

DATE February 3, 1987

FULL NAME Frank G. Diminuco SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER [REDACTED]
(No initials if you can possibly get full name)

ADDRESS [REDACTED]

CITY Syracuse STATE New York ZIP CODE 13204

DATE OF BIRTH 9/21/37 (This is important and should be exact)

APPROXIMATE AGE (To be used ONLY when date of birth is not known)

RELIGION Roman Catholic NATIONALITY

OCCUPATION Special Education Teacher

EDUCATION Master's Degree Education - Credits toward Doctorate in Speech Therapy

WEIGHT 190 lbs. HEIGHT 5' 10" RACE Caucasian

COLOR OF HAIR Dark Brown - Bald on top COLOR OF EYES Brown

OUTSTANDING CHARACTERISTICS OR INTERESTS Full beard, moustache

MARRIED OR SINGLE Single CHILDREN (Number, ages, and names, if possible)

NAME OF SPOUSE

SCOUTING CONNECTIONS:

UNIT #	CITY	STATE	POSITION	DATE REGISTERED	DATE RESIGNED
#010644					
Troop 76	Syracuse,	New York	SM	10/66	10/27/86
SPECIAL RECOGNITION	District Award of Merit/Silver Beaver/Jamboree Leader				

SUSPENDED OR DENIED REGISTRATION FOR FOLLOWING REASONS:

Under investigation for possible sexual abuse. Accusation of sexual abuse by former Scout.

SPECIFY THE FACTS WHICH LEAD YOU TO RECOMMEND DENIAL OF REGISTRATION AND LIST ATTACHED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS (STATE ONLY KNOWN FACTS, NOT RUMOR, CONJECTURE OR SPECULATION):

STARON Added to CF files

NOTED

9 1987 delete from all Registrations files

MAY 29 '87

Signed SCOUT EXECUTIVE

JOSEPH L. ANGLIM

Council Hicksville #373

RS-509
4/14/83-nah

2-11-87
cm

June 8, 1987

Mr. Donald F. Blacker
Scout Executive
Hiawatha Council, No. 373

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Frank G. DiMinnico

Dear Don:

Thank you for the detailed information concerning the above Scouter. We have reviewed this case with our attorney and have now placed this man on the Confidential File.

Sincerely,

Paul Ernst, Director
Registration & Subscription Service

PE/eaK

cc: Northeast Region

READY TO FILE
JUN 08 1987
ERIN O'RILEY



CLARENCE
HARDY JR

HIAWATHA COUNCIL, INC., Boy Scouts of America

600 W. Genesee St., Syracuse, NY 13204 • 315-474-8574

April 6, 1987

Mr. Paul Ernst, Director
Registration & Subscription
Boy Scouts of America
1325 Walnut Hill Lane
Irving, TX 75038--3096

Dear Paul:

The enclosed copy of an April 5, 1987 newspaper article is about Frank Diminuco (although his name is not mentioned in the article). I do not know what will happen from here. I do feel that we were treated fairly well in this article anyway.

One other piece of information you may not have in your file is Mr. Diminuco's social security number. It is [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Donald F. Blacker
Scout Executive

dfb/mz
Enclosure



Paul -
See your files
Don Blacker

Post Standard - April 28, 1987

Board Pays Teacher to Quit, Cites Alleged Misconduct

By CAROL L. CLEAVELAND

The Syracuse Board of Education voted Monday to accept the resignation of a teacher who has worked for the district 18 years, following what school officials say were serious charges of misconduct against the teacher.

Superintendent Lionel R. Meno said the district wanted to dismiss special education teacher Frank G. Diminuco on charges of misconduct and conduct unbecoming a teacher.

"We didn't want him teaching in our schools or anywhere in the state," Meno said.

Meno and board members would not say Monday what type of incidents Di-

minuco is alleged to have been involved in.

