

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

DATE September 18, 1985

FULL NAME ROBERT CRAWFORD BOWDEN SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER [REDACTED]
 (No initials if you can possibly get full name)

ADDRESS [REDACTED]

CITY Nashville, STATE Tennessee ZIP CODE 37211

DATE OF BIRTH 11-28-57 (This is important and should be exact)

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

RELIGION United Methodist NATIONALITY U.S. Citizen

OCCUPATION Construction Worker

EDUCATION '76 High School Graduate, did not attend college

WEIGHT 175 HEIGHT 5'11" RACE White

COLOR OF HAIR Brown COLOR OF EYES Brown

OUTSTANDING CHARACTERISTICS OR INTERESTS drinking problem, obnoxious attitude

MARRIED OR SINGLE Divorced CHILDREN none

NAME OF SPOUSE [REDACTED] (Number, ages, and names, if possible)

SCOUTING CONNECTIONS:

| <u>UNIT #</u> | <u>CITY</u> | <u>STATE</u> | <u>POSITION</u> | <u>DATE REGISTERED</u> | <u>DATE RESIGNED</u> |
|-------------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Troop 4 | Nashville, | Tennessee | ASM | 5/81 | 5/84 |
| Troop 210 | " | " | " | was not registered | 2/21/85 |
| Unit Commissioner | " | " | District #2 | 2/84 | 2/21/85 |

SPECIAL RECOGNITION active in OA

SUSPENDED OR DENIED REGISTRATION FOR FOLLOWING REASONS:

no previous suspension or denial

F. STARON
 SEP 23 1985

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

Indicted on two counts aggravated sexual battery, one count sexual battery against two separate boys under age 12 (Boy Scouts). He pled guilty and was convicted. Has been incarcerated, but is now out on probation and receiving court ordered psychological treatment.

Supporting facts were sent prior to this report. Signed [Signature] SCOUT EXECUTIVE
 However, presentence report copy (source of information above) is attached. Council MIDDLE TENNESSEE #560

RS-509
 4/14/83-nah

NOTED
 OCT 01 '85
 JOSEPH L. ANGLIM

STEWART, ESTES & DONNELL

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

THIRD NATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTER, 14TH FLOOR

424 CHURCH STREET

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37219-2392

(615) 244-6538

H. FRANCIS STEWART
ROBERT L. ESTES
THOMAS M. DONNELL, JR.
PHILIP M. KIRKPATRICK
STEPHEN K. HEARD*
M. MILTON SWEENEY
M. REID ESTES, JR.
MICHAEL J. QUINAN
D. ROBERT BLACK, JR.
JERRY W. CARNES**
MARTIN D. HOLMES
PETER E. KLETT III
NANCY L. CHILDRESS**

CASE SETTLED
DEPOSITION?
CONCERNED
8-31-89

TELECOPIER
(615) 256-8386

*ALSO ADMITTED IN GEORGIA
**ALSO ADMITTED IN TEXAS
AND ARIZONA
*ALSO ADMITTED IN ALABAMA

May 2, 1989

Robert C Bowden

Mr. Paul Ernst
Boy Scouts of America
1325 Walnut Hill Lane
Irving, Texas 75062-1296

Re: [REDACTED], et al. v. Herbert White, et al.
Our File No.: 885-450

Dear Mr. Ernst:

This will confirm that your deposition has been rescheduled for Thursday, September 7, 1989 commencing at 9:00 a.m. here in our offices. There is a possibility that your deposition will commence on September 6th if Ambler Brown's deposition is completed on that date. This will further confirm that I will be meeting with you here in my office on Tuesday, September 5, 1989, in the afternoon along with Mr. Dick Ford, counsel for BSA from Orlando, Florida, in order that we might discuss this case prior to your testimony on the 7th or possibly the 6th. We will also be meeting with Mr. Ambler Brown of the Middle Tennessee Council during the morning of the 5th. Your deposition will follow Mr. Brown's which is scheduled to begin on September 6, 1989. Accordingly, I would like for you to mark on your calendar for the afternoon of the 5th, all day the 6th and 7th.

Please advise us of your travel arrangements and we will work with you in order to schedule your conference with us on the 5th at a time that is convenient to you.

Should you or Ms. Duhs have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Philip M. Kirkpatrick

Philip M. Kirkpatrick

PMK:tf

cc: Richards Ford
Ms. Debra Duhs
Mr. Carl Harper, Claim No. 0835-410-57-28-44

CONF024481

CALL BACK REQUESTED

COUNCIL # 560

PHONE NO: [REDACTED]

CALLER: *Angie Lang Deen*

POSITION: DE

TYPE OF PROBLEM

REGISTRATION _____ VETERANS _____ EXPLORING _____
SCOUTING _____ BOYS' LIFE _____

UNIT # DIST. # EXP. DATE TRANSMITTAL # FILM #

9602 *Mar 18 85* 2-86

Dist Roster Dist Recharged 2/85

Robert Bowden

was not on roster when sent in the same not find if he was. - Could involve Law Suit

Mr Deen will not be in Fee

*Could have come in on Transmittal 4-04 4/84
or 5-02 5/84*

MIDDLE OF 84 THROUGH FEB 85

NAME *J Meyer*

DATE *4/16/86*

TIME *343p*

October 2, 1985

Mr. E. L. Tolbert
Scout Executive
Middle Tennessee Council, No. 560

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Robert C. Bowden

Dear Hershel:

Thank you for the detailed information concerning the above Scouter. We have reviewed this case with our Attorney and have now placed this man permanently on the Confidential File.

Sincerely,

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

bjc

cc: Southeast Region

10-2-85
WAW

CONF024483



Middle Tennessee Council — Boy Scouts of America

3414 Hillsboro Road, Nashville, Tennessee 37215
Telephone: (615) 383-9724

August 27, 1985

Ms. Debbie Duhs
Risk Management Division SUM 0402
Boy Scouts of America
1325 Walnut Hill Lane
Irving, TX 75038-3096

Location Code: 02-06-560

Dear Debbie,

Here's some cheerful news -- Mr. Bowden is now out of jail. Enclosed are copies of two newspaper articles relating his release.

I'll keep you posted as other developments arise.

Sincerely,

Ambler Brown
Finance Director

AB/ac

CONF024484

Nashville Banner, Friday, August 23, 1985

Scout molester gets probation after 90 days of 5-year term

By Jim Henry
Banner Staff Writer



Robert Bowden will undergo counseling

Convicted Boy Scout molester Robert Bowden today was placed on five years' supervised probation and mandatory counseling after serving only about three months of a previously-imposed five-year sentence.

Criminal Court Judge Randall Wyatt today reduced the former Boy Scout leader's five-year Metro Workhouse sentence for fondling two scouts. Under Wyatt's order, Bowden also will undergo mandatory counseling for drinking and sexual problems.

