

**SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF KINGS**

-----X **Index No.:**
**ANONYMOUS 13 DOE, ANONYMOUS 5 DOE,
ANONYMOUS 6 DOE, AND ANONYMOUS 25 DOE,**

VERIFIED COMPLAINT

Plaintiffs,
-against-

**THE YESHIVA OF BROOKLYN A/K/A TALMUDICAL
SCHOOL OF BROOKLYN,**

Defendant.

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Plaintiffs, ANONYMOUS 13 DOE, ANONYMOUS 5 DOE, ANONYMOUS 6 DOE, and ANONYMOUS 25 DOE, by and through undersigned counsel, complaining of the Defendant, upon information and belief, allege as follows:

PARTIES, JURISDICTION, AND VENUE

1. This Complaint arises from the defendant THE YESHIVA OF BROOKLYN A/K/A TALMUDICAL SCHOOL OF BROOKLYN's failure to report the sexual battery of Plaintiffs by their father, the Rabbi Gershon Kranczer, and his sons, including, but not limited to Yechezkel Kranczer and Asher Anshel Kranczer, collectively from infancy to 2010. These incidents occurred while Plaintiffs were students at The Yeshiva of Brooklyn's Elementary Girls Division.

2. Plaintiffs are adult residents of the State of New York and are otherwise *sui juris*. Given the nature of the allegations, Plaintiffs have elected to proceed using pseudonyms in this matter. Plaintiffs' identities have been or soon will be made known to Defendant under separate cover.

3. Defendant The Yeshiva of Brooklyn a/k/a Talmudical School of Brooklyn (hereinafter "Yeshiva of Brooklyn") is a private religious school and a non-profit business entity doing business in The State of New York with a principal place of business at 1470 Ocean Pkwy,

Brooklyn, NY 11230.

4. Venue is proper in this Court because Defendant Yeshiva of Brooklyn has its principal place of business in Kings County and the acts and omissions giving rise to this Complaint occurred in Kings County.

5. The provisions of Section 1602 of the CPLR do not apply to the within action.

6. Plaintiff brings this suit within the extended time period as provided for in Sections 208 and 214-G of the Civil Practice Law and Rules and as provided for by New York case law.

7. Jurisdiction is proper because this Complaint seeks monetary damages in excess of \$25,000.00, exclusive of interest, costs, and attorney's fees.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

8. From approximately 1994 to 2008, Anonymous 13 Doe (hereinafter "Doe 13") attended Yeshiva of Brooklyn.

9. From approximately 1995 to 2009, Anonymous 25 Doe (hereinafter "Doe 25") attended Yeshiva of Brooklyn.

10. From approximately 2003 to 2008, Anonymous 5 Doe (hereinafter "Doe 5") attended Yeshiva of Brooklyn.

11. From 1997 to 2011, Anonymous 6 Doe (hereinafter "Doe 6") attended Yeshiva of Brooklyn.

12. From the period 1994 through 2008, while Doe 13 attended Yeshiva of Brooklyn, Doe 13 was sexually abused by Rabbi Gershon Kranczer and his sons.

13. From the period 1995 through 2009, while Doe 25 attended Yeshiva of Brooklyn, Doe 25 was sexually abused by Rabbi Gershon Kranczer and his sons.

14. From the period 2003 through 2008, while Doe 5 attended Yeshiva of Brooklyn,

Doe 5 was sexually abused by Rabbi Gershon Kranczer and his sons.

15. From the period 1997 to 2010, while Doe 6 attended Yeshiva of Brooklyn, Doe 6 was sexually abused by Rabbi Gershon Kranczer and his sons.

16. Upon information and belief, during each and every year of Plaintiffs' attendance, Yeshiva of Brooklyn teachers and staff knew and had cause to know that Plaintiffs were being neglected, abused, and/or maltreated at home.

17. Upon information and belief, during each and every year of Plaintiffs' attendance, Yeshiva of Brooklyn teachers and staff knew and had cause to know that Plaintiffs came to school without bathing, that Plaintiffs wore torn clothes, that Plaintiffs came to school hungry, that Plaintiffs came to school with poor hygiene, and that Plaintiffs were malnourished.

