

1524

COAKLEY, EDMUND
(ROBERT) 80

CONF009316

DYKES_I_007185

CONFIDENTIAL RECORD SHEET

REGISTRATION AND SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE

Appendix A

Terry

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

DATE 9-3-80

FULL NAME BROTHER EDMUND COAKLEY/BORN ROBERT J. COAKLEY
(No initials if you can possibly give full name)

ADDRESS 7718 W. WELDON AVENUE

CITY PHOENIX STATE ARIZONA ZIP CODE 85026

DATE OF BIRTH _____ (This is important and should be exact)

APPROXIMATE AGE 39 (To be used ONLY when date of birth is not known)

RELIGION ROMAN CATHOLIC NATIONALITY NOT KNOWN

OCCUPATION TEACHER - ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC SCHOOL

EDUCATION _____

WEIGHT 190 HEIGHT 5' 11" RACE CAUCASIAN

COLOR OF HAIR RUST COLOR OF EYES NOT KNOWN

OUTSTANDING CHARACTERISTICS ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ RUDDY COMPLEXION

MARRIED OR SINGLE SINGLE CHILDREN N/A

WIFE'S NAME N/A

SCOUTING CONNECTIONS: *SEE APPENDIX 'B'

UNIT #	CITY	STATE	OFFICE	DATE REGISTERED	DATE RESIGNED
Troop 337	Emerson	NJ	SM	9/70	11/78
Post 337	Emerson	NJ	Advisor	5/73	11/78

SPECIAL RECOGNITION SCOUTER'S KEY

SUSPENDED OR DENIED REGISTRATION FOR FOLLOWING REASONS:

SEE ATTACHED.

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

NOTED
JAN 20 1981
[Signature]
JOSEPH L. ANGLIM

[Signature]
SCOUT EXECUTIVE
Bones # 350



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

National Office
1325 West Walnut Hill Lane
P.O. Box 152079, Irving, Texas 75015-2079
214-580-2000

November 11, 1991

SUBJECT: INELIGIBLE VOLUNTEER FILE
EDMUND COAKELEY

FROM: Mark L. Dama
Assistant Director
Insurance and Risk Management

TO: Paul I. Ernst
Director
Registration Service

Please find attached various information on the above referenced individual who may be a possible candidate for the Ineligible Volunteer File.

The attached is as follows:

Newspaper article in reference to the alleged abuse

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

CONF009318

DYKES_I_007187

September 11, 1980

Mr. David Baur
Scout Executive
Bergen Council #350

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Brother Edmund Coakley/Robert J. Coakley, Troop 337, SM

Dear David:

Thank you for the detailed information concerning the above Scouter. We are reviewing this case with our Attorney and will keep you informed.

Sincerely,



Paul I. Ernst, Director
Registration & Subscription Service

t1

CONF009319

DYKES_I_007188

January 22, 1961

Mr. David Baur
Scout Executive
Bergen Council #350

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Brother Edmund Coakley/Robert J. Coakley

Dear David:

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 L. Ernst, Director
Registration, Subscription and
Statistical Services

PK

CONF009320

DYKES_I_007189

TERRY

SCOUTMASTER IN \$10 MILLION SEX SUIT OVER ASSAULT OF BOY

Captions under pictures:

Picture of the boy - [REDACTED] - His mental anguish started to become apparent.

Picture of Scoutmaster - Robert Coakley - Quit religious order.

A New Jersey mother and father are suing the Catholic Franciscan Brothers and the Boy Scouts of America for \$10 million charging that a Christian brother Scoutmaster was sexually involved with their two young sons.

One of the boys committed suicide as a result of his experiences the parents said. The other is undergoing psychiatric care along with his parents.

Also named as co-defendant in the suit was the Brother, Robert Coakley, known as Brother "Edmund", who has since left the order and now reportedly works as a laborer in Phoenix, Arizona.

He has denied sexual misconduct with the boy.

The parents who state "their family life has been destroyed by the incidences" charged that the Franciscans and the Boy Scouts were negligent in allowing a man like Coakley to be affiliated with them.

The incidences alleged occurred during 1978 and mainly involved the dead boy, [REDACTED] when 11 years old, of Emerson, New Jersey. His brother, [REDACTED] 13 at the time.

Most of the incidences also allegedly took place at Pine Creek Reservation, a Boy Scout affiliated camp in Forrestport, New York.

