



# BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

## SOUTH PLAINS COUNCIL

### **Statement from the South Plains Council Scouting Leadership on recent Wall Street Journal article this week:**

**A recent Wall Street Journal article stated that the National Boy Scouts of America has hired a bankruptcy attorney in light of the costs of defending sexual abuse lawsuits.**

**While this is true, the South Plains Council is not involved in any pending or past settlement with regard to sexual abuse lawsuits that have been filed or settled in other communities.**

**Any action taken by the National office will not affect the business of the Boy Scouts or South Plains Council at this time. We remain committed to our current sole purpose of the Boy Scouts and safely serving our youth.**

**We have assembled the following facts and perspectives that may be helpful to you when considering this news story in your efforts to localize it.**

- The South Plains Council is headquartered in Lubbock, Texas. Our council holds a charter to conduct the Boy Scouts of America programs in West Texas.**
- The South Plains Council is in good fiscal health and we strive to maintain our program quality, board and volunteer dedication and staff commitment and talent.**
- Youth safety is paramount. Every person associated with the South Plains Council from Board Members to volunteers are required to go thru a back ground check and Youth Protection Training. No EXCEPTIONS.**

**Youth Protection Training is one of many resources provided by our National Council. For business purposes, we also partner with National BSA for our insurance, technology infrastructure, program and camping resources and volunteer training curriculum.**

- Each pack, troop and crew is owned by its neighborhood based charter partner. Decisions are made by parent volunteers who have children in the unit. The strength of Scouting for over 100 years has been its local domain.**
- The Lott Scout Service Center, Camps Post and Tres Ritos, our bank funds and investments are solely owned and controlled by the South Plains Council.**



**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®**  
**SOUTH PLAINS COUNCIL**

• **The South Plains Council receives NO FUNDING from the national organization; in fact, we pay fees to National BSA as a part of our charter agreement and for specific services. We receive value back from the national organization, but we operate as a significantly financially independent not-for-profit organization.**

**In a communication released yesterday, National BSA reaffirmed its focus on keeping children safe and delivering our nation's foremost program of character development and values-based leadership training. BSA stated its commitment to the social and moral responsibility to fairly compensate victims who suffered abuse during their time in Scouting, and the deep care and concern for all victims of child sex abuse and the proactive steps to help victims heal and prevent future abuse. BSA stresses that at no time in BSA history has the organization knowingly allowed a sexual predator to work with youth and will always seek to act swiftly when alerted to abuse allegations.**

**BSA is committed to communicate transparently and stated there are no imminent actions or immediate decisions expected by BSA in light of the WSJ news story. It is our hope that the national organization can navigate the difficult waters that many organizations face over a century of existence.**

**The Boy Scouts of America remains focused on keeping children safe and delivering our nation's foremost program of character development and values-based leadership training. In Lubbock, we will stand ready to help - and we will continue to deliver high-quality Boy Scouts of America programs for over 2,000 Scouts across West Texas.**

**Please feel free to contact Scout Executive Nathan Baie at (806) 747-2631 for any questions or to schedule an interview on this matter.**

**Sincerely,**

**Matt Wade**  
**Council President**

**Nathan Baie**  
**Scout Executive**