## **McGuireWoods**

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September 2, 2025

The Honorable Scott S. Harris Clerk of the Court Supreme Court of the United States 1 First Street, NE Washington, D.C. 20543

Re: In re: Boy Scouts of Am. & Delaware BSA LLC, 25A\_\_\_\_

Dear Mr. Harris,

I represent Respondent the Coalition of Abused Scouts for Justice. I write on behalf of the Coalition and the additional survivors represented by counsel identified below\*—collectively, tens of thousands of survivors of sexual abuse whose interests are directly at stake in this case—to respectfully oppose the Applicants' request for a 60-day extension of time in which to file a petition for a writ of certiorari. As the district court recognized, this is "an extraordinary case by any measure." *In re: Boy Scouts of Am.*, 650 B.R. 87, 105 (D. Del. 2023). It involves the validity of a confirmed Chapter 11 plan designed to provide compensation to more than 82,000 survivors of childhood sexual abuse in the Boy Scouts of America. Counsel joining this letter represent the interests of the overwhelming majority of survivors who strongly support the plan. The survivor population is aged, and thousands have died during the pendency of this case. Applicants, by contrast, represent just 0.09% of survivors.

As the court of appeals explained, the confirmed plan is the result of a 22-day trial before the bankruptcy court that was "commendably thorough and inclusive," and supported by a confirmation opinion that "meticulously analyz[ed]" all objections. In re: Boy Scouts of Am., 137 F.4th 126, 146 (3d Cir. 2025). The plan establishes a mechanism for providing some measure of well-deserved closure to the survivors of this abuse, by establishing "the largest sexual abuse compensation fund in the history of the United States." In re: Boy Scouts of Am., 650 B.R at 104. The plan has now been effective for more than 28 months, and the Settlement Trustee has issued claim determinations for more than 43,000 survivors. More than 27,000 survivors have received partial distributions. And this Court has already declined Applicants' request to enjoin the plan during appellate review. See Order, No. 23A741 (Feb. 22, 2024). But before the compensation fund can be fully funded with more than \$1.65 billion currently held in escrow and before distributions can be fully made, appellate review must be completed, including any review by this Court.

<sup>\*</sup> Counsel representing the additional survivors include Hurley McKenna & Mertz, The Zalkin Law Firm, Crew Janci LLP, Merson Law PLLC, Paul Mones PC, and Horowitz Law. Each has authorized me to represent to this Court that they join this letter.

Applicants are just 75 of the tens of thousands of survivors. Although the plan provides Applicants with the same opportunity for financial compensation as other survivors, Applicants seek to undo the plan in its entirety—setting all survivors back to square one in their search for justice. The Third Circuit rejected Applicants' objections to the plan in a comprehensive opinion. *See In re: Boy Scouts of Am., supra.* That judgment does not meet this Court's standard for further review. The Coalition and the other supporting survivors counsel are confident that this Court will ultimately deny Applicants' petition for a writ of certiorari—finally bringing an end to the survivors' arduous legal proceedings.

For the aging survivors, that day cannot come soon enough. While we recognize that an extension of time to seek certiorari is not atypical, this is not a typical case. Assuming a petition is filed, the several respondents will have—and should have—an opportunity to respond to Applicants' submission. Given the number of parties in this case, it would not be unusual for one or more groups of other respondents to seek and receive an extension (or two) of their deadline to respond. Neither the Coalition nor any supporting survivors counsel has the power to prevent this further delay. And yet with every day that passes, survivors are left helpless waiting for assurance that his hard-fought bargain will not be undone and that the promised closure and financial compensation will finally come. In many cases, survivors are literally dying as they wait for that result. Since the plan was confirmed, more than 1,600 survivors—more than 20 times the number of Applicants before the Court—have passed away.

Given these stakes, we urge the Court not to delay its consideration of this matter any longer than necessary. We respectfully request that Applicants' request for a 60-day extension be denied. Such a lengthy extension would unnecessarily delay this Court's consideration of any forthcoming petition. And, even more troubling, if the petition were granted, it could delay this Court's final resolution of this case until June 2027. We urge the Court to grant no more than a two-week extension to prepare and file a petition for a writ of certiorari. Given the posture of this case, the parties' familiarity with the issues, and this Court's previous consideration, two additional weeks should be sufficient for Applicants to prepare their petition—without risking undue delay in justice that the survivors deserve.

Respectfully submitted,

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