

PRESS RELEASE
Re: Boy Scouts of America

Lawyers representing three men who, as children from Buffalo, N.Y. attending a Boy Scout camp in the County of Haliburton, Ontario were sexually molested by one of their leaders, today caused a lawsuit to be issued out of the Superior Court of Justice for Ontario at Lindsay, Ontario.

Barrie, Ontario civil litigator Andrew R. Kerr, working with lawyer Geoffrey E. Budden of Mount Pearl, Newfoundland and Labrador, represents the Plaintiffs. Mr. Kerr has practiced law since 1989 and has successfully litigated 300 cases in appearances before Trial and Appellate Courts in Ontario and before the Supreme Court of Canada. Mr. Budden has represented hundreds of survivors of sexual assault in claims for justice and financial compensation, most particularly in Newfoundland and Labrador and in Nunavut.

The three plaintiffs in the present case were, in 1967, innocent young boy scouts with the Buffalo-area Troop 335. That troop was part of the Greater Niagara Frontier Council of the Boy Scouts of America, which owned Camp Northern Lights, situated in the County of Haliburton, and which regularly ran scouting camps there. During that week in July, 1967 each of these young boys endured persistent and harrowing acts of sexual abuse at the hands of their scout leader Richard Martin, who is now deceased. As a result of the sexual abuse they experienced our clients have suffered serious and life-long injuries.

The Boy Scouts of America has had a problem with the sexual abuse of its scouts by its adult leaders since its founding shortly after the turn of the twentieth century. In a 2010 Portland, Oregon trial, which resulted in an almost 20 million dollar verdict against the Boy Scouts of America on behalf of a scout who was molested in the early 1980's, it was revealed that the BSA had maintained secret files on sexually abusive scout leaders. These files, dubbed the "Perversion Files" by the BSA, represented decades of the BSA's knowledge of sexual abuse in Scouting. The problem of sexual abuse in Scouting is not limited to the BSA. In 2012, CBC program the Fifth Estate

reported that Scouts Canada had maintained confidential files on scout leaders who sexually abused scouts.

For further information or interviews, please contact:

Mr. Andrew R. Kerr
Kerr Lawyers
263 Dunlop Street West
Barrie, ON
Telephone No. (705) 727-1700

or

Mr. Geoffrey E. Budden
Budden, Morris
184 Park Avenue
Mount Pearl, NL
A1N 1K8
Telephone No. (709) 747-0077
(709) 685-1766 (cell)