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LISTER, JOE A 80

CONF009548

DYKES\_I\_007415

CONFIDENTIAL RECORD SHEET  
REGISTRATION AND SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE  
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

DATE December 23, 1980

FULL NAME Joe Allen Lister

ADDRESS Box 197

CITY Edwards STATE Colorado ZIP CODE 81632

DATE OF BIRTH 3/2/44 (This is important and should be exact)

APPROXIMATE AGE 36 (To be used ONLY when date of birth is not known)

RELIGION None NATIONALITY Caucasian

OCCUPATION Custodian - Red Sandstone Elementary

EDUCATION High School

WEIGHT 150 lbs. HEIGHT 5'10" RACE White

COLOR OF HAIR Dark Brown COLOR OF EYES Brown

OUTSTANDING CHARACTERISTICS OR INTERESTS Scouting, O.A. Hunt & Trap, Indian Lore & Crafts

MARRIED OR SINGLE Married CHILDREN 3 by wife's previous marriage - 1 his own

WIFE'S NAME [REDACTED] (Planning to divorce him)

SCOUTING CONNECTIONS:

UNIT #	CITY	STATE	OFFICE	DATE REGISTERED
PK & Tr 230	Edwards	Colo.	S.M. & C.M.	4/30/80

SPECIAL RECOGNITION Dist. Award of Merit, Silver Beaver, Wood Badge

SUSPENDED OR DENIED REGISTRATION FOR FOLLOWING REASONS:

See attached

NOIED

FEB 19 '82

JOSEPH L. ANGLIM

Signed

*John D. Hurston*  
SCOUT EXECUTIVE

Council

*Western Colorado Council #64*

CONF009549

DYKES\_I\_007416

February 24, 1982

Mr. John G. Thurston  
Scout Executive  
Western Colorado Council, No. 64

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Joe Allen Lister

Dear John:

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 I. Ernst, Director  
Registration, Subscription &  
Statistical Service

eko

cc: North Central Region

CONF009550

DYKES\_I\_007417

11-20-81

PHONE CALL TO

JOHN THORSTON -

HE WILL PROVIDE CONDENSED  
STATEMENT ON ENTIRE CASE.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS WERE  
DROPPED. -

NOW IN COUNSELLING -

Paul Ernst

September 1, 1981

Ms. [REDACTED]  
P.O. Box 179  
Edwards, CO 81632

Dear Ms. [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter of August 19, 1981.

I have consulted with John Thurston in this regard and will continue to do so as circumstances dictate.

Very truly yours.

David K. Park  
National Legal Counsel

dp

303-243-0346

CONF009552

DYKES\_I\_007419

P.O. Box 1  
Edwards, Colorado 81632  
August 19, 1981

Legal Department  
Boy Scouts of America  
P.O. Box 61030  
Dallas/Fort Worth Airport  
Texas 75261

RECEIVED  
AUG 24 1981  
DAVID K. PARK

Dear Sirs:

I enclose copies of my recent correspondence with John Thurston, Council Executive for Western Colorado Council regarding the suspension of Joe A. Lister from Scouting because of charges filed by the Eagle Co. Sheriff's Department for sexual molestation of three minor boys who happened to be [REDACTED].

John Thurston has assured me that he has been in continual contact with you regarding the case, and I'm sure that is correct. I realize that no one wants to deal with a counter suit filed by Joe, so everyone is being very careful in the handling of the case. However, polygraph tests were administered and the examiner expressed willingness to testify in behalf of the boys. I would gladly furnish a statement from him, if that would facilitate something being done to prevent Joe from continuing to make Scouting contacts. Aside from concern for other boys who might come in future contact with Joe, I am also concerned for the welfare of my sons and myself and the anguish we are suffering as a result of Joe's continued contacts with Scouting.