District officials learned of the misconduct charges in October, at which time Diminuco was transferred from his classroom position at Nottingham High School to a clerical job in the district's main offices.

Under an agreement reached with Diminuco, the district will pay him for 74 days of work, at a cost of \$14,334, and will pay him for 46 sick days he accrued, said Robert DiFlorio, executive assistant to the superintendent. DiFlorio said the sick pay will come to slightly less than \$10,000.

The board agreed to pay the teacher

for 120 days in order to avoid initiating dismissal proceedings against him, district officials said.

"These things (proceedings) go on and on," DiFlorio said.

If the district had initiated proceedings against Diminuco, DiFlorio said, the school system would have been required by law to continue paying him until the matter was decided.

"The cost would have been greater," he said, adding that it typically costs a school district about \$45,000 in legal fees to try to fire a teacher.

Diminuco could not be reached for comment Monday. His attorney, Michael Cogswell, declined comment.

Meno said he asked the Onondaga County District Attorney's Office to investigate the matter in October.

"We've been waiting for some determination (from the district attorney) since then," he said.

Board President Ruth Federman said the school board discussed the situation several times in closed meetings in order to determine how to handle the situation. The board called a special meeting Monday to accept Diminuco's resignation.

"This is something we've been looking into since last fall," said board member Mary Salibrici. "I'm just glad it's been resolved the way it has been. He's out of the classroom."

CONFIDENTIAL

MAY 11 1987

F. STARON

CONF015003



HIAWATHA COUNCIL, INC., Boy Scouts of America

600 W. Genesee St., Syracuse, NY 13204 • 315-474-8574

February 4, 1987

Mr. Paul Ernst, Director
Registration & Subscription Service
Boy Scouts of America
1325 Walnut Hill Lane
Irving, TX 75038-3096

Dear Paul:

I am writing in regard to three (3) Confidential File matters - one "old business" and two "new business".

~~DONALD DUERR~~ placed on Confidential File in February 1985. It is our recommendation that Donald Duerr be reinstated in a Scouting leadership position - perhaps on a probationary basis. The attached newspaper articles and correspondence from his counselor, his attorney, our Council attorney and himself support this request. Incidentally, Mr. Duerr has since married. I would appreciate your advice in this matter.

~~FRANK DIMINUCCO, SN, SCOUT 76.~~ On August 6, 1986 an officer from the Syracuse Police Department visited our office requesting information about camping activities and Tour Permits regarding Troop 76. He indicated that Mr. Diminucco was under investigation but would not identify the reason.

On October 25, 1986 I received a call from this officer asking me to meet him and an FBI agent at the Troop's meeting location while they conducted a search. He would still not indicate any specifics relative to the investigation, but when I pressed he did say that I should take action to get Mr. Diminucco to step down.

I discussed this with the Monsignor of the church who immediately agreed to ask Mr. Diminucco to step down as Scoutmaster. Unofficially, I believe the investigation revolves around possible sexual abuse committed with a member or members of the Troop while on an activity out of state. To date, I still have no official statement from the Police Department as the investigation is still active.



-2-

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. We will then discuss our next step.

Thank you again for all your help.

Sincerely,

Paul Ernst, Director
Registration, Subscription &
Statistical Service

eak

cc: Northeast Region

Sex probe

runs out

Of time

Demand for cash, two-year limit delay guilty plea

By John Doherty
Staff Writer

A nine-month investigation into allegations a teacher and Boy Scout leader sexually abused teen-agers over 15 years in New York, Pennsylvania and Canada has been stymied by the statute of limitations and by the man's demands for money from the Syracuse City School District.

The teacher was reassigned to clerical duties in the school district offices last September as a result of the investigation. He resigned as a scout leader after the troop's sponsor, a Syracuse church, asked him to step down, sources said.

"At the time we became aware there was an investigation, we and the troop's sponsor asked him to step down until this matter is resolved," said Donald F. Blacker, executive director of the Hawatha Council of the Boy Scouts. Blacker declined further comment.

