

11769

CONFIDENTIAL E. 182

CONF000552

DYKES_I_000547

CONFIDENTIAL RECORD SHEET

REGISTRATION AND SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE

Appendix A

CLAIKE

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

DATE September 13, 1982

FULL NAME James E. Cooper
(No initials if you can possibly give full name)

ADDRESS 651 Forest Ave.

CITY Paramus STATE NJ ZIP CODE 07652

DATE OF BIRTH _____ (This is important and should be exact)

APPROXIMATE AGE 39 (To be used ONLY when date of birth is not known)

RELIGION Christian NATIONALITY _____

OCCUPATION Engineer for a Computer Company

EDUCATION _____

WEIGHT 150 Approx. HEIGHT 5' 10" RACE Caucasian

COLOR OF HAIR Brown COLOR OF EYES _____

OUTSTANDING CHARACTERISTICS OR INTERESTS Glasses

MARRIED OR SINGLE Single CHILDREN _____

WIFE'S NAME _____

SCOUTING CONNECTIONS:

UNIT #	CITY	STATE	OFFICE	DATE REGISTERED	DATE RESIGNED
Merit Badge Counselor		NJ	#350	7/1/76 applied as counselor not registered in program.	

SPECIAL RECOGNITION _____

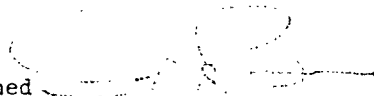
SUSPENDED OR DENIED REGISTRATION FOR FOLLOWING REASONS:

SPECIFY THE FACTS WHICH LEAD YOU TO RECOMMEND DENIAL OF REGISTRATION AND ATTACH SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS (STATE ONLY KNOWN FACTS, NOT RUMOR, CONJECTURE OR SPECULATION):

NOTED

OCT 3 1983

JOSEPH L. ANGLIM

Signed 

SCOUT EXECUTIVE

Council Bergen Council, 350, River Edge

CONF000553

DYKES_I_000548

Man gets prison for sex with boy

by Kathleen Sullivan
Staff Writer

A Paramus engineer described by law-enforcement authorities as the recording secretary of the North American Man-Boy Love Association (NAMBLA) has been sentenced to five years in prison for having an illicit sexual relationship with a 15-year-old boy.

"The message must go out that children must be protected, in sex or anything else. Children have a special place in society, and it's got to be that way," said Superior Court Judge Alfred D. Schiaffo in sentencing James E. Cooper, an admitted pedophile (an adult with an abnormal desire for children).

Cooper maintained that he had done nothing wrong by having sexual relations with the youth, an Irvington resident identified as D.C.

"If somebody didn't help him [the boy], he was going to end up in the streets on drugs," said Cooper in a 45-minute speech in the Hackensack courtroom Friday. "I guess I made a mistake because I took [him] in. I guess I should've ignored him, but I did care. So and I let him into my life, and he changed from a hostile boy."

Cooper, 41, was described by his attorney as "courageous" for his homosexual rights activ-

ism. NAMBLA advocates decriminalizing sex between adults and youngsters below the age of consent, which is 16 in New Jersey.

Cooper asked for probation and a term of community service as an alternative to prison.

Noting that Cooper had received threats after his arrest in June 1982, attorney Charles Grossman of West Orange said, "He's going to be exposed to a danger for his very survival if he goes to jail."

Grossman painted a portrait of Cooper as a well-liked former schoolteacher in Parsippany-Troy Hills and a former Boy Scout leader. The attorney said many of Cooper's colleagues from other states had written to the judge in praise of the slim, soft-spoken man.

At a trial in October, the gangly, sandy-haired victim, who is now 18, testified that he and Cooper had sex three or four times a month from February 1981 until after his 16th birthday in October 1981, and that Cooper had warned him to keep their relations a secret. Cooper denied that the sexual incidents occurred before the boy's 16th birthday.

A jury convicted Cooper of two counts each of sexual assault and criminal sexual contact, which would have made him eligible for a seven-year prison term.

Judge Schiaffo said he would not impose the maximum term on Cooper because it was his first criminal offense. The judge also allowed Cooper to remain free on \$10,000 bail pending appeal.

Assistant Bergen County Prosecutor Ray Farrington had urged Schiaffo to incarcerate Cooper to deter other NAMBLA members from future sex acts with young boys. "Nobody wants someone leading Boy Scouts or teaching young people with such a philosophy," Farrington said. "This man has been called courageous; this man is gutless."

