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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

GEORGE-ADRIAN VASILE

Case No.: 5:25-cv-02561

Plaintiff, **COMPLAINT**

vs.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

HARVEST CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP,  
GREG LAURIE, RICHARD SCHUTTE,  
and PAUL HAVSGAARD,

Defendants.

1 Plaintiff George-Adrian Vasile (“Plaintiff,” “Vasile” or “Adrian”), by and  
2 through his attorneys, McAllister Olivarius, files this Complaint against Defendants  
3 Harvest Christian Fellowship (“Harvest Riverside”), Greg Laurie (“Laurie”),  
4 Richard Schutte (“Schutte”), and Paul Havsgaard (“Havsgaard”) (collectively,  
5 “Defendants”), for damages and other relief. In support of these claims, Plaintiff  
6 alleges as follows:

### 7 **INTRODUCTION**

8 1. In 2000 through around 2006 when Plaintiff was eight to 14 years old,  
9 he was sexually abused by Defendant Paul Havsgaard on many occasions.

10 2. Havsgaard was a pastor and an employee and/or agent of Defendant  
11 Harvest Riverside, based in Riverside, California, and is arguably one of the most  
12 prolific child sex abusers alive in America today, having committed thousands of  
13 individual acts of abuse. Havsgaard managed the network of orphanages/foster  
14 homes where Plaintiff resided (“Harvest Homes”). The Harvest Homes were  
15 operated, funded, and administered by Harvest Riverside, whose long-time leader  
16 and unquestioned authority is Defendant Greg Laurie. Defendant Schutte, Harvest  
17 Riverside’s Missions Pastor, had operational responsibility under Laurie for  
18 supervising the Harvest Homes.

19 3. Defendants conducted major, successful fundraising programs in  
20 California based on Harvest Riverside’s operation of the Harvest Homes.

21 4. In the decade between 1998 and 2008, when Defendants operated the  
22 Harvest Homes in Romania, Havsgaard savagely molested and terrorized scores of  
23 Romanian children, including Plaintiff, a child in his custody and care.

24 5. When Plaintiff was a minor residing in the Harvest Homes, Havsgaard  
25 sadistically stripped and spanked him. During these punishments, Havsgaard would  
26 digitally penetrate Plaintiff’s anus and would also fondle Plaintiff’s penis and  
27 testicles. Havsgaard would be erect during this sexual abuse and was sexually  
28 abusing Plaintiff for his own sexual pleasure.

1           6.       Sometimes Havsgaard abused Plaintiff without spanking, by inserting  
2 his finger in Plaintiff's anus, and rubbing, stroking, and sexually touching Plaintiff's  
3 penis and testicles.

4           7.       At all relevant times, Harvest Riverside has been a highly successful  
5 church based in Riverside, California, with weekly services attracting up to 15,000  
6 people. Its charismatic founder and chief pastor Laurie attracts national attention as  
7 an evangelist, podcaster and the subject of a Hollywood movie about his early days,  
8 *Jesus Revolution*, which grossed \$53 million in its first year.

9           8.       Havsgaard was a senior pastor at Harvest Riverside and kept that  
10 position as he embarked in 1998 on a foreign mission to Romania, then the sex  
11 trafficking capital of Europe, at the direction of Harvest Riverside, Laurie, and  
12 Schutte.

13          9.       Prior to the last time Plaintiff was sexually abused as a minor, Harvest  
14 Riverside, Laurie, and Schutte received multiple reports in California that Havsgaard  
15 was sexually abusing the children in the care of Harvest Riverside at the Harvest  
16 Homes. These reports started in 1999. They came from the child residents, from  
17 multiple local Romanian employees of the homes, from volunteers who travelled  
18 there from California, from the wife of a Harvest pastor, and from pastors  
19 themselves.

20          10.      From their offices in California, Harvest Riverside, Laurie, and Schutte  
21 turned a blind eye. For years, they ordered no regular inspections or staff training,  
22 instituted no safeguarding measures or relevant policies. Harvest Riverside  
23 continued to pay Havsgaard's salary, to list him as a pastor on its website, to fund  
24 the Harvest Homes by making large payments into his personal bank account with  
25 no proper accounting of his spending, and to bring Havsgaard and some residents of  
26 the Homes to California to raise money in the United States (and to suffer  
27 Havsgaard's sexual abuse in California too).