Sincerely,  
[REDACTED]

F. STARON

AUG 26 1981

CONF009553

DYKES\_I\_007420

P. O. Box 179  
Edwards, Colorado 81632  
August 19, 1981

Mr. John Thurston  
Western Colorado Council BSA  
628 Rood Avenue  
Grand Junction, Colorado 81501

Dear John,

I learned tonight from one of the boys who attended the National Jamboree that he and all the other Scouts who knew Joe Lister were given a leather name tag to wear at the jamboree, inscribed on the back with, "Good Luck, Joe" and other such messages. I do not know whether every Scout in the WCC contingent received one. I do know that [redacted] and [redacted], [redacted] and [redacted] each received one.

Your assurances that Joe was out of Scouting and would have no further contact with Scouting have just become meaningless. You assured me that Gil Gilbertson understood the situation after you talked to him in JUNE. Why, then, were these name tags passed out to the boys when Gil was in charge of the WCC contingent? This contact is particularly upsetting to me because Joe is reaching boys, and it is because of his unnatural relationships with boys that he is presently suspended from Scouting.

As indicated in my previous letters to you, I feel it is time for you to take a "public" stand, to let Scouters in Three Rivers District know the situation and know that Joe is not to be allowed any contact with Scouts, even on a casual basis. What he does on a personal level, and what the adult Scouters do on a personal level, is not my concern. If they want to be friendly and see him on a social basis, that is no concern of mine. However, the contacts must be made away from Scouting.

You keep telling me that Joe must be treated as a human being and that he needs the friendship of Scouters, as they were his only previous friends. You show great concern for how Joe is going to take each thing that is said and done. You have expressed worry that Joe might commit suicide if denied his Scouting friends.

Do you care about the bitterness that may be a contributing factor in [redacted] severe chest pains and illness this summer? He is currently undergoing tests at Vail Medical Center. Do you care about [redacted] ambivalent attitude towards Scouting and the fact that he needs some Scouting "friends" on an adult level giving him some encouragement? Do you care about my distress over watching Joe insidiously get back into Scouting, even though unofficially, or about my feelings and heartbreaks and worries? As I told you on Sunday, WE are human beings too!

I feel that I have no choice now, but to send this letter and copies of previous letters to National Boy Scouts in hopes that some resolution will be made of this matter.

Yes, I am angry. My anger comes from doing everything possible to see that no more boys will be put through what my three sons went through, and having my efforts go for naught. I feel that this jamboree contact would not have been made if the other Scouters in the contingent had been aware of the directive(s) you say have come from National. It happened because Joe was welcomed to the pre-jamboree campout at Rifle when both you and Clyde Meyer were present. (Gina

CONF009554

DYKES\_I\_007421

adults--and boys--would naturally assume that Joe was OK from the fact that he was welcomed on several occasions that weekend and was allowed to sit around the campfire until LAM on Friday night. To my knowledge, you have not made any other Scouters in Three Rivers District, other than Gil, aware of the national directive(s). The Scouters cannot adhere to the directives if they don't know they exist. You have, so far, not given me a copy of any directive(s). I have only a phone conversation in June and your oral explanation last Sunday, to let me know what is being done.

Perhaps, more than angry, I'm frustrated.

Sincerely,



CONF009555

DYKES\_I\_007422





And Hil is not always present, so what happens when Jim Henderson or Larry Ferguson or someone else is in charge?

I still feel it is important that each member of the district committee be given a directive spelling out National's directive(s) and making sure it is understood that Joe may not participate, even casually.

I feel that it is vital for this to be done before the Rendezvous so that I will not have to worry about my son [REDACTED] having any chance encounter with Joe.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

CONF009557

DYKES\_I\_007424

July 28, 1981

Mr. John Thurston  
Boy Scouts of America  
Western Colorado Council  
528 Rood Avenue  
Grand Junction, Colorado 81501

Dear John,

When you called me following my letter of June 21, 1981, you indicated that you would be sending Joe Lister a letter informing him that he could not again attend any scout functions, even just to visit, as had happened the weekend of June 20. You said that I would receive a copy of the letter, though you said it would be a "blind copy", so as not to cause further consternation to Joe. You also indicated that members of the Three Rivers District Committee would receive copies since some might have gathered from the friendliness shown Joe on that weekend, that it was okay for him to be included in scouting activities.

