

SNAP
The Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests
7234 Arsenal
St. Louis, MO 63143

Mr. Jeffrey R. Docking, President
Adrian College
jdocking@adrian.edu
517-264-3331 fax

Gary C. Valade
President of the Board of Trustees

Members of the Adrian Board of Trustees

cc: Kingsway International
OliverScofield.Kingsway@gmail.com

Dear Sirs and Mesdames,

We are members of SNAP, the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests (SnapNetwork.org). We wrote college officials last week about Dr. Thomas Hodgman, the admitted child molester on the Adrian faculty.

But we have not heard back. So, we decided that immediate action was necessary to protect kids.

We have posted Thomas Hodgman's signed confessions and other supporting documents to a new website, ProtectKids.wordpress.com. We will also be publicizing the website to the media, Adrian students and the community.

You won't take the simple, cheap, and morally prudent step of warning your students and staff about Hodgman, so we're doing through this website. Having been molested by a trusted adult, then betrayed by a church hierarchy, some become debilitated, depressed and powerless. Others of us, however, become compassionate, cautious and determined. We will do everything we can to safeguard others from this dangerous predator.

We beg you to:

- cancel Thomas Hodgman's plans to take kids to the Olympics,
- suspend Hodgman in light of his crimes, and
- allow one of his victims, Joelle Casteix, to speak at your upcoming board of trustees meeting.

During the past few years, we have tried to alert you to the danger that Mr. Hodgman poses, yet you have decided to protect an insidious child molester, a man who used music, camaraderie, his considerable influence in the community as a passport of credibility in order prey on unsuspecting young girls. If there is one thing we know for certain, those who prey upon children do not stop. In fact, research shows that when they are not help accountable, sexual predators are further emboldened.

Research also shows that kids do not report their abuse out of fear and shame. It took Joelle almost 20 years to be able to expose her abuser. Why aren't you concerned that there may be other Hodgman victims, potentially wandering the Adrian campus, too scared to report their abuse because of your actions? What is the message you are sending?

Others DO understand. In fact, more than 15 states are drafting laws for better oversight of predators like Hodgman. <http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2008/01/27/national/main3756552.shtml>
In December, a Missouri community college fired another former Mater Dei teacher who also admitted molesting girls. <http://www.stltoday.com/stltoday/news/stories.nsf/education/story/D993EB5C42CFC37A862573BC00107008?OpenDocument>

Why is your school being so insensitive and reckless?

Predators are charming men, who are dazzling and charismatic. Even if you believe Mr. Hodgman is a friend, the college cannot afford the personal and business risk that Hodgman poses. This admitted predator will be in a foreign country with numerous young people, including teens. They will be unsupervised. They will have long periods of time on busses and planes and in hotel rooms. A vulnerable kid will not have a chance.

Joelle has suffered her entire adult life because of Hodgman's abuse. So has at least one other girl. Isn't it time to put an end to the risk?

Our requests are simple and the benefits are great. You have the power to make sure Hodgman never hurts another child, at least not in the Adrian area.

We look forward to your prompt response to this letter.

Sincerely

Claudia Vercellotti, SNAP Toledo Director
(419) 350 9234

David Clohessy of St. Louis, SNAP National Director
(314) 566-9790

cc: Robyn J. Arrington, Jr.
rarrington@thc-online.com

Wayne C. Barrett

Robert W. Brown

David L. Crawford

Kurt L. Darrow

Linda Depta

ldepta@kalamazoogazette.com

Frank Dick

Bonnie S. Garbrecht

bgarbrec@battle-creek.k12.mi.us

Carson C. Grunewald

CGRUNEWALD@BODMANLLP.COM

Richard A. Gurdjian

rick@gurdjian.com

David S. Hickman

Kathryn M. Mohr

kmohr@rcolaw.com

Ernest L. Nicolay, Jr.

Paul M. Pankratz

A. Edward Perkins
Robert M. Ransom
Ronald L. Reeves
rreeves@venchurs.com
Ronald W. Rickard
info@rickarddenneygarno.com
John S. Safran
Michale T. Sawicki
Lynn A. Schefsky
Isaac Sheppard, Jr.
isaac@sheppardengineering.com
Anthony J. Shipley
Sarah E. Shumate
Richard J. Strowger
James D. Thomas
jdthomas@ssd.com
Douglas W. Vernon
John R. Vivian
Linda D. Weston
Marsha M. Bitson Woolley
Geraldine B. Wright