Bowden, 27, of 570 McMurray Drive, pleaded guilty to two counts of sexual battery in April after admitting he fondled two scouts on different occasions, including Boy Scout-oriented meetings at his apartment.

The incidents are now the subject of more than \$1 million in civil suits naming Bowden and the Boy Scouts of America as defendants, claiming BSA officials allowed Bowden to continue as a scout leader despite a previous complaint about his fondling a scout.

Wyatt said after the decision he had been reluctant to grant probation, but felt that the restrictions he had placed on Bowden would serve as sufficient "safeguards."

"He (Bowden) would have been eligible for probation anyway after about 12 or 13 months. Being a first offender, he would probably have been turned loose, without any kind of treatment, and free to do whatever he wanted," the judge said.

Please see SCOUT, page A-10

... Scout

"This way, he will still be under closely supervised treatment for 14 to 16 months, being kept apart from any young people, while he undergoes treatment for his drinking problem and for the sexual thing."

"I have given strict instructions for him to check with my probation officer once a month, and he (Bowden) knows if he does anything even approaching what took place earlier, he knows he will be back to serve the rest of that sentence," the judge said.

Bowden admitted a chronic drinking problem at his sentencing hearing earlier, blaming his drinking for his admitted sexual misbehavior and asking the judge for a probationary sentence.

But Wyatt said he would not consider any kind of probationary sentence unless treatment for his sexual preference for young boys was made a condition.

"I have also made it clear that for this entire 16 months he is to be 'incapacitated' as far as access to any young children goes. Ev-

eryone around him in this program will be an adult. He is not to go anywhere else, or to leave the program," he said.

"I just felt like this will be doing more good than having him working as a cook down at the workhouse, and (will) still protect the children of Davidson County," Wyatt said.

Under the probation agreement approved today, Bowden is to report in Chattanooga Monday to a program called Teen Challenge for treatment of his drinking problem, said Bowden's attorney, Assistant Public Defender Karl Dean.

After about six months in Chattanooga, he is to commence a program of sexual therapy in Cape Girardeau, Mo., Dean said.

Scout molester to undergo alcohol, sexual counseling

By Jim Henry
Banner Staff Writer

Convicted Boy Scout molester Robert Bowden is to enter an alcohol rehabilitation program Monday after winning five years' probation in lieu of a Metro Workhouse sentence on Friday.

Bowden will have served only about three months of his original five-year sentence for fondling two Scouts, but under Criminal Court Judge Randall Wyatt's order, he will be required to undergo counseling for his acknowledged drinking and sexual problems.

Bowden, 27, of 570 McMurray Drive, pleaded guilty to two counts of sexual battery in April after admitting he fondled two Scouts on different occasions, including Boy Scout-oriented meetings at his apartment.

The incidents are now the subject of more than \$1 million in civil suits naming Bowden and the Boy Scouts of America as defendants, claiming BSA officials al-

lowed Bowden to continue as a Scout leader despite a previous complaint about his fondling a scout.

Wyatt said after the decision he had been reluctant to grant probation, but felt that the restrictions he had placed on Bowden would serve as sufficient "safeguards."

"He (Bowden) would have been eligible for probation anyway after about 12 or 13 months. Being a first offender, he would probably have been turned loose, without any kind of treatment, and free to do whatever he wanted," the judge said.

"This way, he will still be under closely supervised treatment for 14 to 16 months, being kept apart from any young people, while he undergoes treatment for his drinking problem and for the sexual thing," the judge said.

Attorneys representing the boys' parents in the two civil suits said they were not made aware of Friday's hearing in advance, and

did not believe their clients were consulted.

Assistant District Attorney General Tom Thurman said earlier the parents were opposed to probation, but that they did not object to Bowden serving his sentence at the workhouse instead of the state penitentiary.

"The state was opposed to probation, obviously," said Assistant District Attorney General Cheryl Blackburn, who represented the state at the hearing, as Thurman was on vacation.

"We felt he had simply not served enough time. Maybe probation would've been more appropriate at a later date. The judge made it clear, though, that he (Bowden) is not to receive any leaves or furloughs. He is going to have to stay in the treatment programs," she said.

The prosecutor said she was not aware of any effort to consult the boys' parents. They could not be reached for comment after the hearing.

Ex-Scout Leader Set To Start Alcohol Fight

A former Boy Scout leader, convicted last April of fondling two scouts, reports Monday to a Chattanooga treatment center for his alcohol problem as a condition of his probation.

Criminal Court Judge J. Randall Wyatt granted the probation yesterday to Robert Bowden, 27, after the former assistant scoutmaster served 90 days of a five-year term for sexual battery in the Metro Workhouse.

"It is a strict and rigid probation and that is why I think the judge gave it to him," said Metro Assistant Public Defender Carl Dean, who represented Bowden. "His freedom will be completely restrained."

Davidson County Assistant District Attorney General Cheryl Blackburn opposed the granting of probation to Bowden.

Bowden will undergo counseling for his alcohol problem for six months at Teen Challenge, a treatment center in Chattanooga, and will then be transferred to a center in Cape Girardeau, Mo. for sexual therapy.

At his sentencing hearing last May, Bowden, also a carpenter, blamed his sexual misconduct on his drinking problem. He told Wyatt at the hearing that he had his drinking under control.

Bowden will have no contact with young people while undergoing treatment and will be required to check with his probation officer once a month, Wyatt said.

The two Boy Scouts and their families have sued Bowden and the Boy Scouts of America over the fondling incidents, which took place last summer and February, asking more than \$1 million in damages.

The two scouts were 12 and 13 years-old when they were fondled and prosecutors forced Bowden to admit at his trial that he fondled one of the scouts at least 10 times last summer.

Bowden fondled a second boy last February — after he was confronted about his behavior by the mother of the first boy and by Boy Scout officials.

Bowden pleaded guilty last April to two counts of sexual battery, which is defined by state law as sexually oriented touching without actual penetration.