I know that you are concerned about Joe filing a defamation of character suit against Western Colorado Council. You did indicate to me, however, that you were assured that Joe had committed these sexual offenses and that he would be barred from scouting. We discussed the fact that the official attitude of "Wait and See" has been a slap in the face to me and to my sons. I feel that I have shown a great deal of patience thus far. However, as I indicated to you in my previous letter, you have lost [REDACTED] to scouting already and [REDACTED] is feeling some ambivalence. My enthusiasm is at a low point also, due to my hesitation to participate in anything where Joe might show up.

It has been over a month since our phone conversation. I hope this will be resolved quickly.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Copy to George McCollum, Committee Chairman Troop 230

CONF009558

DYKES\_I\_007425

June 21, 1981

Mr. John Thurston  
Boy Scouts of America  
Western Colorado Council  
628 Rood Avenue  
Grand Junction, Colorado 81501

Dear John,

I left the Scout Leader training session at Rifle on June 20 very upset because Joe Lister had been there. When I found that he had also been there the night before "to bring ice and visit" I was even more upset. Last Wednesday I was informed that Gil Gilbertson was requesting Joe's presence at David Long's Eagle Court of Honor. All of this indicates to me that Joe is quickly being allowed to get back into Scouting, even if unofficially.

Surely, the lie detector tests which three boys passed "with flying colors" according to the examiner cannot be refuted. They prove beyond doubt to me and to the people I've talked to in the Sheriff's office that Joe is indeed guilty of sexually molesting the boys. The fact that the boys were my sons, his former [REDACTED] should not mean that it is OK to take an ambivalent point of view, and to allow Joe to be in contact with other Scouts as he was the weekend of June 19-21. More than 40 boys were there for pre-jamboree training. I'm sure that Joe was in contact with some of them.

I have known of men being disassociated from Scouting on anonymous tips regarding their sexual advances to boys. I have not been anonymous. Taking a stand has been a great strain to the boys and to me. It is important to all of us that Joe not be given the opportunity, at least through Scouting, to continue to hurt young boys. [REDACTED] became so angry last night that he says he'll never do anything for Scouting again. At age 18 it is hard for him to understand that Scouting is not at fault, only mis-judgment on the part of individuals. I pray that time and action will heal his anger. [REDACTED] is within one merit badge and his service project of attaining his Eagle. It will break my heart if this achievement he has worked so hard for is not accomplished because of anger over Joe's increasing re-involvement with Scouts.

My commitment to Scouting is deep. I have refocused my energies in Scouting to give more time to my boys' activities, but I have remained strong in my faith that Scouting is a wonderfully worthwhile, upbuilding program.

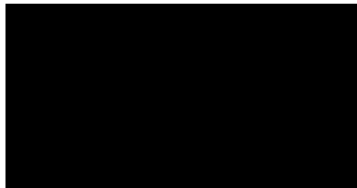
CONF009559

DYKES\_I\_007426

The fact that you have not wanted to take a stand, pending results of the investigation, has hurt me deeply, but I have tried very hard to understand your position. I cannot, however, see how Western Colorado Council can continue to "stay on the fence". The lie detector tests were given in January. I am aware that you were informed of the results soon thereafter. In my opinion, they should be evidence enough to remove a man from Scouting so that he will be unable to use Scouting any longer to cover his pederasty.

I am willing to give permission for the polygraph examiner to give a statement to you, if that is what is needed to convince you that Joe has sexually abused my sons, all of whom were in the Scouting program. I request that you make a decision, so that Joe will not be allowed to show up at Scouting functions in the future on any pretext.

