



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
GOLDEN GATE AREA COUNCIL

November 17, 2020

Dear Scouting Family,

As the national organization reaches a significant moment in its bankruptcy case, the Golden Gate Area Council wants our Scouting community to know that we share in the Boy Scouts of America's heartfelt support for victims of past abuse in Scouting.

Tens of thousands of individuals submitted claims in advance of the November 16th deadline set by the court in the national organization's Chapter 11 case. We are moved by their bravery. Millions of youth across our country have benefited from Scouting for more than 100 years, but the number of individuals who have been affected by past abuse is devastating.

Following the November 16th deadline, the next step will be for third-party advisors to review the claims in order to uphold the integrity of the process, while the national organization works to develop a plan of reorganization to fund the proposed Trust.

It is important to note that while any instance of abuse is one too many, the overwhelming majority of abuse claims filed in the national organization's bankruptcy case relate to allegations of abuse that occurred before our modern youth protection policies were put in place more than three decades ago.

We want to underscore what many of you already know: The safety and protection of the children in our programs is our absolute top priority. The BSA has multi-layered safeguards in place, all of which act as barriers to abuse, and I can assure you that our volunteers and staff members take these measures extremely seriously. I encourage you to review our [safety policies and procedures](#) to better understand our commitment to youth safety and ask that you share this information with friends, neighbors, and family members who ask about this topic. Some helpful resources include our [Youth Safety Infographic](#) and [Video](#).

The Golden Gate Area Council remains committed to delivering Scouting's unparalleled experiences to young people throughout our communities, and we thank you for your continued support. If you have any other questions about the policies in place to keep kids safe in Scouting today, please feel free to contact us at 925-674-6150. If you have questions about the recent news regarding the national organization's bankruptcy case, please reference [this FAQ](#).

Yours in Scouting,

Dan Walters
Council President

Paul Shimotake
Council Commissioner

John Fenoglio
Scout Executive