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Scouts to turn over files in Calif. sex abuse case

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BY MSNBC.COM STAFF AND NEWS SERVICES

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. -- A judge has ordered the Boy Scouts of America to hand over all confidential files detailing allegations of sexual abuse by Scout leaders nationwide.

According to The Los Angeles Times, a Santa Barbara judge overseeing a lawsuit brought by the family of a California boy molested by his troop leader said the Irving, Texas-based organization must turn over the most recent 20 years' worth of records by Feb. 24.

Known as "ineligible volunteer files," the documents are intended to keep those accused of misconduct out of the Scouts.

Scout officials dispute that the files have been used to conceal abuse.

"These files exist solely to keep out individuals whose actions are inconsistent with the standards of Scouting, and Scouts are safer because of them," Deron Smith, public relations director of Boy Scouts of America, told the Times.

The trial is scheduled for April, nearly five years after the boy, then 13, was molested by volunteer troop leader Al Stein in Santa Barbara County. Stein pleaded no contest in 2009 and is in prison.

The mother of teen says her child suffers to this day.

"Stein used his 450 pounds to pin the boy with sufficient force to cause bruising, ripped the boy's pants down to the point the boy suffered a laceration at his belt line, and then fondled the boy's genitals while commenting on them," according to the lawsuit.

When the boy told his mother about the abuse, she called the Scouts. She told the Times she called the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department after a local Scouts executive told her to not call police.

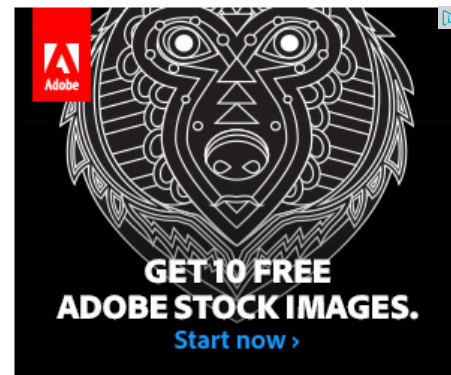
"He said that wasn't necessary, because the Scouts do their own internal investigation," the mother told the Times. Her name is being withheld to protect her son's identity. "I thought that was really weird.... I thought it was really important to call the sheriff right away."

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

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DISCUSSIONS



eltdown69

#1

LGBT's, GLAAD, NAMBLA, push hard to be teachers, scout leaders, clergy and adoption

REPLY SHARE REPORT

6 replies



Hoosierdaddy

#1.1

Being lesbian, gay, bisexual, or trans gendered has very little to do with child molesting. As little as being straight does. Some child molesters/rapists prefer children of the same sex some prefer children of the opposite sex. Many child molesters are married men and women. Using you logic marriage causes child molesting.

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GAIL20

#1.2

friend's mother-in-law earned \$19006 a month ago. she been working on the internet and moved in a \$516500 house. All she did was get blessed and apply the advice explained on this web page..MakeCash2.com

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Studentofscience

#1.3

Spin it all you want, the American Psychological Association has noted that heterosexual child molesters are far more common. Your going after an unrelated group does nothing to invalidate that an organization that prides itself on "traditional values" and bans gays is full of child molesters and has a leadership that works to cover up abuse. It's obvious who's morally bankrupt here.

REPLY SHARE REPORT



DanielSC

#1.4

A 1994 study, led by Carole Jenny of the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, surveyed 269 cases of children who were sexually molested by adults. In 82 percent of cases, the alleged offender was a heterosexual partner of a close relative of the child, the researchers reported in the journal Pediatrics. In only two out of 269 cases, the offender was identified as being gay or lesbian. A pedophile is a pedophile no matter straight or LGBT.