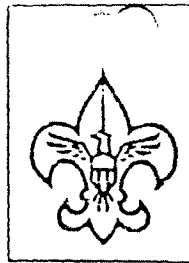
But the judge interjected himself in the prosecutor's argument to say, "I am sentencing someone. It has nothing to do with his political expressions. He's not to be sentenced only to deter an organization that you or I disagree with."

Two other men allegedly affiliated with NAMBLA who were arrested at the same time as Cooper pleaded guilty to sexual charges after Cooper's conviction.

Vincent Albrecht, 43, of 325 Summit St., Clifton, a banker, and Lawrence Plunkett, 41, of 77 North Drive, Rochelle Park, are due to be sentenced by Judge Schiaffo this month.

A 36

THE SUNDAY RECORD, FEBRUARY 5, 1984



Bergen Council
Boy Scouts of America

P.O. Box 4237
River Edge, NJ 07661-0937
201 342-8800

10 3-5-80

November 11, 1983

SCOUTING/USA



SCOUTING USA

DAVID BAUR
Council Executive

Bergen Council
Boy Scouts of America

P.O. Box 4237
River Edge, NJ 07661-0937
201 342-8800

Paul I. Ernst
Registration Subscription
Statistical Service
Boy Scouts of America
1325 Walnut Hill Lane
Irving, Texas 75062-1296

Dear Paul:

SUBJECT: James E. Cooper

Enclosed are copies of newspaper articles concerning James Cooper.

Note that Mr. Cooper was convicted on two counts of sexual assault, etc., on youth.

Sincerely,

DAVID BAUR
Council Executive

February 15, 1984

Paul I. Ernst
National Office

Re: James E. Cooper - Confidential File

Enclosed is additional information regarding Mr. Cooper.

David Baur

DB:esm
Enclosure

DB:md
Enc.

NOV 14 1983

CONF000555

Lawyer in sex trial delves into victim's past

By Kathleen Sullivan
Staff Writer

The lawyer for a Paramus engineer on trial for child molesting told a jury yesterday that he may prove that the alleged victim entered on a sexual relationship with another, older man before he met the engineer.

Attorney Charles Schiavo's opening statement that the other man was a new revelation in the case of 49-year-old James Cooper, who has been identified by law-enforcement authorities as the recording secretary of the North American Man Boy Love Association, an organization that advocates subverting the age of sexual consent.

Cooper is standing trial for the second time in Superior Court in Hackensack for allegedly molesting a

Irvington youth, who at the time was 15 - which is under New Jersey's legal age of sexual consent.

Cooper, however, maintains that the youth had observed his 16th birthday by the first time they had sex, which would make the relationship not a crime. The alleged victim, who is the chief prosecution witness in the case, will turn 18 on Monday.

At his first trial in 1967, Cooper was acquitted of two counts of sexual assault on the youth, identified as "D.C." The jury was unable to reach a verdict on the remaining four counts, which are the subject of the new trial that began yesterday before Judge A.H. J. D. Schiavo.

In his opening statement to the jurors, Assistant Bergen County Prosecutor Ray Farrington portrayed D.C.

as the troubled son of alcoholics whom Cooper seduced by dining and dining him and showering him with gifts.

"But there was a price to this affection shown D.C. by James Cooper," Farrington said, "and the state will show you the bedroom where this price was exacted." Among the evidence the assistant prosecutor said he would show jurors is photographs of Cooper's bedroom, reportedly decorated with nude photo graphics and slides of parties of men and boys where D.C. and Cooper first met.

Farrington did not refer to NAMBLA by name, but he described the organization and alleged that Cooper had tried to entice D.C. to write letters for the group's literature.

Before the jurors entered the courtroom, Cooper's

lawyer asked the judge to bar any references to NAMBLA from the trial, saying, "This is not the proper forum to try NAMBLA." However, Schiavo said Farrington could refer to the group as evidence of Cooper's state of mind when the alleged molesting occurred.

Crossman told the jurors, "There was a relationship between D.C. and James Cooper. You'll have a chance to evaluate that relationship, but it was not an unlawful relationship because there was no sex prior to the age of 16, and it wasn't the kind of relationship Mr. Farrington would like you to believe."

He continued, "If you are unhappy with Mr. Cooper -- do not like his life style, but you have reasonable doubts as to when these things occurred, or if they occurred, then you are here to vote for a not guilty verdict."

guilty to boy sex charges

By Kathleen Sullivan
Staff Writer

Ten days after the conviction of the reputed recording secretary of the North American Man-Boy Love Association (NAMBLA), two more men allegedly affiliated with the pedophile rights group have pleaded guilty to charges that could bring them five-year prison terms.

