



Roy Payan and Portia Mason (third and fourth from the left) are plaintiffs in a lawsuit against the L.A. Community College District. They want the district to make the education of visually impaired and blind students more accessible.

DISABLED STUDENTS SPEAK OUT

A lawsuit filled in 2017 by disabled students at L.A. City College returns to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals after three months of failed negotiations.

Roy Payan and Portia Mason are plaintiffs in the lawsuit.

Patricia Barbosa, the plaintiffs' lawyer said in late March that she could not divulge any details.

"Yes we continue to negotiate but I can't discuss anything raised in mediation," Barbosa said. "When we come to a decision LACCD Board of Trustees will have to vote on it and the vote will be public."

Students alleged in their lawsuit that the college failed to provide textbooks, handouts and classroom materials in a format that blind students could use.

The district argues that what happened at City is "unintentional discrimination."

Payan says that the district did not agree with his requests during negotiations.

You are invited into the world of Roy Payan and Portia Mason as they talk about their challenges as they pursue their education.

BY SORINA SZAKACS



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