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Jerry Sandusky accusers outraged by subpoenas may get help from national group

They're called the alleged victims of Jerry Sandusky, but most of them feel like they're the ones about to go on trial.

As the former Penn State assistant football coach and charity founder prepares to defend himself in court on 52 allegations of child sex abuse, he's seeking records of nearly every minute of the lives — traffic tickets, school detention, employment records — of the eight men who will take the stand and testify against him.

"It's just a witch hunt," said attorney Michael Boni, who represents alleged Victim One, the Clinton County boy whose allegations started the three-year investigation that led to charges against Sandusky.

"It's creating a tremendous amount of stress and trepidation among these victims," Boni said.

To make matters worse, the state attorney general's office accidentally released the names of some of the alleged victims in a court filing this week. Tuesday morning, they asked the judge to seal the 29-page document, and by the afternoon, it was gone from the public county website.

Victim advocates were furious at the seeming lack of caution.

"Obviously this puts the victims' safety in jeopardy, physically and emotionally," said Tracy Cox of the National Sexual Violence Resource Center said. Cox said she worries that this will discourage other victims from coming forward.

“You would think a case of this magnitude would be handled with such care, especially when there has been so much made about the victims’ rights,” said Jennifer Storm, executive director of Dauphin County’s Victim Witness Assistance Program.

Boni, who said the slip wasn’t ideal, defended prosecutors who he says have been inundated with discovery requests and “scores of subpoenas” from Sandusky’s defense team.

“So someone screwed up,” he said. “What can I say?”

[Tom Kline](#), who also represents one of the alleged victims, said the swift remedy was the best that could be done in an unfortunate circumstance.

"It's important to keep this in perspective when assessing inadvertent filing disclosures," Kline said.

The attorney general's office did not respond to questions about why the names were made public.

The document is a response to 216 items that Sandusky’s attorney Joe Amendola asked for prosecutors to hand over as he prepares for trial.

It shows that computer hard drives, Second Mile camp lists, travel documents and photos were taken from Sandusky’s home.

It shows that police recorded several phone conversations between Sandusky and some of the alleged victims.

It shows that a “contract” between Victim Four and Sandusky was obtained.

It lists the schools that certain accusers attended.

It shows that less than two weeks before Sandusky was charged, prosecutors met with Joe Paterno for a follow-up to his January 2011 grand jury testimony. The interview was six pages. A family spokesperson said it was a very simple review of his grand jury testimony.

Phone numbers, adoption records, travel documents, videos from local television stations, videos of the coach’s locker room in the Penn State Lasch Building — where several accusers

say they were assaulted by Sandusky — emails, and documents regarding Sandusky's retirement from Penn State were also collected by investigators, the court records show.

There are three disks of pictures copied from The Second Mile charity where prosecutors say Sandusky met many of the alleged victims.

And 13 pages of documents were taken from the office of former vice president Gary Schultz, who is now charged alongside former athletic director Tim Curley with lying to the grand jury and never reporting an incident brought to them in 2001.

But even after getting all of that evidence, Sandusky's attorney will be in court tomorrow seeking more.

He wants to know the IQ, the economic standing — the history of each accuser.

He sent broad subpoenas out to several state agencies, school districts and doctors seeking more information.

Prosecutors called it a fishing expedition. The National Center for Victims of Crime is asking to file a motion on behalf of the victims to protect them from the requests.

Attorneys for the agencies — which total more than seven — are expected to fight the subpoenas under the premise that the information is confidential.

“There is a lot of fear in the victim community and stress placed upon them by these subpoenas,” Boni said. “He's asking for everything in my client's personal life that has nothing to do whatsoever with whether or not he was raped or sexually assaulted by Jerry Sandusky.”

Even if the judge rules tomorrow that Amendola can have the information, he isn't likely to be able to use most of it in court. The rape shield law prevents attorneys from attacking the credibility of victims.

“It doesn't get in (to trial) anyway, so why basically treat victims this way?” Boni said. “Why should this guy have this information if he can't use it? It's very private personal stuff and all it serves to do is discourage crime victims from coming forward.”

Among those fighting the subpoenas are psychologist Alycia Chambers, who evaluated alleged Victim 6 in 1998 and labeled Sandusky a “likely pedophile” before then-district attorney Ray

Gricar opted not to prosecute a case where the boy said he was touched while showering with Sandusky.

Children and Youth Services, the department of labor and industry, the department of corrections, and several schools have also joined the fight to stop Sandusky's subpoenas.