

CERTIFIED TRANSCRIPT

**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
OFFICIAL TORT CLAIMANTS COMMITTEE TOWN HALL
NOVEMBER 18, 2021**



Court Reporting • Video

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1 **KENNEDY:** Hi, everyone. If you're tuning in, we're just gonna wait a few minutes as usual,
2 and wait for people to fill in on the meeting this evening. I hope everyone is doing well. And
3 good evening, everyone. We're just gonna wait a few minutes for people to get on the Town
4 Hall. We see people logging in. We're just gonna wait a few minutes to get started here. Thanks
5 for joining us. And we'll just wait one more minute for anyone to join the Town Hall this
6 evening, in case you need to get comfortable. We're not gonna have a long meeting tonight, but
7 we just wanna give a little time for everybody to log in. All right. Steve, why don't we go ahead
8 and get started?

9 Good evening, everyone. I'm Doug Kennedy. I'm the co-chair of the Tort Claimants Committee.
10 Gonna do things a little bit differently tonight. John Humphrey can't be with us. He had another
11 engagement out of town. We're gonna get a recording from him in a minute though. So I'm
12 gonna be the only one you're gonna get tonight.

13 Let me also apologize in advance. Literally a minute ago my dog came in and laid down next to
14 me, and my dog is old and snores really loudly. So if you hear something that sounds like
15 someone's sawing wood in the background, it's my dog. So I appreciate this is an amateur
16 production as always.

17 Before we get started, I just want to remind everyone that the Tort Claimants Committee is
18 advocates for all survivors, and the information that we provide is the opinion of the Tort
19 Claimants Committee, how we feel about things. So when you see the "Vote no" over there,
20 that's how the Tort Claimants Committee--that's our opinion. And as always, we're encouraging
21 you to always make sure you get individual advice from your attorney. And if you don't have
22 representation, please, there's plenty of information out there, and we direct everyone to the
23 TCC's website, tcbsa.com.

24 So with that in mind, this is gonna be a short meeting. And the reason it's gonna be a short
25 meeting is for a couple reasons, actually. One is there hasn't been a lot of developments. There's
26 been mediation, but really nothing big has happened out of that. And the other thing is because

1 right now we are single-focused on voting, and we just want to encourage all survivors to vote. If
2 you change your mind, you can vote again as well. And on the website are all the instructions
3 and a videotape on how to vote, if you're not voting through an attorney, or even if you want to
4 just vote directly. Your ballot supersedes anything else that happens. So if you voted, and you
5 change your mind, and you put another ballot in, the last one received by Omni is the one sort of
6 that counts. So right now it's really all about voting more than anything else.

7 So with that in mind, I don't want anyone to think there's been a coup. I miss my good colleague
8 and brother John Humphrey being with us tonight. But earlier in the day he and I recorded a
9 quick video, so he did want to have the chance to speak to everyone. So hopefully this is gonna
10 work out. I'm gonna ask Steve to go ahead and put that video up now. So John, where are you
11 now, and how come you're not with us tonight?

12 **HUMPHREY:** Hey, everybody. I'm coming from the famous Bass Pro Shops in
13 Arkansas, because I am here for the Delta Wing Annual Waterfowl Banquet. So I'm doing my
14 little cameo appearance here to just give you some encouragement, tell you to stay focused on
15 what we're trying to accomplish in, as you know, three areas: better youth protection oversight,
16 more transparency on the IV files, more dollars from local councils, insurers, and certainly not
17 letting the sponsor organizations off with nothing, and then finally the trust, getting better Trust
18 Distribution Procedures and a more independent trustee.

19 So that's what we're fighting for, so stay focused on it. We're gonna break next week for
20 Thanksgiving. I hope y'all have a very happy holiday. And if there's more news, we'll let you
21 know. And with that, I will leave you in the very capable hands of our co-chairman Doug
22 Kennedy. Thanks, everybody. Have a good evening.

23 **KENNEDY:** Thanks, John. And to make it clear, we're not sponsored by Bass Pro now. You're
24 not getting any sponsorship by that?

25 **HUMPHREY:** No. Just out here having a lit--just trying to live a life, Doug, in between
26 all our volunteer meetings.

1 **KENNEDY:** Good for you. We're jealous. All right. Be safe, brother.

2 **HUMPHREY:** All right. Thank you.

3 **KENNEDY:** So that's John's message, and John couldn't have said it any better. We're laser
4 focused on the things we've talked about in the past, and we just really want to encourage
5 everyone to vote. Now, you know, we know that there's less than a month now until the deadline
6 for the voting. And please, don't wait until the last second to vote. We're--it's gonna break out
7 heart if we find out that anyone waited until the last second for the postal service to get it, so
8 please don't wait.

9 So the very last thing I wanna say is, I just wanna say on behalf of the TCC, we have gotten so
10 many emails from people just thanking us for what we do, and encouraging us to keep on
11 fighting, and to continue to be outspoken, and telling us your stories as well, so that we
12 understand where you're coming from. So I just want to say to all those people that reached out
13 to us in the last week or two, thank you so much.

14 So moving forward, next week is Thanksgiving, and we all hope that that's a good, peaceful time
15 for you to give thanks. We're certainly not gonna have a meeting on Thursday night. We want to
16 see if there's any developments that occur in the next couple weeks, and if there are, then we will
17 have another Town Hall meeting perhaps sooner, if it's called for. We'll post that on the website
18 TCC/BSA if that's necessary. If not, then we'll be back the following Thursday.

19 But I'm really reminded of something, and that is I've worked on a few political campaigns, and
20 sometimes you don't know on election night kinda who wins. And I've been standing around
21 when a campaign manager came up and said, "You've done all you can do. Go home and go to
22 sleep." So I'm encouraging everyone, if you're starting to feel, you know, you've voted already,
23 and you're worn down, and you want the results of this, please check back to the website. I know
24 you keep your eyes on the news, but sometimes it's okay to back away from this just a little bit
25 for you own kind of sanity. The TCC and its professionals are working for you in the
26 background, as we know all those hardworking attorneys are as well.

1 So take care of yourselves, check the website tcbsa.com, and if we don't have another Town
2 Hall sooner than a couple Thursdays from now, we'll see you then. But if anything comes up,
3 we'll have another one and post it on the website. So goodnight, everyone. Stay well.

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3 GMT20211119-010040_Recording.

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11 Melissa D. Lee

12 Date

Printed Name

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