



THE NATIONAL THINK TANK FOR CHILD PROTECTION

TO: Sarah Hirshland, United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee, CEO
Susanne Lyons, United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee, Chair of Board of Directors
Anita L. DeFrantz, David Haggerty, Rich Bender, Cheri Blauwet, Beth Brooke, Gordy Crawford, Muffy Davis, Donna de Varona, James Higa, Steve Mesler, John Naber, Dexter Paine, Daria Schneider, Brad Snyder, Kevin White, & Robert L. Wood, United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee, Members of the Board of Directors
Elizabeth Ramsey, United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee Athletes' Advisory Council, Executive Director

CC: Senator Richard Blumenthal & Senator Jerry Moran, United States Senate

FROM: Marci A. Hamilton, Esq.

RE: Request to Remove Stan Bowman as General Manager of USA Men's Hockey Team and for An Independent Investigation of His Potential Cover-Up of Sexual Abuse

DATE: September 10, 2021

By way of introduction, my name is Marci Hamilton, and I am the Founder & CEO of CHILD USA, an interdisciplinary think tank dedicated to the prevention of child abuse and neglect at the University of Pennsylvania, where I am a Professor in the Fels Institute of Government and a Senior Resident Fellow in the Program for Research on Religion. CHILD USA is the leading, national nonprofit think tank dedicated to the prevention of child abuse and neglect. It is also the leader in the field of statute of limitations reform, as well as other cutting-edge issues related to child protection.

I write to you today to request the suspension of Stan Bowman from his position as General Manager of the U.S. Olympic men's hockey team and that an independent investigation into Bowman's behavior in his role as General Manager of hockey operations of the Blackhawks NHL team be conducted.

According to a lawsuit filed in May 2021 against the Blackhawks, Bradley Aldrich allegedly sexually assaulted John Doe 1, a former Blackhawks player, in May 2010 when he was serving as a video coach on the team. The lawsuit alleges that skills coach Paul Vincent told multiple Blackhawks executives, including Bowman, about the sexual abuse on May 17, 2010, and that the executives failed to take any action to investigate or report the abuse. The executive group refused to report the abuse to law enforcement because they had no "statutory duty" to do so, according to a Blackhawks motion to dismiss. Bowman's failure to report the abuse enabled Aldrich to continue his career of abuse.

Aldrich was hired by Miami University in 2012 as an assistant coach, where two additional allegations of assault were reported to police. Aldrich resigned from his role at Miami University "under suspicion of unwanted touching of an adult male." On October 2, 2013, Houghton County prosecutors charged Aldrich with felony assault against John Doe 2. Aldrich pleaded guilty to misdemeanor sexual conduct involving a student, was placed on the Michigan sex offender registry, and was sentenced to nine months in jail.



A second lawsuit filed against the Blackhawks this year alleges that Aldrich abused John Doe 2, a then 16-year-old Michigan boy, when serving in 2013 as a volunteer hockey coach at Houghton High School. The lawsuit alleges that Blackhawks leadership, including Bowman, knew of alleged abuse by Aldrich, did not report the abuse to law enforcement, and even provided him with a positive job reference to Houghton High School where he then sexually abused John Doe 2.

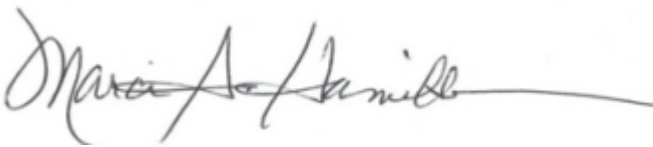
In June 2021 the Blackhawks hired Chicago lawyer Reid Schar to lead an internal investigation of Aldrich's abuse. However, this investigation is not neutral. A truly independent investigation cannot be funded by the organization whose executives reportedly covered up Aldrich's abuse. Miami University has opened an internal investigation, but the scope is limited to the four months he was employed at the University.

Bowman is still the General Manager of the Blackhawks and earlier this year he was appointed as the General Manager of the U.S. Olympic men's hockey team for the 2022 Beijing Games. How could Bowman, who has been publicly accused of covering up the abuse of a serial predator, be allowed to lead USA Hockey and represent our country at the international level?

Just as there is a public demand for accountability and transparency from USA Gymnastics in light of the Nassar abuse case, I ask for accountability from USOPC regarding Bowman's alleged role in covering up Aldrich's abuse. It is unacceptable to allow Bowman to serve in his roles as General Manager of the U.S. Olympic men's hockey team while an investigation is ongoing. If the allegations against him are true, Bowman is a dangerous individual and it is unsafe for him to be around children and other adults who need someone in his position to report abuse. I request that Bowman be removed from USA Hockey, or at the very least be put on leave while a truly independent investigation considers his response to Aldrich's abuse.

How many more cases and cover ups of abuse need to occur for USOPC to finally take sexual abuse seriously?

Thank you for your consideration.



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