Syracuse Board of Education president Ruth Federman was familiar with the case, too.

"The school district is working on this, and he is no longer in the classroom," Federman said.

She would not comment further.

Sources have told the Herald American the man has been under investigation in Pennsylvania and Canada for abuse of Boy Scouts during trips. The sources say the Pennsylvania and Canadian authorities have agreed they would not prosecute the man if he pleads guilty to sex charges in Onondaga County.

Fractious by the Onondaga County District Attorney's office has been stymied because local police investigators cannot find evidence of victims being molested here within the past two years, the statute of limitations for such cases.

Investigators have found several men who were victimized by the teacher, some reporting they were molested as long ago

Probe runs out of time

■ PROBE
Continued from Page E1

as 1972, sources said. Because sexual molestation is a misdemeanor under New York state law, cases must be prosecuted within two years.

To be a felony, a molested child must be younger than 11. The felony charge has a five-year statute of limitations in New York. Investigators found no victims younger than 11 in their probe, sources said.

Even though the statute of limitations has expired, sources said the man has agreed to plead guilty to avoid the possibility of extradition to Canada, where the offenses are a more serious crime and carry a longer prison sentence.

But the man is refusing to plead guilty until he reaches a cash settlement with the school district in exchange for his resignation and any admissions, sources said. A school source said the matter has been discussed in an executive session of the school board.

"The school district wants him out of there," said a source. "They're not letting him anywhere near kids."

The teacher cannot be fired because he has yet to be convicted of any charges, sources said. He also cannot be fired without a formal school district hearing.

He stepped down from his position with the Boy Scouts last August, when allegations first surfaced.

"The pastor was mad," a source said. "He wanted him out of there right away."

Although Syracuse police have been unable to find anyone who was victimized here by the teacher within the past two years, he has agreed to admit to sexual abuse charges locally and resign from the school district if a deal can be arranged, sources said.

The sources said the Royal Canadian Mounted Police are investigating allegations the teacher sexually abused boys he had taken from the Syracuse area to property he owns in Ontario, sources said.

Details of the Canadian investigation could not be obtained, but sexually molesting a young boy is a more serious offense under Canadian law than it is in New York.

Classified as an "indictable offense" — equivalent to a felony in New York — the crime sexual assault against a male is punishable by up to 10 years in prison, according to Cpl. John Pedersen of the Ontario Provincial Police in Kingston.

Syracuse police investigators turned the case over to District Attorney Richard A. Hennessy Jr. six weeks ago, sources said, but no action has resulted because of the

lack of any recent incidents here and the dispute over the teacher's demands for a cash settlement from the school district.

On Saturday, Hennessy said it is the policy of his office to neither confirm nor deny the existence of any investigations.

Sources said the investigation began in August when a former Syracuse resident saw the teacher leading a group of scouts on a camping trip in Pennsylvania. The man, now in his 30s, recognized the teacher as his former scout leader and the same man he claims sexually molested him when he was a teen-ager, sources said.

The man told his story to the FBI, which contacted police in Onondaga County.

Police immediately seized the scout troop's membership records and began contacting former members. Investigators, who porched over hundreds of pages of scout records, found no evidence of incidents occurring here in the last two years. However, they did uncover allegations of sexual abuse occurring in Canada during that time, sources said.

This is the second investigation into the same teacher.

Several years ago, police investigated the teacher after a high school student alleged that he had been sexually molested, sources said.

After allegations against the teacher surfaced, a number of teachers, union officials and school administrators came to their colleague's defense, vouching for his character and testifying that he was an outstanding member of the community, sources said.

The teacher also was a friend of police officers investigating the allegations, sources said.

According to the same sources, the student, who is now 18, then became the target of tirades and other students and he later withdrew his complaint.

A short time later, the student quit school because of continuing harassment, sources said.