18. Upon information and belief, Yeshiva of Brooklyn teachers and staff gave Plaintiffs food to eat, gave Plaintiffs clothing to wear, and gave Plaintiffs hygiene products to use.

19. On or about 1999 to 2000, when she was approximately 10 to 11 years old, Doe 13 stopped talking at school.

20. Upon information and belief, Doe 13's mutism was not biological in origin.

21. Upon information and belief, in response to Doe 13's mutism, Yeshiva of Brooklyn teachers and staff decided that she should see the school counselor.

22. Upon information and belief, the school counselor asked Doe 13 if her father and brothers were hurting her and/or touching her in a sexual manner at home. Doe 13 burst out crying and shaking in affirmation.

23. Upon information and belief, after Doe 13's response, Yeshiva of Brooklyn contacted her perpetrator, Rabbi Gershon Kranczer, to pick her up from school.

24. Upon information and belief, Yeshiva of Brooklyn failed to take any further

corrective, protective, or other action after Doe 13's disclosure of sexual abuse.

25. Upon information and belief, after knowing or having reason to know of Doe 13's disclosure of sexual abuse, Yeshiva of Brooklyn knowingly and willfully failed to interview or question Doe 25 regarding whether she was the victim of sexual abuse.

26. Upon information and belief, Yeshiva of Brooklyn failed to take any further corrective, protective, or other action in regard to Doe 25 after Doe 13's disclosure of sexual abuse.

27. Upon information and belief, after having reason to know of Doe 13's disclosure of sexual abuse, Yeshiva of Brooklyn knowingly and willfully failed to interview or question Doe 5 regarding whether she was the victim of sexual abuse.

28. Upon information and belief, Yeshiva of Brooklyn failed to take any further corrective, protective, or other action in regard to Doe 5 after Doe 13's disclosure of sexual abuse.

29. Upon information and belief, after having reason to know of Doe 13's disclosure of sexual abuse, Yeshiva of Brooklyn knowingly and willfully failed to interview or question Doe 6 regarding whether she was the victim of sexual abuse.

30. Upon information and belief, Yeshiva of Brooklyn failed to take any further corrective protective, or other action in regard to Doe 6 after Doe 13's disclosure of sexual abuse.

31. Upon information and belief, at all times material, Rabbi Gershon Kranczer was the principal of the private, all-boys, Jewish school, Yeshiva Tehila L'Dovid, and was friends with the principal of Defendant Yeshiva of Brooklyn and her husband.

AS FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION FOR FAILURE TO REPORT UNDER SOCIAL SERVICES LAW 413 AND 420 AGAINST DEFENDANT YESHIVA OF BROOKLYN

32. Plaintiffs reallege, incorporate, and restate all previous paragraphs as if set forth fully herein.

33. At all times material, Yeshiva of Brooklyn as an institution was a mandated reporter under Social Services Law 413(b).

34. At all times material, Defendant Yeshiva of Brooklyn staff, including, but not limited to school officials, school social workers, and/or mental health professionals, at Yeshiva of Brooklyn were mandated reporters under Social Services Law 413(a).

35. At all times material, Defendant Yeshiva of Brooklyn had a statutory duty to report the neglect, abuse, or maltreatment of students under its charge.

36. At all times material, Defendant Yeshiva of Brooklyn had a statutory duty to report the neglect, abuse, or maltreatment of Plaintiffs, including the child sexual abuse of Plaintiffs.

37. At all times material, school staff, including, but not limited to school officials, school social workers, and/or mental health professionals, at Yeshiva of Brooklyn had a statutory duty to report the neglect, abuse, or maltreatment of students under its charge, including the child sexual abuse of Plaintiffs.

38. At all times material, school staff, including, but not limited to school officials, school social workers, and/or mental health professionals, at Yeshiva of Brooklyn had a statutory duty to report the neglect, abuse, or maltreatment of Plaintiffs, including the child sexual abuse of Plaintiffs.