Vincent Albrecht, 43, of 325 Summit St., Clifton, a banker, pleaded guilty to sexually assaulting a 14-year-old boy in Albrecht's former home in Bogota in June 1981. Lawrence Plunkett, 41, of 77 North Drive, Rochelle Park, pleaded guilty to taking nude photographs of another youth, age 14. Plunkett, a department store manager, admitted taking the photographs in his former home in Garfield in 1980.

In return for the guilty pleas, the Bergen County Prosecutor's Office agreed to drop 13 additional counts of an indictment against Albrecht and six additional counts of an indictment against Plunkett.

Prosecutor Larry McClure said yesterday that the plea bargains were negotiated to spare the victims additional trauma.

Of Albrecht and Plunkett, McClure said, "I want them to go to jail. My office is going to — at sentencing — request custodial terms."

McClure said the guilty pleas may have been prompted by the Oct. 21 conviction of James E. Cooper, a 41-year-old Paramus engineer said to be the recording secretary of NAMBLA, an organization of homosexuals dedicated to abolishing the age of sexual consent, which is 16 in New Jersey.

A jury in Superior Court in Hackensack convicted Cooper of four counts of sexually assaulting an Irvington youth who was 15 at the time. Cooper faces up to 10 years in prison when he is sentenced Jan. 6.

Superior Court Judge Alfred D. Schiaffo, who presided over Cooper's trial, accepted the guilty pleas of Albrecht and Plunkett yesterday.

Cooper, Albrecht, Plunkett, and John Stackhouse, a nurse who lives in Little Falls, were indicted in August 1982 after being arrested the previous June.

Albrecht, who was a vice-president of Bankers Trust in New York at the time of his arrest, was identified by law-enforcement authorities as a NAMBLA member, while Stackhouse and Plunkett were alleged to have attended meetings of the organization. Plunkett was working as a manager of a K mart store in Belleville when he was arrested.

The charges against Stackhouse are still pending, along with May 1983 charges against a Glen Rock man, Louis "Chip" Deffaa, a part-time reporter for The Ridgewood News. Deffaa, who has not been linked to NAMBLA, is charged with sexually assaulting the same youth whom Cooper was convicted of assaulting.

Paramus man convicted of molesting youth

By Kathleen Sullivan
Staff Writer

In what the Bergen County prosecutor says should serve as a warning to pedophiles, a jury in Superior Court in Hackensack has convicted a 41-year-old Paramus engineer of having sex with a 15-year-old boy he had befriended.

James E. Cooper, described by law enforcement authorities as the recording secretary of the North American Man-Boy Love Association (NAMBLA), was convicted of two counts of sexual assault and two counts of criminal sexual contact on the Irvington youth, identified only as D.C., in September and October 1981.

The jury of seven women and five men deliberated more than five hours before reaching

their verdict Friday. The slim, kinky-haired defendant appeared shaken as the jury forewoman pronounced him guilty of all charges. He murmured a nearly inaudible expression of dismay. As the jurors were polled individually for their verdict, Cooper bowed his head and rested it on his hands on the counsel table, eventually taking out a handkerchief to wipe his nose.

An engineer for a computer company until his arrest, Cooper was the first of three reported NAMBLA supporters to stand trial for allegedly molesting D.C., his younger brother, or another boy whom they met at homosexual parties in New Brunswick starting in 1979.

During the trial — Cooper's second on the same charges — the youth testified that Cooper fondled him and performed oral sex on him at

times from February 1981 until well past his 16th birthday on Oct. 24 of that year.

Cooper, who declined to testify in his own defense, did not deny the sexual relationship, but through his attorney he maintained that all the encounters had occurred after the youth turned 16. D.C.'s 18th birthday is tomorrow.

At Cooper's first trial in June, D.C. offered contradictory testimony about the dates their liaisons were to have taken place. That jury acquitted him of two charges and was unable to reach a verdict on the remaining four, which were the subject of the second trial last week.

Judge Alfred D. Schiaffo, who presided over the four-day trial, said he would sentence Cooper Jan. 6. The defendant faces up to 10 years in prison.

10/23

Bergen Record

THE RECORD, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1983 P. 1C

BERGEN/PASSAIC/HUDSON COUNTIES, NEW JERSEY

CONF000557

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Sex with man began at 15, boy tells court

By Kathleen Sullivan
Staff Writer

A 17-year-old Irvington boy, who is the star witness in the Bergen County Prosecutor's Office's cases against alleged members of a pedophile rights group, testified yesterday that he had a sexual relationship with a 41-year-old Paramus engineer before reaching the age of consent.