Yours in Scouting,



Copies to:

George McCollum, Committee Chairman Troop 230  
Bob Jarnot, Scoutmaster, Troop 230  
Clyde Mayer, District Executive, Three Rivers District  
Terry Quinn, Attorney at Law  
Eagle County Sheriff's Department

CONF009560

DYKES\_I\_007427

January 26, 1981

Mr. John O. Thurston  
Scout Executive  
Western Colorado Cocl., No. 64

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Re: Joe Allen Lister

Dear John:

Thank you for all the information which Ted Accas has been passing on to us concerning Joe Allen Lister. This is building our file quite nicely and will be very helpful to us in the future.

I would like a copy of the letter which you sent or delivered to Mr. Lister. We would also like to know if this individual submitted a written resignation from the Scout units with which he was associated. A copy of this would also be helpful.

Has Mr. Lister questioned his refusal to be an active member of Scouting at the present time? We would like to have some of these answers, in order to make our case more secure.

It would also be helpful to have the disposition of this case when it finally comes to trial. If he is convicted, we would appreciate knowing the sentence which is imposed.

Do not hesitate to call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Paul I. Ernst, Director  
Registration, Subscription &  
Statistical Services

zvh

cc: Ted Accas, Director of Support Services, North Central Region  
North Central Region

CONF009561

DYKES\_I\_007428



SCOUTING/USA

A program for Cub Scouts, Scouts, and Explorers

Co-64

North Central Region — Boy Scouts of America

Suite 2600 Power & Light Building, Kansas City, Missouri 64105  
Telephone: 816 471-6373

January 19, 1981

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

TO: SUM #0108  
Paul I. Ernst  
Registration Service

FROM: Ted Accas

SUBJECT: Western Colorado Council -- Confidential Filing  
Joe Allen Lister

Attached please find a news story from the EAGLE VALLEY ENTERPRISE, along with a copy of a letter to John Thurston, Scout Executive, Western Colorado Council, from [REDACTED] who is evidently the wife of Joe Allen Lister.

jg

cc: John Thurston

R. STARON

JAN 21 1981

CONF009562

DYKES\_I\_007429

Dear John,

Your predictions so far as the newspaper were sadly correct. I'm enclosing the article.

I have written Joe to ask him to return the Cub Scout records, money & check book in his possession. It may be necessary to ask you to pick them up from him. I'll let you know.

I think it would be helpful to have you and/or Clyde here to meet with Jack's parents, as you did with Scott. You could call me at school between 2-2:30, 328-6981, or at home after 5 or so.

I will help in any way I can to let people in Western Colo. Council know that "Scouting is super, and not at fault in any way in this matter."

Best regards,



CONF009563

DYKES\_I\_007430





SCOUTING/USA

Ted -

The saga continues ...

The article is fair and factual even though - they embellished my remarks a bit. The headline is catchy.

It's been 6 days and no other media contacts have been made at this point. This paper is a very small newspaper and the big ones may feel "scooped" and not cover it at all.

You can add this to the file -

See you in Texas -

John O. Thurston

CONF009564

DYKES\_I\_007431

# Edwards Scoutmaster accused of child molesting

Edwards Scoutmaster has been charged with two counts of sexual assault against a child in incidents that allegedly have occurred over a period of five years. Joe Lister, 30, a resident of Edwards and Scoutmaster of Troop 230 for about five years, is charged with committing sexual assaults against his two [redacted] boys, aged 18 and 19. Chuck Hanlon, investigator for the Eagle County Sheriff's Department, said he is planning to meet with parents of current and former members of Troop 230 to find out whether other youngsters were involved as well. Hanlon also plans to investigate the possibility of incidents at the Red Sandstone Elementary School in Vail, where Lister worked as head custodian. The [redacted] have given Hanlon recorded statements detailing their allegations against Lister, and they also have supplied names of about 10 other possible victims. A third [redacted] now 16, lives with his natural father in Estes Park, Hanlon said. Hanlon said the investigation probably will take two weeks. Lister, who has been in Scouting for about 15 years, was arrested at his home on the evening of December 19 after his

