

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

DATE February 3, 1987

FULL NAME Gary Lee Steffen SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER [REDACTED]
(No initials if you can possibly get full name)

ADDRESS [REDACTED]

CITY Syracuse STATE New York ZIP CODE 13207

DATE OF BIRTH 7/28/51 (This is important and should be exact)

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

RELIGION NATIONALITY

OCCUPATION Special Education Teacher (Syracuse City Schools)

EDUCATION Masters in Special Education

WEIGHT 160 lbs. HEIGHT 5'10" RACE White

COLOR OF HAIR Brown COLOR OF EYES

OUTSTANDING CHARACTERISTICS OR INTERESTS

MARRIED OR SINGLE Married CHILDREN [REDACTED]

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

SCOUTING CONNECTIONS:

UNIT # CITY STATE POSITION DATE REGISTERED DATE RESIGNED

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

SUSPENDED OR DENIED REGISTRATION FOR FOLLOWING REASONS:

Admitted Secual Child Abuse

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):

STARON added to CF file

F. 1987

NOTED

AUG 14 '87

JOSEPH L. ANGLIM

Signed [Signature] SCOUT EXECUTIVE

Council [Signature] #373

RS-509 4/14/83-nah

August 18, 1987

Mr. Donald F. Blacker  
Scout Executive  
Hiawatha Council, No. 373

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

~~SUBJECT: Gary L. Steffen~~

Dear Don:

Thank you for the detailed information sent concerning the above Scouter. This case has been reviewed with our attorney and is now on our permanent Confidential File.

Sincerely,

Paul Ernst, Director  
Registration Service

PE/mdw

cc: Northeast Region

READY TO FILE  
AUG 18 1987  
ERIN O'RILEY

CONF013176

Paul - For your file. Dan

# Tutor Who Abused Boy, 10, Receives Probation

By CLAIRE BRENNAN  
Saying a former Syracuse school teacher violated the community's trust, a county judge Thursday sentenced the man to a year's probation for sexually abusing a 10-year-old boy.

"You know you're in a position of trust. You're Mom and Dad when we turn our children over to you," Judge William J. Burke told the man, William J. Steffen. "I've done wrong," said Steffen, who resigned after he was

arrested in January. "I'm sorry that I've done this, and I'm ashamed of myself for having done this. I have hurt a young boy."

Steffen, the father of two young children, said he also caused pain to his own family. "I need to remain with my family, if that be your will, so that I can continue to give them the emotional support a family needs from a father," he said.

Steffen, 35, of 110 Elmwood Ave., said he has been undergoing counseling since January, and that he will continue to do so. In addition to probation, he must perform 500 hours of community service through his church, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. Burke said Steffen will work with a program that provides meals to the needy.

now does bookkeeping for a landscaping company.

Steffen pleaded guilty June 25 to a felony count of first-degree sexual abuse. He admitted engaging in sexual contact with the victim last Aug. 19.

Steffen, who was acquainted with the boy's parents, was tutoring the child in reading. The night the incident occurred, the boy was spending the night at Steffen's house as a guest of the defendant's son.

Burke said he had received several letters in support of Steffen, including some from his grandparents. The judge said he also received a letter from the victim's grandparents, who said they were "greatly distressed" that their trust in Steffen had been shattered.

The pastor of Steffen's former church and the rector of the church he now attends both stood with the defendant when he was sentenced.

February 10, 1987

Mr. Donald F. Blacker  
Scout Executive  
Hiawatha Council, No. 373

Co  
SUBJECT: Gary L. Steffen

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Don:

Thank you for the information which you sent concerning the above-named individual. This is most helpful to us and will certainly enable us to set up a file for future refusal of registration attempts.

We would like to have the outcome of the legal action against Mr. Steffen. Whenever this incident is completed, we would like to know of the conviction, if one occurs, and also the sentencing which takes place. This will give us a complete file which will substantiate our actions in the future.

Thank you for your help in this matter and the complete records which you have sent thus far. If we may be of help in any other way, please do not hesitate to contact us. We will remove Mr. Steffen's name from our records.

