



# PRESS RELEASE

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**CONTACT: LAWRENCE ROBERT**  
**323-236-9992**

## **FORMER TEAM USA FIGURE SKATER FILES LAWSUIT AGAINST UNITED STATES FIGURE SKATING ASSOCIATION AND CONVICTED CHILD MOLESTER COACH IN ALLEGED SEX ABUSE CASE**

Attorneys representing a former member of the USA National Figure Skating Team announced the filing of a lawsuit against the US Figure Skating Association, former coach Donald James Vincent and two Los Angeles County ice skating facilities in Los Angeles, California. [Click here for complaint.](#)

The suit alleges that the Defendants concealed from the victims' parents and law enforcement officials the fact that victim and others were or may have been sexually abused, harassed and molested by coach Donald Vincent.

Vincent was convicted of repeatedly sexually molesting two of his students, a boy and a girl, including the victim in this lawsuit, between 2007 and 2011. He was sentenced in 2014 to 98 years and eight months to life in state prison.

According to the complaint, from 2007 to around 2008, the victim, John S. Doe trained at the Lakewood Glacial Gardens with Vincent as his coach. During this time, when John S. Doe was approximately eleven 11-years old, the Plaintiff began sleeping over at Vincent's home approximately 2 to 3 nights per week, under the guise that such sleepovers would make it easier for the Plaintiff to focus on training for ice skating. The true purpose, however, was for Vincent to begin sexually touching, fondling, and abusing the victim.

The complaint further alleges that the United States Figure Skating Association had received information that Vincent had engaged in inappropriate conduct with other minors and failed to report him to the authorities as required by law.

Vince Finaldi, the victim's attorney, called this case, "One more example of the culture of child abuse that is rampant in our Olympic sports programs."

Mr. Finaldi said, "Our client is an extremely talented young athlete who dreamed of nothing more than to stand on an Olympic podium and hear our National Anthem. Instead, he had to

stop competing in the sport he loved because of the physical and emotional damage allegedly done to him by his coach, Donald Vincent who has since been imprisoned for child molestation. The US Figure Skating Association and the ice rinks where Vincent worked ignored complaints against him for years. If they had done their legal duty years ago and reported Vincent to the police, our client and other children could have been protected from this monster.”

Another Olympic Governing Body, USA Gymnastics, is enmeshed in a massive scandal for allegedly covering up decades of sexual abuse by coaches and its Olympic Team doctor Larry Nassar. Last week, the Orange County Register reported that USA Swimming may have ignored or covered up allegations of child sexual abuse going back to the 1980s.

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[Manly, Stewart & Finaldi](#) is California’s leading law firm representing child victims of sexual abuse. The firm has represented more than 150 victims of clergy sexual abuse in California and hundreds of others throughout the United States. The firm also represented plaintiffs in the \$140,000,000 settlement against LAUSD in the Miramonte case, the largest sex abuse settlement against a School District in the US. The firm currently represents more than 140 alleged victims of former US Olympic Women’s Gymnastics team doctor Larry Nassar.