

● APPENDIX A ●

CONFIDENTIAL RECORD SHEET

REGISTRATION SERVICE
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Date MAY 4, 1988

Social Security Number _____

Full name RODNEY G. FLATT
(No initials if you can possibly get full name)

Address _____

City LAKELAND State FL ZIP 33813

Date of birth 5/25/67 (This is important and should be exact.)

Approximate age _____ (To be used ONLY when date of birth is not known.)

Religion PROTESTANT Nationality _____

Occupation COLLEGE STUDENT

Education _____

Weight 180# (APPROX.) Height 5'11" Race CAUCASIAN

Color of hair DARK BROWN Color of eyes _____

Outstanding characteristics or interests LIKES MUSIC

Married or single SINGLE Children 0
(Number, ages, and names, if possible)

Spouse's name N/A

Scouting connections:

Unit No. City State Position Date registered Date resigned

T 746 LAKELAND FL SA 5/15/86 NOT REREGISTERED ON CHARTER

70-082830

Special Recognition EAGLE SCOUT

Suspended or denied registration for following reasons: _____

SEXUAL MOLESTATION OF SCOUT IN TROOP

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

Signed *Robert Deimler*
Scout Executive

Council GULF RIDGE #86

MAILED

MAY 13 '88

JOSEPH L. ANGLIM

7

CONFIDENTIAL

MAY 12 1988

F. STARON



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

National Office
1325 West Walnut Hill Lane
P.O. Box 152079
Irving, Texas 75015-2079

June 19, 1990

Mr. Ernst:

The attached news article
is for your file on
Rodney Flatt.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debra C. Duhs".

Debra C. Duhs

Debra C. Duhs

S402

CONF021592

876

FLATT, ROBERT

188

Ex-scoutmaster named in suit alleging lewd act

By L.A. MAXWELL
Tribune Staff Writer

6-11-90

Jarss

BARTOW — A Lakeland woman has filed a lawsuit against the Boy Scouts of America claiming her 15-year-old son was sexually molested by an assistant scoutmaster during a 1986 camping trip in Hernando County.

The lawsuit, filed June 6 by Sidney Parrish, a lawyer with the Orlando firm of Parrish and Bailey, also names the scoutmaster, Rodney Flatt. Flatt, 23, of Lakeland, is serving 3½ years in state prison on an unrelated charge of lewd assault on a child, court records show.

The victim was 12 and a member of a scouting troop in the Gulf Ridge Council when the incident occurred, the lawsuit states. Flatt, who was 19 at the time of the incident, was charged with lewd and lascivious acts upon a child following the incident, Hernando County court records show.

Flatt pleaded no contest Sept. 15, 1987, to a lesser charge of misdemeanor battery and was sentenced to one year's probation. He also was fined \$100, and court records show he paid the fine and complied with the probation.

The lawsuit, which seeks compensatory and punitive damages in excess of \$5,000, alleges the Boy Scouts of America and the Gulf Ridge Council, based in Tampa, are each negligent because each may deny the application of any individual who is "morally unfit to serve in the scouting program" or terminate any such person's affiliation with scouting.

The lawsuit also alleges that Flatt "committed acts of deliberate and intentional sexual battery" and caused the victim "severe physical pain and mental anguish."

Mark Griffin, executive director of the Gulf Ridge Council of the Boy Scouts of America, said Monday Flatt was a volunteer assistant scout master when he was 19. Following the camping trip to Hernando County and the accusations that he molested the boy, Flatt was removed from the Boy Scouts of America immediately, Griffin said, and his name was put on a nationwide list so he cannot ever register to work with scouts again.

Flatt in 1987 was sentenced to 10 year's probation after being charged with lewd assault on a child under 14 in Polk County. He was sentenced to 3½ years in prison after violating the terms of his probation, state Department of Correction records show. He began serving time in state prison on Jan. 12.

RISK MANAGEMENT

JUN 18 1990

The Ledger

Lakeland woman suing the Boy Scouts

By Suzie Schottelkotte

The Ledger

BARTOW — A Lakeland woman is suing the Boy Scouts of America on allegations that her 12-year-old son was sexually molested by an assistant scoutmaster during a 1986 camping trip.

The lawsuit, filed Friday in Polk Circuit Court by Orlando attorney Sidney Parrish, also names the 23-year-old scoutmaster, Rodney Flatt, who is serving a 3½-year prison term on an unrelated lewd assault charge.

The names of the mother and her now 16-year-old son are being withheld due to the nature of the allegations and the boy's age.

Mark Griffin, director of field service for the Tampa-based Gulf Ridge Council of the Boy Scouts, said Friday that he was not aware of the lawsuit and could not comment on the allegations. He did say, however, that assistant scoutmasters are volunteers and are not hired by the Boy Scouts of America.

The Gulf Ridge Council, of which the boy's troop was a member, also is named as a defendant in the lawsuit.

