



MISSING PERSONS NETWORK OF WISCONSIN STEERING COMMITTEE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Y.E.S. / MPNWI has not officially heard from the Wisconsin Department of Justice that their investigation has concluded. We will have to trust that the D.C.I. and the D.O. J. did the job they set out to do. We have knowledge that the ‘integrity bureau’ of the DOJ investigated the former Board of Directors and Terri McCormick’s handling of the situation, and the allegations against the board were closed, according to Integrity Bureau officer, Deb Strauss in a face to face discussion with former treasurer Merry Wagner. “We have done what we felt we were legally constrained to do and we have moved on,” Patty Ulrich, former Board Secretary.

Youth Educated in Safety (Y.E.S.) has been dissolved. The former Y.E.S. 2008 Board of Directors came to the same conclusion that the Y.E.S. 1999 Board of Directors came to. Due to fiscal mismanagement the existence of Y.E.S. was in jeopardy. In 1999 as in 2008 the board felt they had been misinformed, particularly in the area of financial matters. Jay Breyer was not the President of the former Y.E.S. board, Attorney Tim Hawley was the President of the former Y.E.S. board until 2008. Jay Breyer and several other family members were on paper with IRS filings as treasurers of the organization. The former Y.E.S. board in 2008 was not privy to those documents until a formal audit was conducted by an outside auditor, Kerber and Rose.

Jay Breyer was provided numerous opportunities to be forthright with the board of directors as to the financial condition of Y.E.S. When answers to a series of questions were not forthcoming the board sought answers to those questions with an audit. This decision was made according to Sarbanes Oxley Laws governing nonprofits requiring an outside audit. The “Agreed Upon Procedure” conducted was more extensive than an audit in that it looked at all documents, all receipts and all accounts of the organization, there were several. The consultant found 10 areas that they suggested needed further investigation. All of this information has been previously released to the press.

Y.E.S. was operating as a 501.c3 organization under Federal and State laws as well as the guidelines of the Association for Missing and Exploited Children Organizations (AMECO). AMECO has membership and ethical standards which must followed. In August 2008 the AMECO Board of Directors determined that Y.E.S. did not meet their requirements. Therefore they stated that “we have no option other than to terminate YES membership at this time.”

The former Y.E.S. Board of Directors, at no time, made allegations or leveled charges at Mr. Breyer. In fact the expressed concerns of financial and services mismanagement and misrepresentation was handed over to the DA’s office in an attempt to get an opinion from law enforcement as to how best to proceed. The press was never notified or brought into the situation by the former Y.E.S. Board of Directors. Further, the former Y.E.S. Board in June of 2008 was shocked at Mr. Breyer and his associates attempt to create a media circus at the expense of those families that have suffered with missing and exploited children. It is hoped that the press respects the families touched by this horrific loss and their privacy now and in the future. To use the names of children and family members, who have already been victimized and exploited in this way, is unconscionable.

Missing Persons Network of Wisconsin (MPNWI), is being organized by a steering committee with the assistance of past and present law enforcement, the FVTC/OJJDP, and several members of the community. The “Nonprofit Service Providers Handbook” states that “Documentation is an important requirement in any service organization. If a nonprofit organization is to be of service to a community or family, great care needs to be given to strive for an appropriate level of record-keeping, objectivity, professionalism, community networking and good management of resources.”

It is the goal of MPNWI to meet those standards with integrity and to become a stronger and more visible organization, to provide safety education to the community and search & support assistance to families that have a missing child or adult. New protocols have been established for emergency response to the community. MPNWI seeks to provide networking of services across the state of Wisconsin.

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