



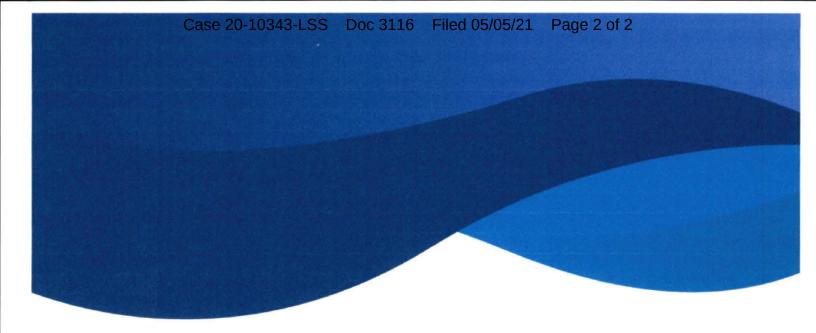
Justice Lauri Selber Silverstein

BSA Bankruptcy Case 824 Market Street, 6th Floor Wilmington, DE 19801

Justice Silverstein,

Hello, my name is my age is 57 and it has been several decades since my participation in the BSA. My age at the time of BSA enrollment was approx. 8-yeasr-old or so. Myself, my older brother by 1 year, and two friends (same ages us) were initiated into the troupe at the same time; I think the year was 1974. I make the same time and son were the scout masters of the troupe and meetings were held in a Presbyterian Church on Peachtree Dunwoody Rd, Atlanta Ga.

We had a weeklong camping outing and what I remember is the embarrassment and shame of the initiation campfire. Around a large campfire the scouts and masters made a circle sitting on the ground. The headmaster calls the new scouts to the center; because there



were eight of us the master had the older brothers sit back in the circle, leaving 4 of us. They blindfolded us and covered us with a large tarp, so we could not see light. The question to answer to get the tarp removed was "you have something on you that you do not need?" As a

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Being exposed to the entire troop without clothing was devastating, shameful, embarrassing... any confidence, self-worth to participate in a group or to engage into friendship had been lost for many years. I would say these feelings stayed with me well into my high school years; even then I was a loner did not know where I fit or whether to trust my peers.

The BSA experience effected how I approached adulthood and the workplace; I would not talk much or participate in social activities willingly. Still feel this way at times today (more times than normal).

I would never recommend scouting for any child...so sad...

I do not remember anything else of that week; I remember that night and having to sneak through the woods naked back to my tent. I remember hiding until all were gone and I someone yelling 'my cloths had been placed inside my tent" ... it has been almost 40 years and I still feel small when I think of the BSA camping trip.



Apr. 26, 2021