In the current probe, sources said investigators are looking into claims that the same teacher molested the sons of colleagues, school officials and police officers.

Without commenting on the specifics of this case, DeLores Card, director of the Rape Crisis Center in Syracuse, said it is not uncommon for young boys to remain silent after they have been sexually molested.

"Primarily they are afraid," Card said. "Very often they have been threatened. They also feel embarrassed and they feel it was their fault, they feel guilty. In order for a child to tell someone they have been molested, they have to get over their fear and guilt."

■ PROBE, Page E10

February 11, 1987

Mr. Donald F. Blacker
Scout Executive
Hiawatha Council, No. 373

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Frank DiIunco

Dear Don:

I am going to write to you on each of the three cases which you recently reported to me so that we can be sure we can keep separate files and keep everything in order in this office. This also should help us to make certain that we have all the material which is necessary without any duplications.

This letter is about Frank DiIunco. You indicate that he was Scoutmaster of Troop 76.

If you have a copy of a resignation letter, either written by the church or by Mr. DiIunco, we would like a copy of this for our files. I agree with you that he should be asked to resign immediately, if this has not already been done, since I agree with your summation of possible abuse over many years.

The Confidential Record Sheet is very complete and will enable us to identify this individual should he try to register in some other location. We also believe the letter, indicating sexual abuse in 1970, would be very helpful to us.

If any legal action takes place, I would certainly like records of that for our files. This would help to substantiate the records in this office should someone else be in our jobs at a later date and have to face this issue.

I do not believe I would share this letter with the Police Department at this time. If this became necessary in order to get a conviction at a later time, this could be done, but I would not offer it to the police.

READY FOR FILE

FEB 11 1987

SHIRLEY MEYER

The Scouting Coordinator, [REDACTED] when informed by the priest, spoke to his now adult [REDACTED] a District Executive in the San Francisco Council) to learn that his [REDACTED] in fact, had been abused by Mr. Diminuco years ago when he was a Scout in the Troop. I have received from this young man a letter (copy attached) which documents this abuse in 1970. It is my opinion that this should be enough to place Mr. Diminuco on the Confidential File.

Mr. Diminuco had been Scoutmaster for twenty (20) years, Silver Beaver, National Jamboree leader, etc. He had an excellent record - was well respected, but may very well have been abusing children all these years.

I am wondering if I should share this letter from [REDACTED] with the Police Department. Please advise me.


3
GARY L. STEFFEN, CM C3013, SM S0013, MC S0034 (In School Special Ed Units) and DL C3048. The attached newspaper article documents the case against Gary Steffen. We immediately contacted the head of the Syracuse School District Special Education Department (who is on our Executive Board). He agreed to immediately sever Mr. Steffen's relationship with the Scouting Units. The Cub Pack where he serves as Den Leader was also contacted and agreed to ask Mr. Steffen to resign. I would think his name be should be placed on the Confidential File.

We have removed Mr. Diminuco and Mr. Steffen from our computer - would you please do the same on the National records?

Please advise me of any further information you might need or any additional action I should take.

Thanks.

Sincerely,


Donald F. Blacker
Scout Executive

dfb/mz
Enclosures

2

January 13, 1987

JAN 20 1987

Dear Mr. Blacker,

As a young man, I was a Boy Scout in Troop 76 of the Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church. Mr. Glenn Parrott and I had a conversation on Tuesday January 6, 1987 concerning some interactions I had with my Scoutmaster, Mr. Frank D. Minico, when I was a Scout.

In 1970, when I was 12 years old, I visited Mr. DeMinico's property in Canada the first time. To the best of my recollection, the following incident occurred. As we prepared

to go to sleep in a large 5-6 person Coleman Tent, Mr. DeMinico offered to massage my back. As he massaged my back, he massaged other parts of my body as well. He massaged my lower back and thighs. These actions produced an erection in me and eventually, after much confusion on my part, I ejaculated. I really did not know what had happened to my body.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]