(MORE)

CONF009321

DYKES_I_007190

The camp owned by Peter Grandy is connected with Explorer Post 337 operated out of the Assumption School in Emerson.

Coakley was a history and science teacher at the school as well as Scoutmaster and camp operator.

In the suit filed late Friday by Attorney David Jaroslawicz, the parents [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], allege that Coakley made [REDACTED] swim in the nude at the camp, provided him with pornographic materials and also "provocative underwear" which the boy was made to wear.

Coakley also forced the boy to sleep with him in his private trailer and "engaged in direct physical contact" with him the suit stated.

[REDACTED] was further made to "undergo simulated rape scenes and otherwise sexually molested" him, and these actions were taperecorded the suit said. That fall Coakley had further physical relations with the boy in the basement of the church Friary in Emerson the suit said.

He also made [REDACTED] "engage in sado-masochistic activities including bondage" and later made the boy beat him with a rope the suit alleged.

The parents further charged that Coakley, who they said possessed several handguns and a rifle, threatened to harm or even kill [REDACTED] if he told anybody about the incidences.

But by the late fall [REDACTED] "could no longer conceal what had occurred, since mental anguish started to become apparent" and he told his parents everything.

After a pair of hospital stays connected with his trauma, [REDACTED] swallowed a bottle of oil of wintergreen and died in Holy Name Hospital May 29, 1979, after telling a nurse that he had been molested and "it is not worth living" the parents said.

(MORE)

CONF009322

DYKES_I_007191

The parents meanwhile had forced Coakley's ouster from the Brotherhood but did not seek prosecution on the advice of a physician who said [REDACTED] could not withstand additional pressure.

But after the boy's death they contacted the office of the Oneida County district attorney in New York and also the Bergen County, New Jersey prosecutor's office.

The father also said he spoke via telephone with Coakley who was at the Franciscan Brothers headquarters in Fayetteville, Ohio, and Coakley allegedly admitted everything "up to the point of physical contact" with [REDACTED] the dead boy's father told the POST.

Oneida and Bergen County detectives told the POST that their investigations were hampered because the boy's death deprived them of direct testimony.

Coakley faced a charge of endangering the welfare of a child - [REDACTED] - in Oneida but since the charge was a misdemeanor, authorities there did not feel the justification to extradite him from Arizona, a New York state police investigator said.

The Bergen County case was dropped because it was felt there was no strong basis for prosecution, the POST was told.

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CONF009323

DYKES_I_007192

David Baur
Scout Executive
Bergen Cncl., BSA
1060 Main St.
River Edge, NJ 07661

Council for Emerson, NJ

Russell Swenson
Scout Executive
Hudson - Delaware Cncl., BSA
21 Orchard St.
Middletown, NY 10940

Council for Forrestport, NY

CONF009324

DYKES_I_007193

RE: BROTHER EDMUND COAKLEY/BORN ROBERT J. COAKLEY

APPENDIX 'B'

FACTS LEADING TO RECOMMENDATIONS

Attached are the following:

- 1) NEW YORK POST article of Tuesday, September 2, 1980
- 2) THE RECORD article of Wednesday, September 3, 1980
- 3) Statement given to Bergen County Prosecutor's Office by [REDACTED] (age 13 approx.)

ADDITIONAL PERSONAL INFORMATION

Brother Edmund Coakley, a member of the religious order known as the Brothers of the Poor of St. Francis. His New Jersey address was 30 Locust Avenue, Emerson, New Jersey 07630.

Edmund Coakley was registered and served as Scoutmaster of Troop 337, though he was not officially replaced as Scoutmaster until the unit rechartered in April of 1979. Prior to May of 1973 he has been registered as an Assistant Scoutmaster in Troop 337. From May of 1973 to April of 1979, Edmund Coakley was registered as Advisor of Post 337 under the name of Robert J. Coakley.

Reason given for his resignation as Scoutmaster and Advisor in November of 1978 was his reassignment by the religious order to which he was a member.

DB:esm

9/4/80

CONF009325

DYKES_I_007194

out with a girl", and "as" the woman I had to be to the picture
some as usual. I felt uneasy and because I couldn't normally go
around talking like that.

He also asked me whether or not I ever masturbated, and what did
I use, "a piece of cloth" or my "bare hand". We were in the trailer
at this time. I said, "I don't know." He tore a piece of cloth from
a sheet or something, loosened his pants, covered himself with the
blanket, and layed down on the bed. He then complained about "a pain
in the kidneys and the only way to get rid of it was to masturbate".
He said he did it "once before". I figured he was doing it because I
heard a clapping like noise and saw his hand moving fast, up and down.
It took about fifteen minutes. I was scared and nervous with perspir-
ation, and I had wanted to leave the trailer, but he didn't want me
to go. Mrs. Greenwood then called about dinner, and it stopped.