8/24/85
Tennessee



PRESENTENCE REPORT

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|------|-------|-------|-----|-------|-------|------------|--------------------|
| J. Randall Wyatt, J. | 85-W-363 | | | | | | | | |
| Court | Sentencing Hearing Date | | | | | | | | |
| Div. II Criminal | 5-24-85 | | | | | | | | |
| Region | Date of Conviction | | | | | | | | |
| Mid-Cumberland | 4-25-85 pled guilty | | | | | | | | |
| Defense Attorney Appointed | County | | | | | | | | |
| Karl Dean | Davidson | | | | | | | | |
| District Attorney | Date Referred | | | | | | | | |
| Tom Thurman | 4-26-85 | | | | | | | | |
| Name (Last, First, Middle) AKA | Address | | | | | | | | |
| Bowden, Robert Crawford | [REDACTED] | | | | | | | | |
| Phone: [REDACTED] | Nashville, TN 37211 | | | | | | | | |
| Age | D.O.B. | Sex | Race | Ht. | Wt. | Eyes | Hair | Report Due | |
| 27 | 11-28-57 | Male | White | 5'11" | 175 | Brown | Brown | 5-24-85 | |
| Social Security Number | | | | | | | | FBI Number | FBI Sheet Attached |
| [REDACTED] | | | | | | | | NONE | Yes No X |
| Marital Status | | | | | | | | | |
| Divorced | | | | | | | | | |
| Prepared By/Date | | | | | | | | | |
| Debra Corlew 5-22-85 | | | | | | | | | |

OFFENSE

| | |
|---|---|
| Offense/Date Occurred 11-83, 1-85 <u>Indicted on:</u> Aggravated Sexual Battery (cts. 1 & 3), Sexual Battery (ct. 2) <u>Sentenced on:</u> Sexual Battery (cts. 1 & 3) | Date When Arrested, by Whom and Where Arrested (County) Arrested on 3-18-85 in Nashville, Davidson County, by Metro Police. |
| Present Location of Defendant <u>Property</u> in Custody _____ Amount \$20,000.00 Time in Jail 3-29-85 | Sentenced Imposed <u>The State recommends:</u> <u>3 yrs. (ct. 1) & 2 yrs. (ct. 3) to run consecutive.</u> Disposition : Metro Workhouse |

OFFICIAL VERSION

On 3-15-85 subject was indicted in that between 11-83 and 1-85 he did unlawfully and feloniously commit the following;

Aggravated Sexual Battery (cts. 1 & 3), in that he did subject [REDACTED] (ct. 1), and [REDACTED] (ct. 3) to unlawful sexual conduct, and said child was then a child less than thirteen years of age,

Sexual Battery (ct. 2), in that he did subject [REDACTED] to unlawful sexual contact and force or coercion was used to accomplish the act.

On 3-22-85 subject was arraigned and pled not guilty. On 4-25-85 he entered guilty pleas to counts 1 and 2, which were reduced to sexual battery.

Following is the Agency Statement.

The victim in this case are [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], both victims are male whites, 12 and 13 years of age. Both victims are members of the Boy's Scouts Unit where Robert Bowden, the suspect, is an assistant scout master. During July of 1984 the suspect had been molesting [REDACTED] for several months until July of 1984. The suspect would put his hands in the victim's pants and fondle the victim's penis. These incidents occurred at least 10 times, and the victim told his friend, [REDACTED], who told the victim's mother, [REDACTED]

OFFICIAL VERSION

CONT.....

██████████ called Mr. Moyer, a scout leader of the troupe, and a meeting was conducted. During this meeting the suspect, victim, victim's mother, and ██████████ arrived, and Mr. Moyer asked them not to notify the police or DHS and advised them that he would handle the situation and the matter was dropped. At the meeting the suspect admitted his involvement and stated that it never would happen again if they'd let him go. Det. David Bradford of Youth Guidance, has since discovered through another investigation that nothing was done about the defendant assaulting the victim because another victim, ██████████ reports that on 1-25-85, the suspect fondled his penis and asked him not to tell anyone. Because of these facts, Det. Bradford would like to make a direct presentment to the grand jury against Bowden for the above mentioned charges.

DEFENDANT(S) STATEMENT

Please find subject's statement attached to this report.

CO-DEFENDANT (S)

None

VICTIM'S STATEMENT

The victim in Counts 1 and 2 is ██████████, ██████████ Antioch, 37013, ██████████. He turned 14 years old on ██████████ but at the time of these incidents, he was 12 and 13. On 5-21-85 this Officer spoke with ██████████. She states that her husband, (who is presently in the hospital) her son, and herself all feel that subject should serve his entire sentence. She feels that her son is still holding something back and may have been damaged emotionally. The reason for their opposition to probation is that when Mr. Bowden was confronted with this in the summer of 1984 he promised to get some type of help. In January of 1985, when the incident with the other child surfaced, he had not attempted to get any type of help. She feels that his personal life is his business, but he should conduct it with consenting adults, not children. He should receive treatment while incarcerated. She feels he uses drinking as an excuse for his actions. She has only seen him drinking once and doesn't know if he has a problem but her son said Bowden was not drinking when he touched him. She states her son is afraid Bowden will kill him if released and she doesn't know if he was threatened with this or not. She has seen him violent one time when he whipped a child with his belt for poor grades on his report card, and he was not drinking.

No restitution is being sought, however the victim has an appointment for counseling on 5-29-85 with Ms. Bond at Youth Guidance. She will try to determine whether follow-up counseling is necessary at Luton Community Mental Health Center.

The victim in count 3 is ██████████, who turned 13 on ██████████. He lives at ██████████, Nolensville, 37135, ██████████. On 5-21-85 this Officer spoke with ██████████. She states that her family feels the defendant should spend a reasonable amount of time incarcerated with counseling. They feel he should be punished and will not oppose probation if he has served some of the sentence.

VICTIM'S STATEMENT CONT.....

No restitution is owed now, but she would like the option to have it ordered at a later date if her son requires counseling in the future (while the defendant is still on probation.)

MITIGATING FACTORS

None were filed, but the following could be considered.

- 1) the defendant's criminal conduct neither caused nor threatened serious bodily injury;
- 2) the defendant did not contemplate that his criminal conduct would cause or threaten serious bodily injury.

ENHANCING FACTORS

None were filed, but the following could be considered.

- 3) the offense involved more than one (1) victim;
- 7) the offense involved a victim and was committed to gratify the defendant's desire for pleasure or excitement.

PRIOR RECORD

None

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Subject has no known prior record.

On 5-1-85 Metro Juvenile Court verified no record there.

Subject states he has never been incarcerated, or on probation or parole.

An FBI sheet was requested but there wasn't one.

EDUCATION

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| Highest Grade Completed | <u>12th</u> | School | <u>Overton High School</u> | Verif. |
| | | | | <u>yes</u> |
| Last Year Attended | <u>6/2/76</u> | Reason for Leaving | <u>Graduated</u> | <u>yes</u> |

Comments: Subject states he has had no formal education since graduating from high school.

Education was verified by a copy of diploma in file.

On 5-3-85 subject called and stated that he is thinking of returning to school in the fall; either to Scarrett for a 2 year program in Director of Christian Ed-

EDUCATION CONT.....

ucation, or to Aquinas or Blair School of Music.

MILITARY INFORMATION

Subject states none.

Verified by mother on 5-21-85..