1           11. Finally, by 2004, Havsgaard's abuse had become so notorious that an  
2 American missionary from another Calvary church in California, Steve Quarles,  
3 heard about it and complained to Schutte in Riverside, ultimately prompting Schutte,  
4 the pastor in charge of all missionary work at Harvest Riverside and Laurie's trusted  
5 lieutenant, to authorize an inspection by Quarles and two other Calvary ministers.

6           12. Quarles and his team performed the inspection in October 2004. They  
7 were so alarmed that they requested that Schutte come see for himself.

8           13. Schutte travelled to Bucharest and met with the inspection team, who  
9 laid out conclusive evidence that Havsgaard was sexually abusing children and  
10 misappropriating money, both on a shocking scale. Quarles told Schutte, "Paul  
11 [Havsgaard] needs to be on that plane with you when you leave tomorrow. He  
12 doesn't need to be another day in Romania. He needs to be gone. He is an  
13 embarrassment to every single missionary and Christian worker. Get him out of here  
14 and into counselling."

15           14. But Havsgaard was an important fundraiser for Laurie's church whose  
16 "good works" also brought credit to Laurie. As senior Harvest figures told Quarles,  
17 Havsgaard "is very important because he's the face of the ministry. He's the one  
18 who goes and talks to the churches and raises the money. And we can't have him  
19 not be part of things." Firing Havsgaard would have hurt donations and possibly  
20 unleash a scandal that would hurt Laurie's reputation.

21           15. So, despite proof that Havsgaard was a devious and unrelenting  
22 pedophile, and despite knowing they had provided him a perfect laboratory of  
23 desperate and vulnerable children to exploit, Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte  
24 did nothing. They did not fire, suspend, withdraw or discipline Havsgaard. They  
25 neither reported him to the authorities, as was their duty under California law, nor  
26 instituted any new policies or procedures at the Harvest Homes. They did nothing to  
27 protect the children there, who remained completely subject to Havsgaard's  
28

1 domination and voracious sexual abuse. Nor did they do anything to offer support to  
2 Havsgaard's victims.

3 16. Laurie instead engineered a "soft landing": he let Havsgaard stay in  
4 charge, free to molest and rape, while Laurie slowly closed the money spigot, until  
5 the Romanian homes finally withered to nothing—four years later.

6 17. During this extended period, Havsgaard continued to abuse the children  
7 of the Harvest Homes, both those who were already there and many new ones he  
8 was left free to recruit, without any new restraints imposed by Harvest Riverside,  
9 Laurie or Schutte.

10 18. Laurie even authorized a gift to Havsgaard of some \$200,000 in  
11 severance as he continued in his post as if nothing had happened. Romanian  
12 authorities were told nothing.

13 19. In 2009, a year after Havsgaard's return from Bucharest, Laurie called  
14 him "a pastor who faithfully served the Lord for many years at Harvest Christian  
15 Fellowship, the church where I pastor," and even compared his work in Romania to  
16 that of Moses with the Israelites, because his "life demonstrates the power that just  
17 one godly person can have."<sup>1</sup>

18 20. Since his return to California in 2008, Havsgaard has continued to work  
19 at Calvary churches in California linked to Harvest Riverside, with unsupervised  
20 access to children, which Defendants could easily have stopped but did not.

21 21. The cover-up has worked well for Laurie. As Havsgaard raped his way  
22 through scores of children in Harvest's care including Plaintiff and returned to a  
23 comfortable life in California, Laurie grew in national prominence and wealth, with  
24 a \$5.5 million home in Newport Beach, a home in Hawaii, a \$90,000 car, a top-rated  
25 podcast, and a Hollywood movie.

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27  
28 <sup>1</sup> Greg Laurie, *What One Can Do*, Crosswalk (June 23, 2009), <https://www.crosswalk.com/faith/spiritual-life/what-one-can-do-11604878.html>.