The gangly, sandy-haired youth said he and James Cooper had sexual encounters three or four times a month from February 1981 until well past his 16th birthday in October of that year.

The youth, identified only as D.C., will be 18 Monday. He testified yesterday that Cooper told him to keep their relations a secret until D.C. turned 18, because sex with boys under that age is illegal in New Jersey.

Cooper of 651 Forest Ave., an engineer for a computer company, is the first of five members of the North American Man-Boy Love Association to stand trial for alleged child molesting involving D.C., D.C.'s younger brother, and another youth.

At his first trial in June, Cooper was acquitted of two charges and the jury could not reach a verdict on four other counts, which are the subject of the new proceeding before Superior Court Judge Alfred D. Schiaffo in Hackensack.

The jury's indecision on the first trial seemed to stem from contradictory statements made by D.C. under cross-examination as to the time the sex acts took place. If the acts occurred after his 16th birthday, they would not be illegal under New Jersey law.

CONF000558

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1983

Testimony ends in sex assault case

By Kathleen Sullivan
Staff Writer

Testimony concluded yesterday in the second sexual assault trial of James E. Cooper after the Paramus engineer decided not to call any witnesses in his defense. He is accused of engaging in an illicit sexual relationship with a boy under age 16. A jury in Superior Court in Hackensack was scheduled to begin deliberations today in the case of the 41-year-old Cooper, a reputed officer of a controversial pedo-

phile rights group.

Judge Alfred D. Schiavo said he would instruct the jurors today on the legal definitions of the four crimes with which Cooper is charged, including two counts of criminal sexual contact and two counts of sexual assault.

The alleged victim, identified as D.C., testified that he and Cooper engaged in oral sex between February 1981 and October 1981, before D.C.'s 16th birthday. The youth, who will turn 18 Monday, said Cooper instructed him not to disclose their sex

acts because it was illegal in New Jersey to have sex with a child under age 16.

The trial, which began Tuesday, was Cooper's second for the same alleged crimes. At the first trial in June, the victim contradicted himself on the dates when the acts occurred. The jury acquitted Cooper of two counts and was unable to reach a verdict on the remaining four, which are the subject of the new trial.

Cooper's defense is that the sex acts occurred after D.C. was 16. His attorney, Charles Grossman, asked jurors yesterday

to set aside their feelings on homosexuality and consider only the youth's contradictory statements about the dates of his encounters with Cooper.

"If it's after the 16th birthday, it's no crime, even if you don't approve," the lawyer said.

Cooper is said by law-enforcement authorities to be the recording secretary of the North American Man-Boy Love Association, an organization that advocates the abolition of the age of sexual consent.

PRIORITY SEPARATION

COUNCIL NO. 350

UNIT NO. 8601

DEATH

C. F.

ADULT/ BOY NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE & ZIP	STATUS	POS
James E Cooper	651 Forest AVE	Paramus	N.J 07652		4/2

cm - 11/73

Form 28-202S

CONF000560

August 5, 1983

Mr. David Baur
Scout Executive
Bergen Council, No. 350

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: James E. Cooper

Dear Dave:

Quite some time ago we had correspondence concerning an individual by the name of James E. Cooper, who was registered as a Merit Badge Counselor. Since that date we have heard nothing further from you and would like more information if you are able to secure it.

Has Mr. Cooper been tried for the inditement on sex charges? If the trial has been held, could you tell us of the outcome and also the sentencing? This will prove most helpful in strenghtening our file for future refusal of participation with the Boy Scouts of America.

Sincerely,

Paul I. Ernst, Director
Registration, Subscription &
Statistical Service

eko

cc: Northeast Region

READY TO FILE

AUG 8 1983
DA
DIANA ATKINSON

CONF000561

DYKES_I_000556



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA BERGEN COUNCIL

1060 MAIN STREET • RIVER EDGE • NEW JERSEY • 07661 • (201) 342-8600

September 13, 1982

Orwin Carter
1090 High Mountain Rd.
Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417

Dear Orwin:

In response to an article in the Record dated August 25, 1982, I am asking you to remove from the Ramapo Mountain District Merit Badge Counselor list Mr. James E. Cooper. He is listed as a counselor for the following Badges: Electricity, Electronics and Radio.

Mr. Cooper was indicted by the County Grand jury and is charged with three counts of sexual assault and three counts of criminal sexual contact with a 15 year old boy. He is also affiliated with the North American Man-Boy Love Association. At our Roundtable on September 14, 1982 an announcement will be made to remove him and a note is being sent to our troop leaders in Paramus instructing them to remove him from their list.