wife informed the Eagle County Department of Social Services of the alleged incidents that morning. According to Hanlon, Social Services currently is working with Lister's wife and children. The suspect is free on \$7,500 bond. He is scheduled to face a preliminary hearing in the Eagle County District Court on January 7. John Thurston, council executive for the Western Colorado Council, Boy Scouts of America, said Monday that Lister was suspended last week after the Scouting council was informed of the charges. "This is a rather serious allegation for someone who is involved with boys in a program such as Scouting," Thurston said. According to Thurston, the Boy Scouts routinely allow local churches, service organizations and parent groups to select adult Scout leaders from their own communities. This procedure, he explained, normally prevents child molesting incidents and other problems, since leaders are chosen locally by people who know them, and not by the district council. In the case of Edwards, Troop 230 is sponsored by a group of parents, Thurston said.

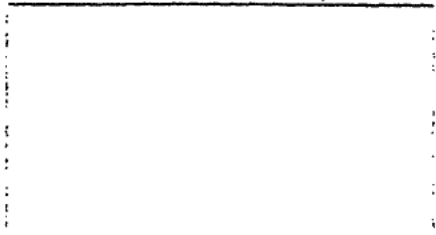
"They're all shocked at the allegations as we are," he said, but they plan to continue with the Scouting program. Thurston said the district council has suspended Lister's registration based on the allegations. "If Lister is cleared, he can re-apply for his registration, but the suspension will remain in

effect until that time, Thurston added. Gene Gallegos, superintendent of the Eagle County School District, has written a letter of inquiry to the sheriff's department in relation to Lister's position as head custodian at Red Sandstone Elementary School. Gallegos was not available for comment at press time.

STATE OF COLORADO  
County of \_\_\_\_\_

CRIMINAL CASE NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
BY THE COUNTY COURT.

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO  
vs.  
JOE ALLAN LISTER



Time of Filing \_\_\_\_\_ O'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

COMPLAINT

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

The Complaint and Information of \_\_\_\_\_

made before Donald A. Grant 1980  
Judge, of the County Court in and for the said County, on the

19th day of December A. D. 1980, being duly sworn on each says that

Joe Allan Lister

or about

on, 6888: the July 25th, 1980 A. D.

1980, at, to-wit: the said County of Eagle in the State aforesaid

Count 1: Joe Allan Lister did unlawfully, feloniously and knowingly subject another not his spouse to sexual contact, to wit one \_\_\_\_\_ by playing with genital area (Penis), and did therefor commit the Crime of Sexual Assault on a Child C.R.S 18-3-405 as amended (F4)

Report to Date on Joe Allen Lister Case.

At 11:30 P.M. Friday, December 19, 1980, Clyde Mayer, District Executive of our Three-Rivers District, received a call from [REDACTED]. He was told that she and two of her boys had filed complaints on Joe and that he had been arrested and jailed. [REDACTED] has [REDACTED] by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] Joe. One [REDACTED] with [REDACTED] and the [REDACTED] with Joe and [REDACTED]. The charge was sexual assault on [REDACTED]. She called Clyde out of her love and concern for Scouting.

Clyde called me right after the call. I went to the office at Midnight read through Procedures for Maintaining Standards of Leadership and Emergency P.R. At 12:30 A.M. I called Russ Buffkins at home to inform him of the potential situation.

Over the weekend, I personally contacted the council officers and attorney to acquaint them with the problem. I also called [REDACTED] who had taken the boys to Loveland, Colorado for a week. I called the Sheriff's office to confirm the charges.

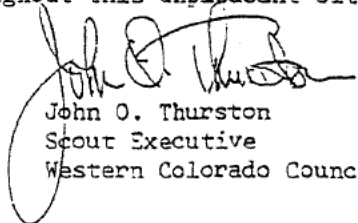
Monday, I talked to the Sheriff and the troop committee chairman by phone; the charges were confirmed at that time. I also learned that Joe had made bail on Saturday. I indicated that we needed to personally deliver the prescribed letter to Joe and I set up a meeting with the Sheriff and committee to talk over the best method to do that.