22. In sharp contrast, Plaintiff and the scores of other Romanian victims of Havsgaard's abuse and Defendants' cover-up went back on the streets with no money, no plan for the future, no medical care, no therapy for the PTSD and other medical and psychological damage that Defendants caused, and certainly no gifts of severance payments such as Havsgaard enjoyed. Defendants promised them security and support, betrayed that promise with years of sexual abuse, then chucked them on the street without an iota of practical support or human sympathy.

23. Defendants have continued to conspire to cover up these horrors for which they were all responsible, a cover-up that has succeeded for 20 years—until now.

24. The failure of Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte to investigate Havsgaard took place in California. They made money in California by using their Romanian venture to raise funds and brought children to California to raise more, where Havsgaard sexually abused them. Their failure to supervise or remove Havsgaard and warn future victims took place in California. The ongoing cover-up has been directed from California.

25. As a result of the acts and omissions that took place in California, Plaintiff was sexually abused and sexually trafficked by Havsgaard and has suffered permanent physical and psychological injuries.

### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

26. This Court has jurisdiction over Plaintiff's California state law claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332 because the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000 exclusive of interest and costs, and there is complete diversity between the parties, with Plaintiff residing in Romania, and each Defendant residing or situated in California.

27. This Court further has subject matter jurisdiction over Plaintiff's California state law claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a), as the claims are so

1 related to claims within the Court's original jurisdiction that they form part of the  
2 same case or controversy under Article III of the United States Constitution.

3 28. This Court has subject-matter jurisdiction over Plaintiff's claims arising  
4 under 18 U.S.C. § 1595, the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act,  
5 and under 18 U.S.C. §§ 2423(c) and 2255, prohibiting illicit sexual conduct in  
6 foreign places, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1343.

7 29. Venue is proper in this district under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(1), in that all  
8 Defendants reside in this district, and 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2), in that a substantial  
9 part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred in this district.

10 **CHOICE OF LAW & STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS**

11 30. Cal. Civ. P. Code § 361 permits Plaintiff's California state law claims  
12 even though Plaintiff is Romanian because Plaintiff is bringing claims which arose  
13 in California and are based on acts and omissions that occurred in California. Both  
14 the substantive and procedural law of California apply to Plaintiff's California law  
15 claims.

16 31. At the time of commencing this action, Plaintiff is under 40 and entitled  
17 to bring claims arising from child sex abuse under California law. *See* Cal. Civ. P.  
18 Code § 340.11(r) (2024).

19 32. Due to circumstances resulting from Defendants' sex trafficking  
20 scheme, it was previously impracticable for Plaintiff to bring a case under 18 U.S.C.  
21 §1595.

22 33. Plaintiff, to the extent applicable here, has pursued his rights diligently  
23 and was impeded because of extraordinary threats and coercion that Defendants  
24 applied to Plaintiff during the period of his residency in the Harvest Homes. Plaintiff  
25 was further impeded in pursuing his claims by the extraordinary mental and emotional  
26 damage that Defendants inflicted on Plaintiff, and the disappearance of Havsgaard  
27 and Harvest back to California after 2008, leaving no evident route of redress to  
28 young and traumatized Romanian child.

34. Defendants conspired to and did fraudulently conceal the sexual assaults perpetrated against Plaintiff and other Romanian children.

35. Defendants' wrongful and/or negligent acts and omissions as described below were a substantial factor in bringing about childhood sex abuse of Plaintiff which caused him injury.

36. As a result, to the extent necessary, all applicable statutes of limitations should be equitably tolled.

## **PARTIES**

### **I. PLAINTIFF**

*Figure 1: George-Adrian Vasile, circa 1999*



37. Plaintiff is a citizen of Romania and a former resident of the Harvest Homes.

38. Adrian was born in 1992 in Bucharest. He believes he has nine siblings (he has not met all of them). Adrian lived with his parents until he was eight years old. His father was an alcoholic, and his mother became ill with schizophrenia.

39. Adrian's family was poor, and from around the age of seven, he was sent to beg for food and money with his siblings on the streets of Bucharest. Havsgaard found Adrian and his brothers begging in the streets and offered to take them to Harvest. His parents believed this would be an improvement for them.

40. Havsgaard drove Adrian and his brother to the Harvest Homes in or around 2000. At first, Adrian and his brother lived at the Buftea house, but Havsgaard soon separated them and forced Adrian to move to the Dămăroaia house.