HEALTH INFORMATION

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------|--------|------------|
| History of Alcohol Abuse | <u>yes</u> | History of Drug Abuse | <u>no</u> | Verif. | <u>yes</u> |
| History of Psychiatric Treatment | <u>no</u> | Under Care of M.D. | <u>no</u> | | <u>yes</u> |

Alcohol Subject states he began drinking beer occasionally at 16 years old. At 18 he increased his use of beer and began using liquor. He began drinking liquor almost everyday and occasionally he got drunk. Since his release from jail, he states he has only had 6 beers and no liquor.

On 5-7-85 Mr. Bowden called to state that on 5-9-85 he went to Pathways, [REDACTED], a drug and alcohol rehabilitation center. He is scheduled for 9 appointments prior to his sentencing hearing. They are held from 5-7 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings. He states that they want him to go to A.A. meetings also.

On 5-7-85 a letter was sent to Pathways to verify attendance there and on 5-10-85 Tom Rutledge, the clinical coordinator contacted me. He stated that they have diagnosed Bowden as being chemically dependent on mood altering chemicals, in his case, alcohol. He feels Bowden is appropriate for inpatient treatment, but can also be treated on an out-patient basis. They have group therapy twice a week and educational discussion group once a week. AA is a very important part of his treatment. Mr. Rutledge feels the defendant will do okay if he can abstain, but if he can't, he will refer him for inpatient treatment. He feels subject can easily con people and will be a "rough case." He feels subject would not be coming to this program, were it not for the threat of a prison sentence.

This Officer instructed Mr. Bowden to bring verification of attendance at AA, but at this writing, he has not done so.

Drugs Subject states he has never used any drugs other than trying marijuana as a teenager.

Psychiatrist Subject states he has never seen a psychiatrist prior to this incident. He did have an intake interview at Luton Community Mental Health Center on 5-15-85. He was to see a therapist and be scheduled for 4 additional sessions. On 5-7-85 a letter was sent to Luton but no response has been received yet.

Health Subject states he is in good health and not on any medication.

All health information was verified by [REDACTED] on 5-21-85. She stated that she feels her son is probably an alcoholic, although she has only seen him drunk once. She states he is not drinking at all now.

FAMILY HISTORY

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Rela'ship</u> | <u>Age</u> | <u>Address</u> | <u>Occupation</u> | <u>Prior Record</u> | <u>V.</u> |
|-------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| [REDACTED] | ex-wife | 26 | [REDACTED] | Continental Ins. | no | |
| [REDACTED] | father | Deceased - 1984 | | | no | |
| [REDACTED] | mother | 55 | [REDACTED] | Teacher [REDACTED] | no | |
| [REDACTED] | brother | 32 | [REDACTED] | Contractor | no | |
| [REDACTED] | grandmother | 80 | [REDACTED] | Retired | no | |

Comments: Subject lives alone in an apartment at [REDACTED]. Verified by home visit on 5-1-85.

[REDACTED] verified all information on 5-21-85. She states her son has always been active in the Church and was a very good son. They had a close family. She feels this entire incident stemmed from his use of alcohol.

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

| <u>From</u> | <u>To</u> | <u>Employer</u> | <u>Address</u> | <u>Wages</u> | <u>Verif.</u> |
|-------------|-----------|-----------------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| 5/14/83 | present | Ernie Hansel | [REDACTED] | \$5.00 hr. | yes |
| 3/81 | 3/82 | George Perkins | [REDACTED] | \$3.30 hr. | yes |
| 11/13/78 | 2/19/80 | St. Dept. of Transportation | [REDACTED] | \$680.00 mo. | yes |

Mr. Ernie Hansel verified employment on 5-13-85. Subject does general repair work such as carpentry, painting, and roofing. Mr. Hansel states he is a "pretty good" worker.

On 5-21-85 Mr. George Perkins verified the approximate dates of employment. He states subject worked for him when he owned a Union 76 Station at 4723 Nolensville Road. Subject was an apprentice mechanic of sorts until being laid off.

Dates of employment with the State were verified on 5-21-85. Subject was an Engineering Aide II. He states he did planning surveys and made maps until he quit.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Financial Assets

1975 Plymouth Trail Duster worth - \$3,000

Financial Liabilities

None

RESTITUTION

restitution is being sought at the present time, however, [REDACTED] states they may want it ordered later if their son has to undergo counseling.

REFERENCES

On 5-15-85 Mr. Dennis Parks, [REDACTED], Minister of the South End Methodist Church where subject attends, contacted this Officer. Mr. Parks states he has known the defendant for the past 3 years, when Mr. Bowden was unemployed. He feels Mr. Bowden has some good qualities but also some flaws. He states subject has been a member of his church for about 4 years. He is in the choir presently but was inactive for several months. His participation increased in about 12/84.

Mr. Parks feels that subject does not have an alcohol problem. He thinks subject needs a mandatory psychological evaluation and heavy treatment, possibly even in-house, or he doesn't feel he will make it. He is not adjusting well in the world. He doesn't believe jail will help the defendant but doesn't feel he should get away with no punishment. He feels that the defendant has not fully realized the fact that he needs help.

SOURCE (S) OF INFORMATION

Interview with subject on 5-1-85
Interview with Mother on 5-21-85
Metro Juvenile Court
Metro Central Records
Criminal Court Clerk's Office
District Attorney's Office
Tom Rutledge - Pathways
Luton Community Mental Health Center

[REDACTED]
Ernie Hansel
George Perkins
State Dept. of Transportation
Mr. Dennis Parks

SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS

Before the Court is a 27 year old single male with no children. He resides alone at [REDACTED] in an apartment. Subject has a high school education and is employed doing general home repair work for Mr. Ernie Hansel.

Subject is before the Court on guilty pleas to two counts of sexual battery. The parents of both victims all feel that Mr. Bowden should serve at least part of his sentence and no restitution is being sought at this time. Subject has no known prior juvenile or adult record.

This defendant, based on his age and lack of any prior record, appears to be someone who would have no problems successfully completing a probationary period. He does claim to have a drinking problem, which is supported by his therapist at Pathways and his mother. He states that this is the cause of his present legal problems. However, there are others who believe this to be an excuse for his actions. The defendant is receiving counseling at both Pathways and Luton Community Mental Health Center. Both of these began after the interview with this Officer. This Officer feels that based on the nature of these offenses, the defendant should be required to serve at least part of his sentence before being granted probation.

Upon his release, he should be required to continue treatment at Luton and Pathways as well as Alcoholics Anonymous, as suggested by Mr. Rutledge at Pathways. Treatment should continue until determined to no longer be useful by the respective agencies.

PLAN OF TREATMENT

If probation is granted, subject should be required to maintain employment and receive treatment. He will also be required to report and pay the probation fee on a monthly basis.

Ms. Debra Corlew

[REDACTED]
Nashville, Tennessee

Dear Ms. Corlew:

It is not easy for me to put into words those things which you have suggested in regard to my past behavior which has caused my present legal difficulties. I shall try.

