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"Silent No More": A victim's tale of his abuse by Jerry Sandusky and Gov. Tom Corbett

EDITOR: For both revelations concerning the disgraceful almost three year delay in the prosecution of Jerry Sandusky and a fascinating read, visit Bill Keisling's book review and comments at http://newslanc.com/2012/11/12/silent-no-more-a-victims-tale-of-abuse-by-jerry-sandusky-and-tom-corbett/

... Silent No More" begins as Aaron Fisher's firsthand, if sketchy, account of his long-running abuse at the hands of former Penn State football coach Jerry Sandusky.

"Here's the thing — those nightmares were my reality," Fisher writes in his remarkable and important new book, "Silent No More" (Ballantine Books, New York, 2012.)...

Jerry would call the school whenever he pleased and [athletic director Steve]Turchetta would just hand Aaron over....

The book quickly evolves into a very detailed account of Fisher's neglect at the hands of self-aggrandizing Pennsylvania officials, most notably Pennsylvania Attorney General (and now Governor) Tom Corbett...

But why were the Pennsylvania state police slow on the uptake to protect Aaron? It turns out the state police for years had their hands tied by higher-ups in the Pennsylvania Attorney General's office, who had more pressing political concerns than the rape of children...

The book explains that Children and Youth Services in Lock Haven staff psychologist Mike Gillum's first interview with Aaron Fisher occurred sometime in *November 2008*, before Thanksgiving,

almost three years before Sandusky would be arrested in *November 2011*.

As well as filling in many points on the timeline, Gillum sheds light on the revolving door of law enforcement personnel assigned to the stalled case by the state attorney general's office...

Aaron's interview with the fourth trooper came on *June 8*, 2009, Gillum reports.

By this time Pennsylvania Attorney General Tom Corbett was setting the stage for his formal entry into the governor's race on *September 14*, 2009.

Candidate Corbett would manage to tie up the case for almost another year and a half, until his election as governor in November 2010.

Meanwhile, gubernatorial candidate Corbett would collect hundreds of thousands of dollars from Second Mile Charity board members, state election records show....

AG Corbett made no attempt to assign the case for quick resolution with his office's well-trained Child Predator Unit, as similar cases are usually assigned. Instead, on *June 16*, 2009, Aaron was dragged before his first statewide investigative grand jury... Following the April 2011 grand jury appearance, and with Corbett safely in the governor's mansion, Gillum writes that Deputy AG Eshbach informed him there would finally be a task-force of six attorney general office agents as well as state police officers dedicated to the case.

"I wanted to ask her why Corbett had dragged his feet but I knew the obvious answer," Gillum writes. "Now that Corbett was governor and there was no risk antagonizing anyone who might have interfered with his election, there was a whole new mindset in the attorney general's office." ...

Three months later, in *November 2011*, Jerry Sandusky would finally be arrested. Several months earlier, in the *summer of 2011*, Gov. Corbett had approved a \$3.5 million state grant to Sandusky's Second Mile Charity.

Now, only days after Sandusky's arrest, Gov. Tom Corbett responded by loudly forcing the resignation of Penn State Coach Joe Paterno, saying that Paterno had not done enough, quickly enough, to help victims like Aaron...

EDITOR: What an irony!

Kathleen Kane ready for job not foreign to her

SCRANTON TIMES-TRIBUNE: ... She won by a lopsided though still unofficial 14.5 percentage points. She piled up more than three million votes, a rarity in state elections. She also earned substantially more votes than the two far better known names leading the ticket, President Barack Obama and U.S. Sen. Bob Casey.

A deputy attorney general and investigators will be assigned to look into the handling of the [Sandusky] case. "I will also be very involved in it. We'll go back and we'll look at the case notes, we'll look at the emails, we'll look at the phone logs, we'll look at the grand jury testimony, all of it. We'll read all the police reports, we'll talk to the police officers, we'll talk to the deputies, we'll talk to the agents just like any other investigation," she said. "It's got to be thorough, it's got to be thoughtful."

LANCASTER NEW ERA: ..."[Attorney General Elect Kathleen] Kane may have been unhappy with the pace of the Sandusky probe, but that alone proves nothing.

"The new attorney general will get her probe, but she may not get the results she apparently is hoping for. If that's the case, she should be prepared to apologize to the governor — and taxpayers, for wasting their time and resources.

"Kane's first case as attorney general may end up being one she regrets: a wild goose chase."

WATCHDOG: Or so they wish!

Pa. voter ID law far from a done deal

PITTSBURG POST-GAZETTE: ... The photo ID requirements suspended for last week's election remain in place for the state's May 21 primary, when Pittsburgh's mayor and other local and judicial offices will be on the ballot, and legal challenges to the ID law remain on the docket, too...

"Our position is this law is not constitutional and cannot be constitutional without some legislative fixes," said Witold Walczak, legal director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania...

The above items have been excerpted from <u>www.NewsLanc.com</u>. Visit the website daily for news, commentary, letters, and other features. Suggestions and letters can be sent anonymously through the home page.