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**Updated Guitar Center Statement for Moreno Valley Customers and Associates:**

We are profoundly saddened by this situation and we are sorry for any trauma that customers, employees and anyone else may be feeling as a result. The safety of our customers and associates is our top priority.

It is our policy to do background checks on all of our associates before they are hired. In this case, we used a professional outside firm to perform the background check. While there have been news reports that the former employee in question was allegedly convicted of a burglary nine years ago, that alleged conviction was not flagged in the background check because California law limits background checks to seven years.

Our professional outside firm also ran searches before the former employee was hired that confirmed he was not listed on the national sex offender registry.

We have been in contact with law enforcement and are cooperating fully with them to provide all the information we have at this point. Additionally, we are conducting a thorough internal investigation that is being supervised by a former federal prosecutor.

We encourage anyone with any information on this case to reach out to the Riverside Police Department at 951-353-7136.

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