I believe that much of my trouble stems from my 10 year old battle with alcohol. While in high school I began to drink quite a bit. That has continued until my arrest. Now thanks to much great help by counseling and encouragement from friends, pastors and professionals I am getting a hold on this problem and for the first time in 10 years I feel that I can beat the drinking problem. In evaluation with Pathways of Nashville, I have been diagnosed as being an alcoholic. This confirms what my parents and friends have been telling me for years. My mother, [REDACTED], has seen my drinking problem as the same as my father's, a problem which took his life a little over a year ago.

As I look back on my family life, I recall that my father, whom I still love, was rarely seen sober, especially since his retirement. He was plagued by alcoholism and it eventually conquered him. Now I find alcoholism plaguing me and I want to do something about it.

Because of alcoholism and my mother's having to work day and often into the night I was very often left alone for the most part of the days. I turned to the church and to the Scouts for family life and found in them both a good substitute. For more than 12 years I have been very active in both institutions.

In 1981 I married [REDACTED]. As I look back on that marriage I see it was doomed from the beginning. We had no money, she was still on drugs and both of us had our drinking problems. Our parents were displeased with the marriage and added their displeasure on us. All of this combined to help destroy our noble attempt to live a normal life as husband and wife.

During our marriage I believe that despite our little time together we did have a sexually normal relationship. There were intimate moments which we both enjoyed. There seemed to be no abnormal behavior during our marriage.

During the past months my sexual behavior has taken a strange twist. It has happened only a few times but it has landed me in serious trouble with the law and myself. During my drinking sprées I have been involved with the sexual fondling of boys, usually 11 or 12 years of age. I don't know why I did it. I don't even remember doing it until after my drunken stage is over. This has caused me serious trouble with my conscience and the law. While the incidents have been very few I don't like them and want to stop. Not because of legal problems only, but because I realize this is not normal for me or the boys. I truly want to stop this behavior and will do whatever necessary to stop.

Now as I face sentencing by Judge Wyatt I realize the seriousness of my crime. I hope that I will not be sent to jail. I hope that the court will consider me for probation. I am no threat to society and with professional help I can be and will be cured of this illness of alcoholism and the behavior it has caused me to do. I am sorry for my wrong and hope that you will believe that I will try to do whatever the professional people, family and pastor want.

I feel I am in no position to bargain or even to plead. I only ask for a merciful hearing and probation so I am continue to be a part of the community, healed of my poor behavior and probated to contribute to the progress of people. With that comes my promise to live a good life, with a good job and close family and church ties.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Bowden

Robert C. Bowden
April 29, 1985

LUTON COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER, INC.
Main Office: 5240 Harding Place • Nashville, TN 37217 • 615/834-3240



Woodbine Branch
176 Thompson Lane, Suite 100
Nashville, TN 37211
615/333-3100

Hermitage Branch
105 Bonnahbrook Drive, Suite 100
Hermitage, TN 37076
615/889-6461

May 20, 1985

Debra Corlew
Probation Officer
Department of Corrections
640 Doctor's Building, Room 600
Nashville, TN 37219-5254

RE: Bowden, Robert Crawford
M/W DOB: 11/28/57

Dear Ms. Corlew:

Mr. Bowden was seen for an intake appointment 5/15/85. He is currently on a waiting list for assignment to a therapist. Due to our limited contact with Mr. Bowden, we are unable to provide any pertinent information at this time.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Marshall

Rebecca Marshall, M.A.
Coordinator, Adult Outpatient Services

RM/vld

August 13, 1985

Mr. Ambler Brown
Finance Director
Middle Tennessee Council, No. 560

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Robert C. Bowden

Dear Ambler:

Thank you for all the information which you sent us concerning Robert Bowden. This material was most helpful and should enable us to refuse registration should an application be sent to us at a later time.

I am enclosing a Confidential Record Sheet for your completion. This information will give us all the personal data which will be helpful in identifying Mr. Bowden.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of help.

Sincerely,

Paul Ernst, Director
Registration, Subscription &
Statistical Service

clf

cc: Mr. E. L. Tolbert, Scout Executive, Middle Tennessee Council, No. 560
Southeast Region

Enclosure

READY TO FILE
AUG 14 1985
ERIN O'RILEY

CONF024498

John is
a Van Council

Co 560

Unit 0210

Not on listed

Van transmission, entry 7/85

Robert C Bowden

SA

Not on

84-85 expires



SCOUTING/USA

Middle Tennessee Council—Boy Scouts of America

3414 Hillsboro Road, Nashville, Tennessee 37215
Telephone: (615) 383-9724

Co 560

Location code: 02-06-560

August 9, 1985

Mr. Paul Ernst
Registration Services SUM 0108
Boy Scouts of America
1325 Walnut Hill Lane
Irving, TX 75038-3096

CLAIRE
JET UP
KERRY FAK
LTK

Dear Mr. Ernst,

Enclosed are copies of news articles and the indictment against Robert Bowden. From what I could determine he was registered at the time of the allegations as a unit commissioner, with the Dan Beard District (District 02). His registration with our office was terminated on February 21 upon receiving his resignation (copy enclosed).

I was under the impression you would have already received this information from Hugh Travis, Director of Field Service, but according to Debbie Duhs' conversation as of yesterday you had not.

Robert Bowden, as the news articles report, confessed, pled guilty and is currently incarcerated.

If you need additional information, please don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Ambler Brown
Finance Director

AB/ac

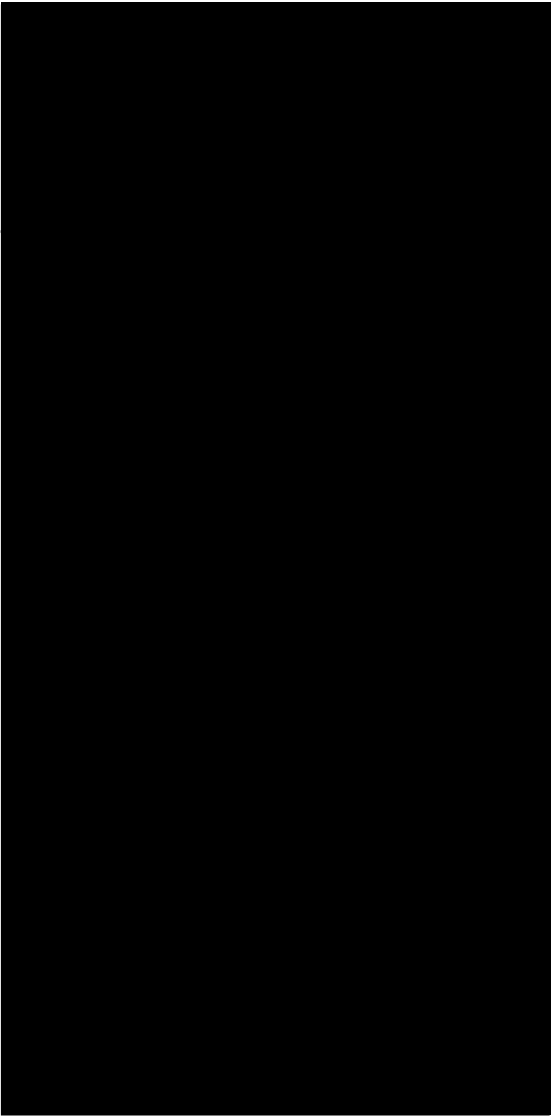
F. STARON

AUG 12 1985

CONF024500

DIRECT PRESENTMENT

SUMMONS WITNESSES FOR THE STATE.



