



# PRESS RELEASE

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## **VICTIMS' ATTORNEYS MANLY, STEWART & FINALDI APPLAUD GUILTY VERDICT IN RETRIAL OF SAN DIEGO MILITARY SCHOOL OFFICIAL IN CHILD MOLESTATION CASE**

**Irvine, California** – Victim's attorney and advocate for the protection of children, John Manly, applauded the guilty the guilty verdict of a San Diego Jury against Jeffrey Barton, former Headmaster of the Army and Navy Academy in Carlsbad.

Barton was found guilty on six of eleven felony counts of forced sex acts with a minor. Sentencing will take place within the next few weeks.

Manly, Stewart & Finaldi represents the alleged victim of Barton in a civil lawsuit that is currently pending against Barton and the Army and Navy Academy.

"The jury's action in this case removes a dangerous predator from our community and sends a strong message to our educational institutions – you have a responsibility to carefully vet your employees and take decisive action to protect the children under your care," said John Manly, founding partner in the Irvine, California law firm of Manly, Stewart & Finaldi.

The prosecutors tried the 59-year-old on 11 felony charges, accusing him of repeatedly molesting a cadet from 1999 to 2001.

The jury heard testimony from two additional accusers, whose allegations date to the mid-1980s and cover boarding schools in other states. Though he is not being formally charged with their molestations, the jury was allowed to consider the testimony as corroborating evidence as they made their decision.

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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.