a public document). You have previously asked me to release "all of the evidence" found in our investigation, however the investigation report and associated documents will not be released. I realize that you may have lingering questions and as always you can call me anytime. I know this has been a divisive issue. With the closure of our investigation of James Izumizaki, it is my sincere hope that the AUSD school community can continue the healing that began late last year and move forward from these events. Let me know if you think we here at APD can assist you in that process.

Sincerely,

Mike McQuiston

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AUSD has arranged for Mental Health personnel to provide support as needed at school sites beginning March 13, 2013.

AUSD has no further information. **Please direct all questions to Albany Police Department at (510) 558-7300.**

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