STATE OF TENNESSEE

VS. { Aggravated Sexual
Battery, Cts. 1, 3
Sexual Battery, Ct. 2
ROBERT BOWDEN

David Bradford Prosecutor.

Witnesses sworn during open Court and
sent before the Grand Jury to testify in the

above cause, this 13th day of
March, 1985

Foreman of Grand Jury.

THOMAS H. SHRIVER,
Attorney-General.

State of Tennessee, Davidson County

COUNT THREE

JANUARY

TERM OF THE CRIMINAL COURT, 19 85

The Grand Jurors for the State of Tennessee, duly elected, impaneled, sworn, and charged, to inquire for the body of the County of Davidson and State aforesaid, upon their oath aforesaid, present: That _____

ROBERT BOWDEN

heretofore, to wit, on the _____ day of _____, January _____, 19 85
and prior to the return of this indictment

/with force and arms, in the County aforesaid, unlawfully, and feloniously committed the crime of aggravated sexual battery by subjecting [REDACTED] to unlawful sexual contact and the said [REDACTED] was then a child less than thirteen years of age, in violation of Section 39-2-606 of the Tennessee Code Annotated and against the peace and dignity of the State of Tennessee.

To: Larry Greene

As of this date Feb. 21, 1985. I here
by make official my resignation from
both the Dan Beard District and Middle
In. Council Boy Scouts of America. This
includes any and all areas of scouting.

Bob Bowden

Boy Scouts To Review Adult Volunteer Procedures

KEVIN ELLIS

The Boy Scouts of America will review existing and training procedures for adult leaders after an assistant scoutmaster was indicted and charged with fondling two 12-year-old scouts.

and weaknesses are and deal with them accordingly.

The action comes after a Davidson County grand jury indicted assistant scoutmaster Robert Bowden, 27, of 570 McMurray Drive in Whispering Hills, on charges he fondled two 12-year-old scouts at his home and other locations over a 15-month period between 1983 and 1985.

Bowden, a Boy Scout as a teen-ager and whom police say worked various construction jobs, was named in a three-count, sealed indictment last Friday. He is charged with two counts of aggravated sexual battery and one count of sexual battery.

Ex-Scout leader faces sexual battery charge

By Clarke Canfield
Banner Staff Writer

A former assistant scoutmaster has been charged with aggravated sexual battery for admittedly fondling two pre-teen boys who were in his Boy Scout troop, police said today.

"He gave us a statement and he admitted to fondling the boys," said police Youth Guidance Maj. George Curry about Robert C. Bowden, 27, of 570 McMurray Drive, Apt. D-21, after Bowden was charged with aggravated sexual battery in a grand jury indictment.

Bowden was an assistant scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 210, which is sponsored by St. Edward Catholic Church, 188 Thompson Lane.

They (investigators) have described Mr. Bowden to me as a

The allegation contained in one count of the indictment charges Bowden with fondling a scout last summer. According to a police source, the information did not surface until the police investigation already was under way.

"Bowden and the scoutmaster assured the mother (of the scout) that it would never happen again so she didn't report it to the Department of Human Services," the source said. While the indictment does not explain the charges in any detail, the source said Bowden is accused of fondling the first boy beginning in November 1983 and through last summer before he was named Troop 210's assistant

scoutmaster. Brown, who oversees troops as a member of the Middle Tennessee Council of Boy Scouts, said he disapproves of an apparent decision by the troop's scoutmaster, Jim Moyer, not to report to authorities the initial allegation against Bowden from the boy's mother.

"If the police investigation bears out what we have been hearing, something will have to be done." In the meantime, Moyer will remain as scoutmaster, Brown said. He will not be asked to leave the position unless the police investigation shows he did not "follow normal procedure," he added.

"We want to sit down with the police and go over the evidence they found in the investigation," Brown said.

According to Metro Youth Guidance Maj. George Curry, Bowden is charged with fondling a second boy scout in January and February this year.

Bowden resigned from the Boy Scouts Feb. 21, three days after Boy Scout officials were told by Metro police that Bowden was under investigation on the sexual assault charges. Brown said.

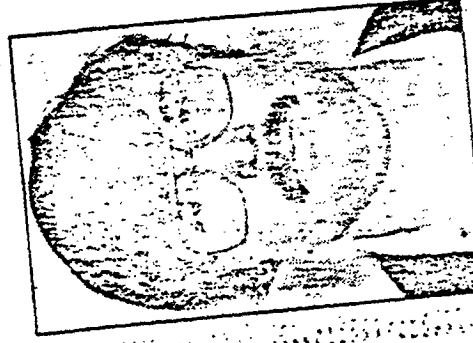
Bowden has given police detectives a statement implicating himself in the alleged fondling incidents, Curry said.

Police then notified the District Attorney General's office and officials with Boy Scouts of America. Brown said Bowden has been associated with Scouting since childhood.

"It's my understanding he was a member as a boy and continued his affiliation as an adult," Brown said. "It's unfortunate and luckily something like this doesn't happen often. We're making plans to be better prepared if it happens again."

Brown said that Scouting administrators are planning to offer training workshops to Scout leaders to teach them how to identify possible sexual abuse problems in the future.

He said that police and representatives of the District Attorney's office will meet with Boy Scout leaders to discuss how to identify and report similar incidents in the future.



Robert C. Bowden Was himself a Boy Scout

Charges

know if they were organized meetings or not.

"And they didn't all occur at his apartment, some happened at other residences."

Bowden, in jail today without bond, was arrested late Monday after the grand jury returned an indictment against him. Curry said police were first made aware of the situation about a month ago when they were approached by parents of the alleged victims.

Nashville Banner,

Thursday, March 21, 1985

Accused Scout leader with focus of prior sex complaint

By Clarke Canfield
Banner Staff Writer

An assistant scoutmaster charged this week with sexually fondling two Boy Scouts was accused of involvement in a sex incident last summer but was allowed to retain his position, the Nashville Banner has learned.