Sincerely yours,
BERGEN COUNCIL, BSA

EDWARD A. RASMUSON
District Executive

EAR:slm
cc: Thomas Bover, Sr.
244 Hidden Glen Ct.
Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417

CONF000562

DYKES_I_000557

3 linked to man-boy sex

By Marc Duvolski,
Staff Writer

A year-long investigation of a sex ring whose adult members allegedly recruited boys from Little League teams and Boys Clubs has led to the arrest of three Bergen County men, and authorities say more arrests are expected.

A 37-year-old Paramus man and a 40-year-old Garfield man were arraigned Friday in Bergen County District Court in Hackensack on charges of aggravated sexual assault.

The two were being held in the Bergen County Jail yesterday on \$35,000 bail each. A 42-year-old bank executive from Bogota, arraigned Thursday, was released on \$35,000 bail.

Authorities said the defendants were members of the North American Man-Boy Love Association, a group which advocates abolishing the age of sexual consent and is said to be active in New York, southern New England, and California in addition to New Jersey. The age of sexual consent in New Jersey is 18.

Arraigned Friday before Judge Anthony J. Sciuto were James E. Cooper of 661 Forest

Ave., Paramus, and Lawrence Plunkett of 11 Hobart Place, Garfield.

I.L. William G. Thorne, head of the crimes unit of the Bergen County prosecutor's office, identified Cooper as the secretary of the homosexual group. Plunkett was not a member but was a known attending member.

Cooper, who said he is 37, was charged with sexually abusing a 14-year-old boy identified only as B.C. Cooper pleaded not guilty for Cooper, who is represented by an attorney, was released on bail, as a condition of both men's release, the boy "in any way."

Plunkett pleaded not guilty to sexually abusing two foster children, ages 12 and 13, for whom he allegedly was a legal guardian. The boys had been living with Plunkett, identified as a supervisor at a firm in Belleville, but are now living in an apartment next door, the prosecutor's office said.

Vincent Albrecht of 146 W. Park Ave., Bogota, an executive at a Trust Company in New York City, was charged with two counts of sexual assault on a boy identified as B.C., now 14. A plea of not guilty was entered for him.

CONF000563

DYKES_I_000558

4 indicted on sex charges

FROM PAGE C-1

The latter crimes took place between July 1981 and March 1982, according to the indictment.

Plunkett is charged with three sex crimes against the same W.C. identified in the Stackhouse indictment, including endangering the welfare of a child by taking pictures of the youth engaged in sexual acts.

A K mart store manager who lives at 11 Hobart Place, Garfield, Plunkett is also charged with four sex crimes against a boy identified as D.C., who was 15 at the time the crimes are alleged to have taken place in Garfield.

Cooper, an engineer for a computer company, is charged with three counts of sexual assault and three counts of criminal sexual contact on the same D.C. named in the Plunkett indictment.

Cooper, who lives at 851 Forest Ave., Paramus, allegedly engaged in sex acts with the 15-year-old boy in New Brunswick and Paramus between September and October 1981.

2 of alleged victims are brothers

Two of the alleged victims named in the indictments are brothers who live in Belleville.

Two other alleged victims, who had been Plunkett's foster children, recanted their testimony before the grand jury, resulting in some charges against Plunkett being dropped. Ms. Marjorie Clark, an assistant Bergen County prosecutor in charge of the sex crimes unit.

The brothers were removed from Plunkett's home and returned to their natural mother after Plunkett was arrested in June, Ms. Clark said.

4 indicted on sex charges

By Kathleen Sullivan
Staff Writer

A Bergen County grand jury yesterday indicted three Bergen County men and a Passaic County man on charges they engaged in sex with teen-aged boys as part of an organized homosexual group.

John Stackhouse, 39, of Little Falls; Vincent Albrecht, 42, of Bogota; Lawrence Plunkett, 46, of Garfield; and James E. Cooper, 39, of Paramus were indicted on indictments of the North American Man-Boy Love Association, an organization that advocates abolishing the age of sexual consent.

Stackhouse's name who lives at 88 Bergen Drive, Little Falls, is alleged to have committed three crimes of sexual assault and three of criminal sexual contact on a 15-year-old boy identified as C.B. between September and October of 1981 in Passaic County.

Albrecht, a vice-president of Bankers Trust Company who lives at 140 Fort Lee Road, Bogota, is charged with two counts of sexual assault and two counts of criminal sexual contact on a 15-year-old boy identified as W.C. between September and October of 1981.

Albrecht is also charged with 10 counts of sex crimes against another boy, the same 15-year-old C.B. named in the Stackhouse indictment.

See INDICTED, Page C-14