Flatt was arrested in October 1987 in Polk County on allegations that he sexually molested a child. He was sentenced in

January 1988 to 10 years' probation, but violated that order and was resentenced in April 1989 to two years of community control, which is similar to house arrest, followed by five years' probation, court records show.

Last November, Flatt's community control was revoked and in January he was resentenced to 3½ years in state prison, according to court records.

Information was not available late Friday concerning the circumstances surrounding the probation violations.

The allegations in the lawsuit stem from an August 1986 Boy Scout camping trip to Hernando County.

According to Hernando County court records, Flatt was arrested on May 21, 1987, on a felony charge of lewd and lascivious acts. On Sept. 15, 1987, Flatt entered a guilty plea to a reduced charge of battery, which is a misdemeanor, and was sentenced to one year's probation and ordered by the court to seek mental health counseling.

Court records did not indicate whether he completed that counseling program.

Attorney Parrish said Friday that Flatt's Hernando County criminal record stemmed from the incident outlined in the lawsuit.

The lawsuit alleges that Flatt "committed acts of deliberate and intentional sexual battery and sexually violated and abused (the youth)."

The boy's mother is holding the Boy Scout organization responsible for not adequately screening and training its assistant scoutmasters, and for "failing to enforce rules prohibiting adult scout leaders from sleeping in tents with minor scouts."

The lawsuit alleges that the Boy Scout organization "had prior knowledge of numerous incidents of abuse of scouts by Assistant Scoutmaster and failed to take any measures or implement any policies, guidelines or procedures to protect the children placed into their care."

The Boy Scouts "continued to market their program as a desirable method to instill values in young people" when, in fact, numerous children were being sexually abused." And the organization "intentionally took steps to cover up the known sexual abuse in order to protect the continued marketing of the program for their own economic advantage," the lawsuit states.

The boy's mother is seeking unspecified damages in excess of \$5,000 for her son's mental and emotional distress, as well as past and future medical expenses.

May 16, 1988

Thomas R. Deimler
Scout Executive
Gulf Ridge Council, No. 86

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Rodney G. Flatt

Dear Tom:

Thank you for the detailed information sent concerning the above Scouter. This case has been reviewed with our attorney and is now on our permanent Confidential File.

Sincerely,

Paul Ernst, Director
Registration Service

PE/eko

cc: Southeast Region

READY TO FILE

MAY 16 1988

ERIN O'RILEY



May 4, 1988

Mr. Paul I. Ernst S108
Boy Scouts of America
1325 Walnut Hill Lane
Post Office Box 152079
Irving, Texas 75015-2079

Dear Paul:

Enclosed is information related to the placing of Rodney G. Flatt on the Confidential File of the Boy Scouts of America. I'm also including copy of previously prepared information on this matter.

I believe that the statement from Detective Kerri Sherwood referring to the court appearance is sufficient regarding Rodney G. Flatt. He has subsequently not reregistered with Troop 746 and therefore we have not delivered the standard letter to him. However, this information should be helpful in protecting the B.S.A. in the future, in the event he should attempt to reregister.

I trust that this information will be sufficient.

Sincerely,

Thomas R. Deimler
Scout Executive

TRD/mc

cc: Mr. Gary Braun, Scoutmaster/Troop 746
Ms. Debra Duhs, Risk Management/BSA

*Added to CF file
Deleted record from MSNA
5/6/88 cmw*

Boy Scouts of America/Gulf Ridge Council, Inc., No. 86
4410 Boy Scout Boulevard, P.O. Box 24077, Tampa, Florida 33623
Serving Citrus, Hardee, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Pasco, Polk and Sumter Counties
A United Way Agency

CONF021597

OFFICE OF THE STATE ATTORNEY

Fifth Judicial Circuit of Florida

Serving Marion, Lake, Citrus, Sumter, Hernando Counties



S. RAY GILL
State Attorney

County Office Building
19 NW Pine Avenue
Third Floor
Ocala, Florida 32670
Telephone [REDACTED]

Please Reply To:
Hernando County Courthouse
Brooksville, Florida 33512
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] September 21, 1987

RE: State of Florida vs. Rodney G. Flatt 77 4377
Case Number(s): 87-267 CF
Charge(s): Lewd or Lascivious Act upon a Child Under 16.

Dear [REDACTED]

This is to notify you that the above named defendant appeared in Court on September 15, 1987 before the Honorable L.R. Huffstetler Circuit Judge.

The sentence imposed on the defendant is as follows:

* Admit to lesser charge: Battery

Adjudication withheld; 1 year probation; \$100.00 Fine and Court Costs;
Mental Health Counseling.

If you have any questions, please call me at [REDACTED]

Yours truly,

Kerri Sherwood

Kerri Sherwood
Victim Witness Counselor

Det. Corlew

COPY