39. As a student of Yeshiva of Brooklyn, Plaintiff Doe 13 came before school staff and/or mandated reporters of Yeshiva of Brooklyn in their professional or official capacities.

40. As a student of Yeshiva of Brooklyn, Plaintiff Doe 25 came before school staff and/or mandated reporters of Yeshiva of Brooklyn in their professional or official capacities.

41. As a student of Yeshiva of Brooklyn, Plaintiff Doe 5 came before school staff and/or mandated reporters of Yeshiva of Brooklyn in their professional or official capacities.

42. As a student of Yeshiva of Brooklyn, Plaintiff Doe 6 came before school staff and/or mandated reporters of Yeshiva of Brooklyn in their professional or official capacities.

43. At all times material, Defendant Yeshiva of Brooklyn had reasonable cause to suspect that the minor Plaintiffs coming before them in their professional or official capacities were neglected, abused, and/or maltreated children.

44. At all times material, Defendant Yeshiva of Brooklyn had reasonable cause to suspect that the minor Plaintiffs coming before them in their professional or official capacities were sexually abused children.

45. Upon information and belief, Yeshiva of Brooklyn knowingly and willfully failed to report Doe 13's abuse, including sexual abuse.

46. Upon information and belief, Yeshiva of Brooklyn knowingly and willfully failed to report Doe 25's abuse, including sexual abuse.

47. Upon information and belief, Yeshiva of Brooklyn knowingly and willfully failed to report Doe 5's abuse, including sexual abuse.

48. Upon information and belief, Yeshiva of Brooklyn knowingly and willfully failed to report Doe 6's abuse, including sexual abuse.

49. Defendant Yeshiva of Brooklyn breached its statutory duty to report the neglect, abuse, or maltreatment of Plaintiffs Doe 13, including child sexual abuse.

50. Defendant Yeshiva of Brooklyn breached its statutory duty to report the neglect, abuse, or maltreatment of Plaintiffs Doe 25, including child sexual abuse.

51. Defendant Yeshiva of Brooklyn breached its statutory duty to report the neglect, abuse, or maltreatment of Plaintiffs Doe 5, including child sexual abuse.

52. Defendant Yeshiva of Brooklyn breached its statutory duty to report the neglect,

abuse, or maltreatment of Plaintiffs Doe 6, including child sexual abuse.

53. At all times material, school staff, including, but not limited to school officials, school social workers, and/or mental health professionals, at Yeshiva of Brooklyn were subject to penalties for failure to report suspected child abuse or maltreatment under Social Services Law 420.

54. At all times material, Defendant Yeshiva of Brooklyn as an institution was subject to penalties for failure to report suspected child abuse or maltreatment under Social Services Law 420.

55. Defendant Yeshiva of Brooklyn is civilly liable for the damages proximately caused by their failure to report suspected child abuse or maltreatment.

56. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's failure to report, Plaintiffs suffered severe and permanent psychological, emotional and physical injuries, shame, humiliation and the inability to lead a normal life, and has incurred and/or will incur costs for treatment and will continue to do so in the future. These injuries are permanent and ongoing in nature.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demands judgment against the Defendant for a sum in excess of the jurisdictional limits of all lower courts on each and every Cause of Action stated above, together with the costs and disbursements and other expenses necessary in this action.

Dated: April 29, 2021
Hennepin County, Minnesota

Yours, etc.,



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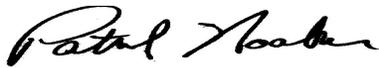
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ATTORNEY VERIFICATION

PATRICK NOAKER, an attorney duly admitted to practice before the Courts of this State affirms under penalty of perjury that he is counsel for the plaintiff herein and has read the foregoing **VERIFIED COMPLAINT** and knows the contents thereof; the same is true to my own knowledge, except as to the matters therein to be alleged on information and belief, and as to those matters I believe it to be true. That the source of my information and knowledge are investigations, communications with the client and records in the file.

The reason that this verification is made by me and not by plaintiff is to protect the identity of the plaintiff under The New York Civil Rights Law and Rules.

Dated: April 29, 2021
Hennepin County, Minnesota



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