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To: Dave Stroud one2halfstep@hotmail.com

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Hello Dave,

Here's the coverage from the D35 Board Meeting. Glad to see you made it in.

[New standards requested in alleged molestation case](#)

A handful of Glencoe community members and District 35 alumni stepped forward at the Sept. 7 School Board meeting to share concerns surrounding the Marvin Martin molestation case.

Cumulatively, the speakers charged the district to raise their investigation standards in hopes of finding justice and encouraging victims of Martin's alleged sexual assaults to come out.

Martin, who now resides in Wisconsin, was not present at the meeting.

Specifically, the coalition wants D35 to employ an independent investigation firm to review the case, rather than the district's existing attorney Mike Loizzi, of Hodges, Loizzi, Eisenhammer, Rodick & Kohn LLP.

Jason Suciu, a Glencoe resident with three children in the public school system, was a victim in the recent Lake Bluff sexual assault case involving former teacher Charles Ritz. Suciu is concerned by D35's choice in attorney — the same firm used by Lake Bluff D65 — and stressed Martin showed the same signs as Ritz.

David Stroud, a former D35 student who now lives in Colorado, also addressed the board as a personal victim in the alleged Martin assaults.

"Marvin Martin is a serial predator who builds his position of authority and reverence in order to take advantage of Glencoe's most vulnerable citizens in the most horrific manner," Stroud said. "The system is stacked against victims of child sexual assault. ... I believe an investigation is warranted."

Stroud initially filed his complaint to the Glencoe police in 2012, however, the case closed without any charges. This summer, Stroud shared the details of his alleged abuse on a public Facebook post, attracting attention therefore beginning a conversation at the July board meeting.

Although Board President Gary Ruben has since confirmed the district is looking into the accusations, community members at the meeting were left underwhelmed.

"So what is District 35's plan?" Stroud asked. "To my sensibility, doing nothing is the same thinking that allows people like Marvin Martin to thrive in a system in the first place. ... I believe that [the board members] are good people. It saddens me to think about you sitting around this room at this very table top in closed meetings listening to the advice of lawyers. ... I'm baffled by D35's choice to remain silent about the past, but I know that as individuals you believe in your hearts that I'm telling the truth about Marvin Martin."

As a former student of Martin's and a confidante of one of Martin's alleged sexual assault targets, Annie Sarnblad echoed Suciu and Stroud. Sarnblad flew in from her home in Boston to address the board in-person and stress the severity of the situation.

"Please help the police get justice for the crimes Marvin Martin committed on the watch of this community while being celebrated by his community," Sarnblad said. "Can you imagine how painful it must be to have your aggressor celebrated for decades, knowing these crimes have been reported and the schools and other grown ups looked the other way?"

Ruben did not guarantee the district will hire an independent investigator, as Loizzi's firm serves as general counsel.

"We usually handle all legal matters for our districts, including corporate, finance, real estate, union negotiations, vendor contracts, student discipline, special education dispute, etc.," Loizzi told The Anchor. "Lake Bluff is one of our clients. The same is true for Glencoe. Whatever comes their way, we handle with few exceptions."

D35 will continue to explore the accusations to seek the truth and release any information they uncover, Ruben said. So far, all of Martin's personnel file has been released as public record (www.glencoeschools.org).

"We very much want to get to the truth in this and find out what information we can provide, and again we encourage others who can come forward to do so," Ruben said.

Additional Reporting by Megan Bernard, Editor.

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