

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Parents, Wife of Angels Pitcher Tyler Skaggs File Wrongful-Death Lawsuits in Texas, Calif.**

Complaints name MLB team, two former high-level officials as defendants

FORT WORTH and LOS ANGELES (June 29, 2021) – The parents and wife of former Los Angeles Angels pitcher Tyler Skaggs today filed lawsuits in Texas and California, charging two former high-level employees and the Major League Baseball team with negligence, gross negligence and wrongful death.

Named as defendants in the complaints are three entities that own or control the Angels and former Angels Communications Directors Tim Mead and Eric Kay

Skaggs died in a South Lake, Texas, hotel room on July 1, 2019. The Tarrant County Medical Examiner listed the cause of death as “mixed ethanol, fentanyl and oxycodone intoxication with terminal aspiration of gastric contents.”

After determining that it was Kay who supplied the pill that killed Skaggs, a federal grand jury in Texas last October charged Kay with conspiracy to possess with intention to distribute a controlled substance, and distribution of a controlled substance resulting in death and serious bodily injury. Kay’s trial is set to begin on Aug. 16. If convicted, he faces a sentence of 20 years to life in prison.

“As you might expect, the decision to file these complaints has been a very difficult one for Tyler’s parents and his wife,” said Rusty Hardin, founder and President of Rusty Hardin & Associates, a Houston law firm. “Nothing will ease the pain and heartache of losing their only child and, for Carli, her husband and soulmate. But they want to get to the bottom of the circumstances surrounding

Tyler’s tragic, untimely and completely avoidable death, and to hold the individuals and entities – including the Angels – accountable for the actions that contributed to it.

“As the federal grand jury indictment made plainly and painfully clear, were it not for the fentanyl in the counterfeit pill provided by Angels employee Eric Kay, Tyler would be alive today. And if the Angels had done a better job of supervising Eric Kay, Tyler would be alive today.”

Both complaints seek a jury trial and unspecified damages to be determined at trial. The complaints were filed in Tarrant County District Court in Fort Worth and in Los Angeles County Superior Court. Copies of both complaints are attached.

Mr. Hardin and the family respectfully decline to comment beyond today’s filings and this notice.

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