Sincerely,

Paul Ernst, Director  
Registration, Subscription &  
Statistical Service

eak

cc: Northeast Region

READY FOR FILE

FEB 11 1987

SHIRLEY MEYER

CONF013178

HIAWATHA COUNCIL, INC., Boy Scouts of America

600 W. Genesee St., Syracuse, NY 13204 • 315-474-8574

February 4, 1987

Mr. Paul Ernst, Director  
Registration & Subscription Service  
Boy Scouts of America  
1325 Walnut Hill Lane  
Irving, TX 75038-3096

Dear Paul:

I am writing in regard to three (3) Confidential File matters - one "old business" and two "new business".

~~██████████ DONALD DUERR ██████████~~ Placed on Confidential File in February 1985. It is our recommendation that Donald Duerr be reinstated in a Scouting leadership position - perhaps on a probationary basis. The attached newspaper articles and correspondence from his counselor, his attorney, our Council attorney and himself support this request. Incidentally, Mr. Duerr has since married. I would appreciate your advice in this matter.

~~██████████ FRANK DIMINUCCO, SM 50076 ██████████~~ On August 6, 1986 an officer from the Syracuse Police Department visited our office requesting information about camping activities and Tour Permits regarding Troop 76. He indicated that Mr. DiMinuco was under investigation but would not identify the reason.

On October 25, 1986 I received a call from this officer asking me to meet him and an FBI agent at the Troop's meeting location while they conducted a search. He would still not indicate any specifics relative to the investigation, but when I pressed he did say that I should take action to get Mr. DiMinuco to step down.

I discussed this with the Monsignor of the church who immediately agreed to ask Mr. DiMinuco to step down as Scoutmaster. Unofficially, I believe the investigation revolves around possible sexual abuse committed with a member or members of the Troop while on an activity out of state. To date, I still have no official statement from the Police Department as the investigation is still active.



The Scouting Coordinator, [REDACTED], when informed by the priest, spoke to his now [REDACTED] to learn that his [REDACTED] in fact, had been abused by Mr. DiMinuco years ago when he was a Scout in the Troop. I have received from this young man a letter (copy attached) which documents this abuse in 1970. It is my opinion that this should be enough to place Mr. DiMinuco on the Confidential File.

Mr. DiMinuco had been Scoutmaster for twenty (20) years, Silver Beaver, National Jamboree leader, etc. He had an excellent record - was well respected, but may very well have been abusing children all these years.

I am wondering if I should share this letter from [REDACTED] with the Police Department. Please advise me.

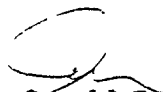
3 GARY L. STEFFEN, CM C3013, SM S0013, MC S0034 (In School Special Ed Units) and DL C3048. The attached newspaper article documents the case against Gary Steffen. We immediately contacted the head of the Syracuse School District Special Education Department (who is on our Executive Board). He agreed to immediately sever Mr. Steffen's relationship with the Scouting Units. The Cub Pack where he serves as Den Leader was also contacted and agreed to ask Mr. Steffen to resign. I would think his name be should be placed on the Confidential File.

We have removed Mr. DiMinuco and Mr. Steffen from our computer - would you please do the same on the National records?

Please advise me of any further information you might need or any additional action I should take.

Thanks.

Sincerely,

  
Donald F. Blacker  
Scout Executive

dfb/mz  
Enclosures

- ✓ C3013 - 027201 (BU)
- ✓ C3048 - 034234
- ✓ S0013 - 027334
- ✓ C3013 - 002513
- ✓ S0013 - 009659
- ✓ S0034 - 009955

Re Gary L. Steffen

# Syracuse teacher relieved of duties after sexual abuse confession

By Jim O'Hara and Sara Gillen  
Staff Writers

An 11-year-old Camillus boy told police he was sexually molested by a Syracuse elementary teacher while spending the night at the teacher's house.

Gary L. Steffen, 35, of 110 Elmwood Ave., was charged Wednesday with first-degree sexual abuse, a Class D felony, and endangering the welfare of a child, a misdemeanor, if convicted of the sexual abuse charge. Steffen could be sentenced to a maximum of seven years in state prison.

The boy told police Steffen was a friend of his parents and said they had met through their church. The boy's parents told Steffen their son was having trouble with reading, and Steffen volunteered to tutor the boy, according to court papers. Steffen has been a special education teacher in the Syracuse City School District since September of 1978.

