

Michael Farquhar

Governor Gretchen Whitmer
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Dear Governor Whitmer:

I am writing to you and several other agencies of our state government, praying that these agencies will join together to come up with a solution to a very disturbing situation. In 1972, when I was 12 years old and living in Michigan, I was introduced into the world of child pornography and prostitution by a man named Gerald Richards. These crimes were so horrendous that our government had to join together to pass federal legislation to protect children from these acts. This legislation recognized child pornography as a federal crime. Gerald Richards, testified at these federal hearings in an effort to cooperate with authorities to reduce his prison sentence.

Prior to the passing of this law, numerous men helped Gerald Richards victimize children in Michigan. These included Francis (Frank) Shelden, Dyer Grossman, Adam Starchild and other unnamed men. Shelden fled the country after charges were filed against him in Michigan to avoid prosecution. He lived for many years in The Netherlands and continued to victimize and rape children. An article that appeared in Business Insider Magazine this past summer detailed Shelden's crimes and drew parallels to the case of Jeffrey Epstein. <https://www.businessinsider.com/jeffrey-epstein-north-fox-island-francis-shelden-2019-8>

I have managed to carry on with as normal a life as possible. I have been blessed with four children and six grandchildren. We are a close-knit, loving family. I became a survivor against all odds, given what was done to me during my childhood.

A little over a year ago, I received a letter from Cineflix Media asking about the pedophile group that operated on N. Fox Island and the Oakland County Child Killer. The media company had found my name in documents submitted by the Michigan State Police pursuant to a FOIA request made by a media representative concerning Frank Shelden. While almost all of the names of the men affiliated with Frank Shelden and the child pornography and pedophile ring were redacted, my name—as a victim and a minor—was not.

I had no idea what they were talking about with the Oakland County child killer case, so out of

curiosity, I researched the case online and was shocked by amount and substance of the information online. And what a hell of a way for me to find out just how dangerous these pedophiles and pornographers operating in Michigan were. I believe my life has always been in danger at some level by the predators who victimized me and their associates. I agreed to be in the documentary being produced by Cineflix, first appearing on Discovery ID in February of this year. The documentary, Children of the Snow, is now on Hulu, and it goes into great detail about these cases and the crimes committed in Michigan in the 1970s. Frankly, I believe the show has left everybody who has viewed it with fear, shock and disgust. Because these crimes were never fully or adequately investigated, let alone prosecuted, we now have to look to government for some sort of solution and closure.

Before and during the reign of terror of the Oakland County child killer(s), when at least four kids between ages 10 and 12 were kidnapped, held captive and murdered, one of the largest child prostitution and pornography organizations was discovered to be operating in Michigan. The web of this organization extended to many other states.

As a child victim, subject to Gerald Richards inhumane treatment, I was taken to places and exposed to things I never should have been. Places like the Cranbrook Institute of Art, where I was molested by Frank Shelden (on the Board of Directors of the Cranbrook Institute of Science in Bloomfield Hills, MI), Richards and another man. There was another such incident in a church near or on the Cranbrook campus. That day I crossed paths with a child a few years younger than me. I now believe that child was Mark Stebbins, the first victim of the OCCK. This would have been in February 1976, before Shelden fled the country.

Participating in the documentary was traumatizing, but I felt it was important to expose what took place on N. Fox Island, which may have overlap with the OCCK murders. I am told the documentary has spurred some people to come forward with information. Whether any real additional investigation is taking place is hard to say. I have spent a lot of time over the past year thinking about my past and comparing it to the present. It is clear to me that the criminal enterprise on N. Fox Island and the OCCK case are intricately involved. These cases involves multiple counties and jurisdictions, including Saint Clair County, Oakland, Wayne County, Charlevoix and Traverse Counties. I am praying that government leaders in Michigan will remove these cases from the multiple jurisdictions and turn it over to a higher authority such as the Justice Department. The Michigan State Police must move forward in the child murder cases using any and all recent DNA testing advances.

Of course for me there are additional concerns. Like why my name as a child victim and witness was not redacted by the case file documents provided in a FOIA response from the Michigan State Police. This left me vulnerable to media and public exposure and exploitation. One of my main concerns is that one of the suspects, Dyer Grossman is alive and well and living in California under the assumed name Peter Lamborn Wilson. I tried forwarding this information to the FBI and the Saint Clair County prosecutor's office, but no one appears willing to touch this information and neither agency has responded to my information or concerns.

I believe it is possible Grossman/"Wilson" has information about the child killings in 1976 and 1977. I was told by one of the representatives of Cineflix that I should be "safe" if I didn't go digging into the case any deeper. Frankly, this is not reassuring and furthermore, we are talking

about the rape, torture and murder of children. I am willing to keep digging—whatever it takes—and the State of Michigan should, too.

I can never adequately explain how my victimization as a child and the subsequent shocking reopening of this case has cost me in my life. These cases continue to receive attention in the form of books and podcasts, in addition to *Children of the Snow*. I am told another documentary is in the works. This isn't going away. People want to know the truth concerning the failures of law enforcement and government agencies in these cases. I am imploring you and other government officials to come up with a way to get the investigation(s) on track and to get out ahead of the further publicity which is sure to happen here.

My family and I have already felt the wrath of public exposure; wrath that was never visited on the perpetrators of these crimes or the investigators and agencies who failed to bring anyone to justice. Someone at the highest levels of Michigan government needs to evaluate what has taken place here out of a sense of justice to all the child victims and to ensure nothing like this is allowed to fester in Michigan ever again.

Sincerely,

Michael Farquhar