Robert C. Bowden, 27, of 570 McMurray Drive, Apt. D-21, met with a scoutmaster, a 12-year-old boy with whom he allegedly had sexual contact and the boy's mother, a source said.

But the matter apparently was not pursued, after Bowden and the scoutmaster promised the mother the incident would not happen again, the source said.

"The mother threatened to go to DHS (state Department of Human Services) and report it, but Bowden and the other scoutmaster assured her it wouldn't happen again," the source said, adding that Bowden was a unit commissioner, not an assistant scoutmaster, at that time.

Scoutmaster Jim Moyer today confirmed that he met with the boy, the boy's

mother and Bowden last July but refused to comment on the nature of their meeting.

"I've talked with Youth Guidance and they said I didn't do anything wrong (by not reporting the meeting to officials)," Moyer said.

After the incident last summer, Bowden allegedly fondled another 12-year-old this January. Police today said Bowden has confessed to fondling the boys.

"He gave us a statement and he admitted to fondling the boys," said police Youth

Guidance Maj. George Curry. "They (investigators) have described Mr. Bowden to me as a classic textbook example of a pedophile," Amblor Brown, a Boy Scout spokesman, said today.

Pedophilia is a sexual perversion in which children are the preferred sexual object.

"He allegedly fondled two 12-year-olds who were Boy Scouts in his troop," Curry said. "There were several incidents with one victim which started last July. There were several more incidents in February

this year with another boy." A source said, however, that the assaults on the first victim occurred between November 1983 and June 1984 before Bowden became an assistant scoutmaster with Troop 210.

The victims have alleged they were killed numerous times, Curry said, many of the alleged sexual assaults occurring at Bowden's residence. Bowden, in jail today without bond, arrested late Monday after the grand returned an indictment against him.

Ex-scoutmaster admits fondling 2 Boy Scouts

By Jim Henry
Banner Staff Writer

A 27-year-old former assistant scoutmaster pleaded guilty today to fondling two Boy Scouts and could receive up to five years in the Metro Workhouse.

Robert C. Bowden, 570 McMurray Drive, softly answered "guilty" when Criminal Court Judge Randall Wyatt asked him for his plea.

Bowden had been charged with aggravated sexual battery and sexual battery in the case, but was allowed to plead guilty to two counts of sexual battery in the plea agreement.

Although he could be eligible for probation, prosecutors are opposing it.

"The court has had a number of these cases and there have been many where there has not been probation granted," Wyatt warned before accepting the plea. "The court will look at this very seriously at the sentencing hearing."

Assistant District Attorney General Tom Thurman recommended a three-year sentence on one count, to be served consecutively with a two-year sentence on the second count, with a sentencing

Sex

hearing set for May 24.

"The state will oppose any probation at the sentencing hearing," Thurman said. Bowden would be eligible for parole after serving 30 percent of his sentence, he said.

However, the state agreed to allow Bowden to serve his sentence at the Metro Workhouse instead of the Tennessee State Penitentiary.

The prosecutor read the charges against Bowden in a rapid monologue, after Bowden agreed not to contest the accusations. The defendant forfeits his right to appeal he case by pleading guilty.

"(The first victim, age 12) testified that on several occasions while alone with the defendant, the defendant put his hands down his pants and fondled his genital area," Thurman read.

Bowden was an assistant scoutmaster with Troop 210, sponsored by the St. Edward Catholic Church on Thompson Lane, officials said.

"On another occasion . . . he (Bowden) put his head on the victim's leg and fondled him through

Nashville Banner,
Thursday, April 25, 1985

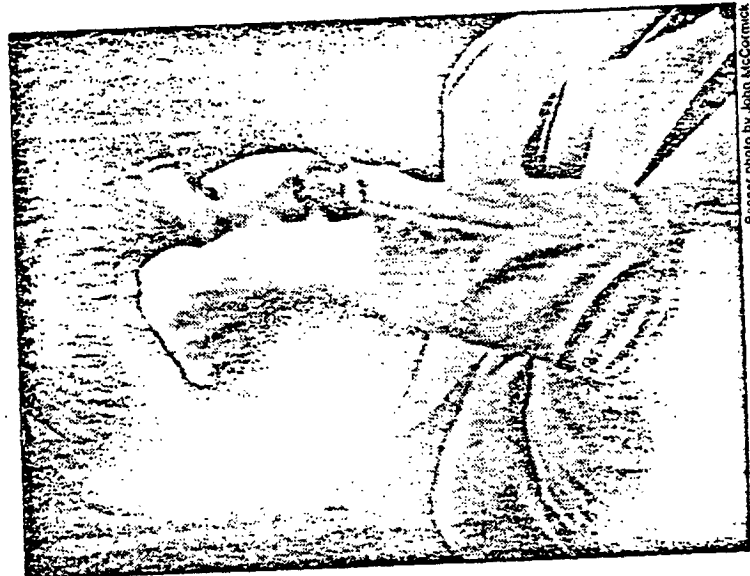
his underwear," the prosecutor said.

Another incident took place when the boy went to Bowden's house "to look at Boy Scout books and discuss merit badges," he said.

In the other count, Bowden "had five or six Scouts over to his house to spend the night in his living room, but while the other boys slept on the floor or on couches in various places, the defendant had a 12-year-old sleep in bed with him. During the night, the defendant removed his underwear and fondled him several times in the genital area, after the victim asked him not to," Thurman said.

The prosecutor said he had discussed the possibility of a guilty plea and a reduced sentence with the boys' parents, who "agreed this may be in the best interests of the boys," rather than subjecting them to testifying in court.

"There has been a great deal of publicity in this case," Thurman said.



Banner photo by John McCormick

Robert Bowden waits in the courtroom to plead guilty.

Please see SEX, page A-8

Editorials

Big day for Nissan and Midstate

There was an atmosphere of celebration at Nissan USA's plant at Smyrna Tuesday. And well there might have been. It was the day Nissan's first "made-in-the-USA" automobile rolled off the assembly line at a plant previously dedicated to making trucks.

It was an important day for Middle Tennessee as well as for Nissan.

The trucks are still the major part of Nissan's production in Smyrna. More than 150,000 have been assembled in Smyrna since the plant opened less than two years ago. Plans are to increase production over the next three years to 140,000 of the light pickups and 100,000 cars per year.

The automobile model now under production at the plant is the Sentra, Nissan's top-selling and least expensive car. Previously, it was built only at the company's plant in Zama, Japan.

"We chose the Sentra because of the unsatisfied demand of the U.S. consumers," said Marvin Runyon, president and chief operating officer of Nissan USA, the company's American subsidiary. He said Americans bought about 200,000 of the cars last year.