Mr. Grund said, "Don't tell anybody about this, because it won't sound
right about a brother masturbating." I don't think I said anything,
but felt confused about it, and tried to sit further away from him the
next day in the truck on the way home.

In a little while we went down to the house for dinner, and after
dinner, we stayed and watched TV, and later on went back to the trailer
and I went to bed.

Monday we started for home and we were around the Albany area when
we had a flat tire. It was fixed and we arrived home later that day.

A week or so later, during recess at school, he mentioned to me
that he didn't like the way the pictures came out, and he wanted to
do some of it over. I just shrugged it off, and he would ask me when-
ever I had time to do it, and I was always too busy.

CONF009326

DYKES_I_007195

... in the trailer, he (the man) - tied me up. He then got
... and then told me to get up. ...
... like, "I'm going to try to ..."
... I'm afraid, ...
... almost ...
... of the trailer. I don't remember ...
... about five minutes, he untied me, and I went back and sat down. I
... think I changed first, and then he asked me to tie him up--something
... about that I was mad at him for doing that, and wanted to get even
... with him. I didn't want to tie him up, but I did anyway--giving in to
... him because he was sort of begging me to do it. Then I tied him up,
... (I think it was just his hands), he was sitting on his bunk. He would
... get out of it, and make me tie him over again--and this went on for
... about twenty minutes.

That day, we had dinner at the house and Mrs. Greenward and Mr.
... were there. I stayed to ...
... then went back to the trailer and went to bed. Nothing else happened
... on Saturday.

Throughout the weekend, he offered me cigarettes from a pack that
... said ...
... unfiltered.

On Sunday, we got up and dressed and went to Church--the Catholic
... church in Portport. After that, we stopped at the store and picked
... up something to eat when back in the trailer. I don't remember what
... happened the rest of the week.

... lunch at the house, ...
... started popping questions about sex ...
... pornographic magazines, and asked me questions, like, did I ever "make

From there, I went to the bathroom and then to the tent, but I could not find anything there.

From that point on, I went to the tent, and I found it in the middle with "Jesus". "Jesus" said, "Jesus", and I said, "What's that?"

The following Friday, I went by bus to Miami not as in Tampa port with the car--Chris wasn't with him. After he threw the stuff in the car he mentioned something about the "to do" he had the Memorial Day weekend, and that he went to the doctor who gave him some pills for it. We arrived and I put my stuff down by the tent and Chris had a tent to himself.

Periodically throughout the week, said that something "had happened" between he and Edward the week before. When we were doing some of the work to set-up camp, and Edward wasn't around, then together we got up and saw how Edward had worked his (Chris) and that he (Edward) would just sit around on his butt. Chris would say, "If you only knew what happened." I might have asked, but he wouldn't talk about it, only, "If you only knew what happened."

On the Saturday after I arrived, Christopher thought it was my birthday, and Edward gave me a beer from a six pack. One day during that week, I had three bottles of beer, and he offered me a fourth, but I refused. [redacted] slept in his own tent that week.

During that camp, Christopher was sometimes hyperactive (mainly the first week, and I think it was because he wanted to be with me) and he would get into his law with some of the kids and I would times wonder what would take him in, and make him sleep in the tent with him. For this I think he was all along to me.

... ..

... ..

... ..



8/4/79

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1980

The Record North Jersey today

Parents blame molestation for suicide

By Paul Feldman
Staff Writer

Charging that their young son committed suicide as a result of being sexually molested by a scoutmaster, an Emerson couple has filed a \$10-million lawsuit against the Boy Scouts of America and an order of Roman Catholic friars. [redacted] and [redacted] of 117 Pascack Ave. claim that their son, [redacted] was molested by Edmund Coakeley, a former scoutmaster of a troop at the

Assumption School in Emerson. Coakeley, who was a member of the Ohio based Franciscan Brothers of the Poor, taught history and science at the school. Coakeley, who has since left the Franciscans, is accused in the suit of molesting the child, then 11, at a Boy Scout-sponsored summer camp in Forestport, N.Y., during the summer of 1978. The suit also charges that later that year, Coakeley forced the boy to perform sexual acts in the basement of the friary of the Assumption School. The suit says that Coakeley gave [redacted] pornographic magazines and materials.