The boy told police Steffen came to his house in Camillus every Thursday during summer vacation for the tutoring sessions. On Aug. 19, the boy and his brother spent the day with Steffen and his son, hiking in Elmwood Park. The boy and his brother spent the night in sleeping bags at Steffen's house.

The boy told police that when his brother and Steffen's son were asleep, Steffen asked the boy to come into the bathroom.

"Mr. Steffen then pulled down his pajama bottoms and then he told me to come and pull my pajama bottoms down," the boy said.

The boy said no threats were made against him and Steffen never told him not to tell anyone what had happened.

"Mr. Steffen did tell me when we went into the bathroom, that I was old enough to know about these things," the boy said in his affidavit.

When first questioned by police Jan. 19, Steffen denied the incident had occurred. "I have no idea why (the boy) is saying that I did anything wrong with him, because I didn't. I did nothing to (the boy) in a sexual manner, and I did not have him do anything to me in a sexual manner," Steffen told police.

However, when questioned again Jan. 27 by Sgt. Gerald Sabloski, Steffen confessed. In explaining the reason for his earlier denial, Steffen said, "I was unable to admit to myself or anyone else at that time that I had a problem."

In his confession, Steffen said, "I had known (the boy) for about a year at this time, and I was very fond of him."

Steffen said the incident occurred when he and the three boys camped out in his living room Aug. 19.

"I was sitting up talking with (the boy), and while I was talking with him, I had an urge, a desire, for him to touch me, and I

wanted to touch him. I asked (the boy) to come with me to the bathroom and he did," Steffen told police.

In his confession, Steffen said, "I want to say that I know that I have a problem, and I want to get help. I have never touched any of my students in school. I have been fighting this problem that I have for a long time, and this is the only time that I have given in to this overwhelming desire and urge to touch and be touched by a younger person. I'm sorry for what I did, and I want to get the proper help to get me over this problem that I have."

Steffen was arrested at the Public Safety Building at 8:40 a.m. Wednesday. He was arraigned before City Court Judge Jeffrey Merrill and was released to the probation department's pre-trial release program.

Judge Merrill issued an order of protection ordering Steffen to stay away from the boy's home and to have no contact

with the boy.  
The Syracuse City School District issued a three-paragraph statement Friday about Steffen's arrest.

The statement, from Robert E. DiFlorio, executive assistant to the superintendent, says, "The Superintendent's Office has been informed that the Syracuse Police Department has arrested and charged a Syracuse City School District teacher, Mr. Gary Steffen, with sexual abuse and endangering the welfare of a child. The information provided indicates that an incident occurred during the summer of 1986 in the home of Mr. Steffen.

"Mr. Steffen has been employed as a special education teacher with the District since September of 1978. He is presently relieved of all classroom duties pending the final disposition of the matter.

"The District is not aware of any prior incidents during his employment with the Syracuse City School District."

SYRACUSE  
HERALD-JOURNAL

# METRO

Slan Linhorst

City Editor, 470-2265

Saturday, January 31, 1987

Page A3

Co 373

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Syracuse, NY 13204

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535  
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FACSIMILE (202) 512-2000  
MAIL ROOM (202) 512-2000  
RECORDS SECTION (202) 512-2000  
TRAINING CENTER (202) 512-2000  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR (202) 512-2000  
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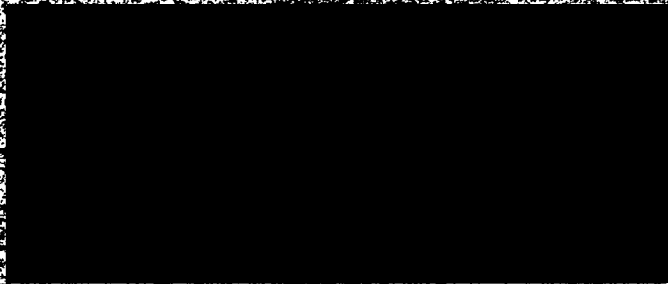
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2-11-87

Neil Morrison  
Buck Request  
Silva



Co-373 E-3013



Syracuse NY 13204

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