At 8:00 p.m. Monday Evening, Clyde Mayer and I met with the Sheriff, Jack Haynes. Jack has a boy in Cubs and his wife is a den leader. He was and will be very cooperative with us. He assigned a deputy to accompany us as we attempted to hand deliver "the letter." We checked his home and his mother's home and were unable to contact him.

It is a three hour drive to Edwards so the Sheriff will try to help us locate him before we try again. I do not plan to try to suspend him from scouting by phone since we feel he is unstable enough at this point to do bodily harm to himself.

We have established with the Sheriff and unit committee that I will be the only scouting spokesman should the media become involved.

I conclude by reporting how much I appreciate Russ Buffkin's help, David Park's, Ted Accas' help and the knowledge that I have some good friends at the Regional and National offices to call on throughout this unpleasant situation.

  
John O. Thurston  
Scout Executive  
Western Colorado Council #64

CONF009567

DYKES\_I\_007434

January 6, 1981

Mr. John O. Thurston  
Scout Executive  
Western Colorado Cncl., No. 64

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Re: Joseph Lister

Dear John:

Thank you for providing the North Central Region with all the material related to the case of Joe Allan Lister. This material will certainly be most helpful to us in making certain that this individual does not register in Scouting in some other location in the country.

We hope you will keep us informed related to this situation as it progresses. When this case comes to trial, we would like to know the outcome and any sentencing, if the individual is judged guilty. This material will strengthen our case for the future and provide information if neither of us is available on our present jobs.

Please let me know if I can be of help in any other way.

Sincerely,

Paul L. Ernst, Director  
Registration, Subscription &  
Statistical Services

rvh

cc: Ted Accas, Director of Support Services, North Central Region  
North Central Region

CONF009568

DYKES\_I\_007435



SCOUTING/USA

A program for Cub Scouts, Scouts, and Explorers

North Central Region — Boy Scouts of America

Suite 2600 Power & Light Building, Kansas City, Missouri 64105  
Telephone: 816 471-6373

December 29, 1980

P E R S O N A L   &   C O N F I D E N T I A L

TO:           SUM 0108  
              PAUL I. ERNST  
              Registration & Subscription Service

FROM:         Ted Accas, Director of Support Services  
              North Central Region

SUBJECT:      Confidential Record Sheet - Joe Allen Lister  
              Western Colorado Council - #64

The attached is supplemental information that was phoned into Field Operations by me on December 22 and relayed to you by Conrad Fruehan.

Attached:

Confidential Record Sheet - Joe Allen Lister  
Arrest Warrant - People of the State of Colorado vs  
                                  Joe Allan Lister  
Report to date issued by Scout Executive, John Thurston

jg

cc:         Folkman Brown  
              John Thurston  
              Western Colorado Council File

CONF009569

DYKES\_I\_007436



SCOUTING/USA

A program for Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Explorers

National Office  
**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**

P.O. Box 61030, Dallas/Fort Worth Airport, Texas 75261  
Telephone: 214 659-2000

12/22/80

TO: Paul Ernst  
CC: E.M. McAllister

Ted Accas - N.C. Reg. - called this morning to relay to you the following information:

JOSEPH LISTER registered as  
SCOUTMASTER TROOP 230  
Western Colo. Council in Grand Junction

is presently in jail accused of sexually assaulting the son of a wife of a former marriage.

Lister is also registered in a number of other capacities including Cubmaster and District Committee. He has the Silver Beaver. He is about 35 yrs of age and a resident of Edwards Colo near Vail.

Scout Executive John T Hurston (B- 303/243-0346  
H- 303/245-0695) has already talked with Russ Buffkins - following procedures in "Standards of Leadership".

The Area Director has been advised.

C. J. Inman

Located on Walnut Hill Lane in Las Colinas Office Center, Irving Texas.

CONF009570

DYKES\_I\_007437