[redacted] in Forestport, N.Y., on May 29, 1979, after having been hospitalized. In their suit, his parents also claim that another of their children was molested by Coakeley and that the three of them are still undergoing psychiatric treatment because of the experiences. According to the suit, [redacted] in a conversation with [redacted] father, "just denied what had occurred and then claimed that he had been seduced" by the boy. Coakeley, who now reportedly lives in Phoenix, See SUICIDE, Page C-2

Suicide's parents sue Boy Scouts and friars

FROM PAGE C-1

Arlis, was removed from the Emerson school after the [redacted] family told officials of the Archdiocese of Newark and the Franciscan Brothers of the child's allegations. The civil suit, filed in New York State Supreme Court in Manhattan, charges the Franciscan Brothers and the Boy Scouts with negligence for entrusting Coakeley with young men. The family's lawyer, David Jat-

oslawicz, said the Bergen County prosecutor's office was notified of Christopher's allegations but declined to prosecute. Mrs. [redacted] a nurse, said yesterday that she and her husband have filed suit "because we were left with no other legal recourse." "I don't think it's a topic people care to address," she said. "Yet it happened." Mrs. [redacted] said her son told an emergency room nurse that he swallowed the poison because "it's not worth living."

Scoutmaster in \$10M suit over sexual assault on boy, 11

By GENE RUFFINI

A NEW JERSEY mother and father are suing the Catholic Franciscan Brothers and the Boy Scouts of America for \$10 million, charging that a Christian Brother scoutmaster was sexually involved with the 11-year-old boy.

One of the boys committed suicide as a result of his experiences, the parents said. The other is undergoing psychiatric care along with his parents.

Also named as a defendant in the suit was the brother, Robert Coakeley, known as "Brother Edmund," who has since left the order and now reportedly works as a teacher in Phoenix, Ariz.

The boy alleged sexual abuse began with the brother in 1978.

The parents, who are [redacted], filed the suit in Federal court in New Jersey.

The suit charges that Coakeley, who was a scoutmaster at the time, sexually abused the boy in 1978 and 1979. The parents also charge that Coakeley was involved in the boy's suicide.

The incident allegedly occurred during 1978 and 1979. The boy, who is now 11 years old, of Emerson, N.J. His brother, Richard, was 11 at the time.

Most of the incidents also allegedly took place at Pine Creek Reservation, a Boy Scout affiliated camp, in Fort Stewart, N.Y.

The camp, owned by Peter Grandy, is connected with Explorer Post 337, operating out of The Assumption School in Emerson.

Coakeley was a history and science teacher at the school as well as scoutmaster and camp operator.

In the suit, filed late Friday by attorney David J. [redacted], the parents, Richard and Margaret, allege that Coakeley made Chris

topher, 11, in the back of a car. Coakeley, who was with police, placed underwear and other "provocative underwear" which the boy was made to wear.

Coakeley also forced the boy to sleep with him in his private trailer and "engaged in direct physical contact" with him, the suit stated.

[redacted] was further made to "undergo simulated rape scenes and otherwise sexually molested" him, and these actions were tape recorded, the suit said.

That fall, Coakeley had further physical relations with the boy in the basement of the Church Friary in Emerson, the suit said.

He also made [redacted] "engage in sado-masochistic activities, including bondage" and later made the boy beat him with a rope, the suit alleged.

The parents, who are charged that Coakeley, who they say possessed a red hand gun and a rifle, threatened to harm or kill [redacted] if he told anybody about the incidents.

But by the late fall, [redacted] could no longer conceal what had occurred, his mental anguish started to become apparent and he told his parents everything.

After a pair of hospital stays connected with his trauma, [redacted] swallowed a bottle of Oil of Wintergreen and died in Holy Name Hospital May 29, 1979 after telling a nurse that he had been molested and "it's not worth living," the parents said.

The parents, meanwhile, had forced Coakeley's ouster from the Brotherhood, but did not seek



Brother Edmund Coakeley, known as Brother Edmund, is named in the suit.



11: 'Life is not worth living.'

Coakeley faced a charge of endangering the welfare of a child — [redacted] in Oneida, but since the charge was a misdemeanor authorities there did not feel the justification to extradite him from Arizona, a New York state police investigator said.

The Bergen County case was dropped because it was felt there was not a strong basis for prosecution, the Post was told.

CONF009332