Tuesday's festivities included a parade through the plant led by Gov. Lamar Alexander and Mr. Runyon. Gov. Alexander told what the company's expansion means to Tennessee.

"In 1981, Nissan executives hoped that Ten-

nesseans would make here the quality trucks Nissan sells in the United States," he said. "This decision in 1985 to build Sentras here means that Nissan now knows that Tennesseans can build quality Nissan products. Thus the decision to build Sentras is as important as the decision to come to Tennessee in the first place."

About \$85 million worth of equipment had to be installed to manufacture the Sentra at the plant and another shift of 900 workers is planned beginning in June. Now, 2,100 employees work at the Smyrna facility.

Nissan is the third Japanese automaker to begin manufacturing passenger cars in this country. Honda builds Accords in Marysville, Ohio, and Toyota began assembling subcompact Chevrolet Novas in December in Fremont, Calif., in a joint operation with General Motors.

During Tuesday's program, Berri Burroughs, a technician, spoke on behalf of the plant's employees. "All of us have proved what we can accomplish by working together as a team," he said. "We've learned that it takes dedicated, hard-working people applying themselves as a team to achieve our company's goal."

It is obvious that a lot of people have worked hard and applied themselves at the Smyrna plant. Its success has been spectacular. Nissan and its Middle Tennessee workers are to be congratulated on a significant milestone.

Scout leaders take precautions

In the wake of allegations that a Boy Scout leader fondled two pre-teen Scouts, the Boy Scouts of America organization is determined to ensure that the possibility of such an occurrence in the future is eliminated.

Robert C. Bowden, 27, has been indicted by the Davidson County Grand Jury for aggravated sexual battery, based on charges that he fondled two 12-year-old boys at his apartment over a 15-month period between 1983 and 1985. Mr. Bowden has pleaded innocent to the charges in the indictment.

It is not the function of the editorial page to address the question of his guilt or innocence — that lies in the hands of the court. Authorities, along with Scout leaders, will undoubtedly explore the case fully.

But the allegations in the case bring the sexual abuse possibility frightfully close to home. It is almost surrealistic to consider sexual abuse in the Scouts, an organization dedicated to God and Country, honor, trustworthiness and doing good deeds.

This abuse case undoubtedly has triggered concern on the parts of parents of other Scouts, as well as parents whose children are involved in various other organized activities.

It raises questions and fears for virtually any organization which caters to young people. In a society where it is estimated that one in three girls and one in four boys are sexually abused by age 18, no organization is really immune from the threat.

A Nashville Banner series earlier this year made known that the number of child sexual abuse cases reported in the state each month

has increased almost 300 percent in the past three years. There are differences of opinion as to the reason for the increase, with some saying reporting procedures are better now while others say more cases are occurring.

Perhaps the Boy Scout motto, "Be Prepared," can offer some valuable guidance here — organizations being prepared to do all they can to prevent these baneful incidents, and being prepared to deal effectively with the abuse if it does happen.

The Boy Scouts here are in the process of setting up a committee of police officers, Scout leaders and lawyers to examine the process used to select volunteers. Not only will the screening and training process be re-examined, but the committee is also hoping to set up a plan of action in case another similar incident is reported.

A lesson may have been learned here. It is hoped that the pain from this experience will yield better and more watchful organizations, which in turn will be successful in keeping their participating children safe from this pernicious threat.

BIBLE THOUGHT

Suggested by Mrs. Mary Toombs, Smyrna:

... The Lord watch between me and thee when we are absent one from another. — Genesis 31: 49.

Readers are invited to submit their favorite Bible quotations for use on the editorial page.

Minister Says Sex Abuse Suspect 'Kind, Considerate, Helpful'

4-B • THE TENNESSEAN • Saturday, March 23, 1985

By KIRK LOGGINS

Boy Scout leader Robert Bowden, who has been indicted on charges of fondling two 12-year-old scouts, is a "very kind, considerate and helpful" person, his minister said yesterday.

The Rev. Dennis Parks, pastor of the South End United Methodist Church on Edmondson Pike, said he had never observed any impropriety

when he and Bowden served as assistant scoutmasters together last year.

But Parks refused to comment on what Bowden told him in two conversations since Bowden was arrested.

"My confidentially with my parishioners is very sacred," Parks said. Bowden, 27, a carpenter, was scheduled to receive a bond hearing in Criminal Court yesterday, but Judge J.

Randall Wyatt continued the hearing after Parks testified that Bowden's mother was not present because of her "reservations" about William Largent, the attorney whom Parks had asked to represent Bowden.

"I think the reason she is not here is that she was afraid she would give in and make his bond" despite her "reservations" about Largent's "lack of ex-

perience in this county," Parks said. "Do you think I could adequately and freely represent him?" Largent asked.

"I don't know that I could answer that," the minister replied.

Wyatt then said, "I have some reservations about this whole matter." Wyatt reset the bond hearing for Wednesday.

Friday, May 24, 1985

Ex-Scout aide handed 5 years in fondling case

By Jim Henry
Banner Staff Writer

Criminal Court Judge J. Randall Wyatt Jr. today sentenced former assistant scoutmaster Robert Bowden to five years in the Metro Workhouse for fondling two adolescent scouts.

"I cannot agree that this is a case for straight probation at all," the judge told defense attorney Karl Dean.

Dean had asked for a probationary sentence after presenting a parade of character witnesses who testified Bowden has voluntarily sought counseling to help him with an alcohol problem and with his sexual deviance.

"The court through its actions is responsible not only to provide a fair trial for the defendant and understanding for his mother (who testified today), but also to the community," the judge said.

"For the deterrent effect this will have on others, and bearing in mind all the other factors, he is going to have to spend some time at the Davidson County Workhouse. I tried to make it clear to Mr. Bowden that he could not come in here to sentencing hearing expecting probation," Wyatt said.

Bowden pleaded guilty last month to two counts of sexual battery, or "touching for the purposes

of sexual gratification, without penetration." He had been charged with aggravated sexual battery and sexual battery.

Bowden testified in his own behalf today. In part he blamed his drinking problem for the incidents involving two different Scouts last summer and again last January.

"At the time, I was drinking very heavily," he said.

"There are a lot of people who drink too much, and a lot of alcoholics, but not everybody who drinks too much goes out and fondles children," Dean said.

"Are you telling the court drinking is your entire problem?" he asked.

"I'm not sure," Bowden said.

Assistant District Attorney General Tom Thurman pointed out that Bowden had been involved with one of the boys at least 10 times, ending last summer.

He forced Bowden to admit fondling a second boy at least twice last February — after he was confronted about his behavior by the mother of the first boy and also warned by the Scouts.

"He was given a chance, an opportunity — which shouldn't have been done — and now we have a second victim," Thurman said. "I don't think that's a chance worth taking."

Wyatt agreed.