

## Suggested Agenda for Unit Parent Meeting Regarding FBI Investigation

1. Thank everyone in attendance for their commitment to Scouting, our youth, and our community. Through their dedication and support of our program, we are able to inspire, build character, and instill the values that our youth need to succeed.
2. While you believe most of them are already aware, leaders have been asked to be sure the parents in their units are aware that William Mickel, a former leader and part-time employee at the Winnebago Scout Reservation trading post, had been indicted on federal charges of possession and distribution of child pornography on May 4, 2023. The FBI informed the council of Mr. Mickel's indictment that day and hours later issued a press release regarding the matter.
3. On May 4, 2022 the council found out through a third party that William Mickel was arrested by local authorities on charges of child pornography. The Council took immediate action to preclude Mr. Mickel from registration and participation in Scouting. The council remained in contact with law enforcement regarding their investigation but were directed not to comment on the arrest to avoid jeopardizing the investigation. To be clear, the council did not know any details or the extent of Mickel's alleged crimes until May 4, 2023 when the FBI informed the council.
4. The FBI has requested that the council and Scout leaders notify the parents of any Scout or volunteer who may have visited Winnebago Scout Reservation or Camp Somers between August of 2019 and March of 2022.
5. The Council sent a message and FAQ document as well as instructions for reaching out to the FBI to unit leadership. We then forwarded this information to all of our families. A few hard copies are available tonight if you would like to see them. To protect the privacy of potential victims, the FBI will not share details of those who may be affected with the council or BSA.
6. The purpose of this meeting is not to discuss Mr. Mickel's guilt or innocence as this will be determined by the criminal justice system and is instead to make them aware of the matter, to provide them with contact information for the FBI and to acknowledge and address any concerns they might have in light of this disturbing news.
7. This matter should remind us all how important it is to be ever vigilant when it comes to the safety of our children and the importance of youth protection and talking with our children. Keeping an open dialogue with our children—no matter what their age—is a vital part of keeping them safe. The subject can be uncomfortable, but parents must speak to their children about these issues.
8. Encourage the parents to go home and talk to their children about their experiences in Scouting and this incident as awareness is important. Again, if they have any concerns after speaking

with their child as it relates to Mr. Mickel, they should contact the FBI as indicated on the material that has been provided.

9. Remind them of BSA's available resources when having these difficult conversations, including the BSA's "How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide," which is available in the Scouts BSA and Cub Scout handbooks and on the youth protection page on Scouting.org. Let them know you have some hard copies of the Guide in the back of the room and that if they would like additional resources regarding the subject of youth protection, they can be found at <https://www.scouting.org/training/youth-protection/>.
10. Thank them for coming, for all they do to support Scouting, and for helping us keep our kids safe. If they know of anyone who is not at this meeting and needs to be aware of this matter, please pass this information along to them.
11. Tell them that if they have any further questions or concerns, to please reach out to unit leadership who can then consolidate questions and contact the Scout Executive via email. This method has been found to be most effective and based on an estimated 15,000 Scouts and families who visited our camps during the time period outlined by the FBI.