



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Monica R. Martinez

## Avenging “Revenge Porn” Exploitation

MONICA R. MARTINEZ May 10, 2024

| ISSUE: **REVENGE PORN, REVENGE PORN VICTIMS, VICTIM LAWSUIT**



Senator Martinez’s legislation empowered victims to find justice following intimate video release. Two victims of “Revenge Porn” have found justice through a 2019 [law](#) sponsored by New York State Senator Monica R. Martinez. The rulings issued in Nassau County by Acting Supreme Court Justice Felice Muraca awarded a total of \$3.4 million in damages plus attorney fees to two women. Their separate intimate encounters with a Long Island resident while visiting Jamaica were recorded and posted online, in violation of the state’s law prohibiting the dissemination and publication of explicit and intimate images without

consent. According to the lawsuits, the consequences of the recordings made and released in 2020 are still causing the victims to suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder and damages to their personal and professional reputations.

“With intimacy comes trust, and when that trust is broken, the repercussions can be enduring,” said Senator Martinez. “The ‘Revenge Porn’ law I introduced was intended to prevent individuals from having their consensual personal encounters weaponized against them. With this ruling, we see the cost for perpetrators who violate that trust.”

Senator Martinez began her work to protect victims of 'Revenge Porn' during her tenure with the Suffolk County Legislature, where she passed a ban on the dissemination and publication of explicit and intimate images without consent. After joining the state, Senator Martinez led the historic 2019 effort to criminalize coercion statewide through the non-consensual release of intimate images and videos, providing the legal framework for the lawsuits decided by the Nassau County Supreme Court.

As a follow-up to her initial bill, Senator Martinez is calling for an [expansion of protections](#) under the state’s “Revenge Porn” law to include the making of a threat to disseminate such material in order to harm another person. Currently, the proposal is pending in both the Senate and Assembly. If enacted, violators could face up to one year in jail and fines.

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#### RELATED LEGISLATION

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### **2019-S1719C**

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- Introduced

- ○ In Committee Assembly
  - In Committee Senate
- ○ On Floor Calendar Assembly
  - On Floor Calendar Senate
- ○ Passed Assembly
  - Passed Senate
- Delivered to Governor
- Signed By Governor
- 

Establishes the crime of unlawful dissemination or publication of an intimate image

January 15, 2019

Senate Floor Calendar

Sponsored by [Monica R. Martinez](#)

Do you support this bill?

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**2023-S7881**

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- Introduced

- ○ In Committee Assembly
  - In Committee Senate
- ○ On Floor Calendar Assembly
  - On Floor Calendar Senate
- ○ Passed Assembly
  - Passed Senate
- Delivered to Governor
- Signed By Governor
- 

Relates to a threat to share an intimate image

January 03, 2024

In Assembly Committee

Sponsored by **Monica R. Martinez**

Do you support this bill?