## II. DEFENDANTS

### A. Greg Laurie

*Figure 2: Laurie preaching*



41. Laurie was born in 1952. He currently resides in Newport Beach, California in a home worth an estimated \$5,144,100 as of June 2025. At all material times herein, Laurie was a resident of California.

*Figure 3: Laurie crusade Dodger stadium, 2012*



1 42. Laurie is the co-founder and Senior Pastor of Harvest Riverside. He has  
2 supreme authority and makes all important decisions concerning Harvest Riverside.

3 43. Energetic and resourceful, Laurie has also become a successful author,  
4 podcaster and national figure. With his oratorical skills, books, podcasts, TV  
5 broadcasts, and regular crusades, Laurie is often likened to Billy Graham and sits on  
6 the Board of Directors of the Billy Graham Evangelical Association. His podcast has  
7 been among the top 100 most popular in the United States.

8 44. Laurie's crusades typically attract hundreds of thousands of people to  
9 the biggest stadiums in the Los Angeles area.

10 45. In February 2023, the production company Lionsgate released a movie  
11 based on Laurie's autobiography called *Jesus Revolution*, which grossed over \$53  
12 million worldwide in its first year, with revenues continuing to grow.

13 *Figure 4: Laurie at the Hollywood premiere of Jesus Revolution, with Cathe, and*  
14 *actors Joel Courtney and Anna Grace Barlow who played them in the film*



1        46. Laurie’s wood-paneled office is full of pictures of him in the company  
2 of important politicians, religious leaders and actors.

3        **B. Richard Schutte**

4        47. Pastor Richard Schutte was Missions Pastor at Harvest Riverside  
5 between 1996 and 2013. He is currently an Assistant Pastor at Impact Bible  
6 Fellowship in Riverside, California. During the events described in this Complaint,  
7 he was a principal deputy to Laurie in charge of supervising Harvest’s mission to  
8 Romania, and served on the board of ARK International, (USA) Inc. (“ARK”), a  
9 California charity Havsgaard and Laurie set up to raise money for Romania and other  
10 foreign projects.

11        48. Schutte is and was, at all material times herein, a resident of California.

12        **C. Harvest Christian Fellowship**

13        49. Harvest Christian Fellowship is a nonprofit religious corporation  
14 located in Riverside, California. It is duly organized and existing under the laws of  
15 California. It was founded in 1976 by Laurie, Havsgaard and three other men as  
16 Calvary Chapel of Riverside and reconstituted in 1982 as Harvest Christian  
17 Fellowship.

18        50. The origins of Harvest Riverside lie in the surfing counterculture of  
19 Southern California in the 1960s and 70s. Laurie, a charismatic, motorcycle-riding  
20 surfer himself who used marijuana and LSD, described himself in a memoir as “a  
21 long-haired liberal hippie—pro-drugs, pro-sex and pro-rock ’n’ roll...” At age 17,  
22 Laurie heard the charismatic “hippie preacher” Lonnie Frisbee speak at his high  
23 school with “such authenticity and power” that he gave his life to Christ. Frisbee  
24 was a dynamic force in the “Jesus Movement” that gathered young people into  
25 evangelical Christianity in the Los Angeles area and spurred explosive growth in a  
26 Calvary church in Newport Beach, Laurie’s hometown, from a handful of members  
27 to thousands within a few months.

1        51. Laurie did not attend college or seminary, but was swept into the Jesus  
2 Movement through Frisbee's example. He spent considerable time with Frisbee,  
3 eating regularly at his house in a commune of believers and, according to Frisbee's  
4 widow, even began to dress and act like him. Frisbee built up a Monday Night Bible  
5 Study group to approximately 300 members before Chuck Smith, the founder of  
6 Calvary, encouraged Laurie to take it over, which he did around 1971.

7        52. Frisbee, himself a victim of child sex abuse, was later excommunicated  
8 from the Calvary movement because he was gay, and the story of Harvest  
9 Riverside's origins told in *Jesus Revolution* minimizes Frisbee's involvement and  
10 arguably amplifies the credit given to Laurie for Harvest Riverside's early success.  
11 Frisbee's widow Connie says, "I can testify that Greg Laurie is not a truth teller. He  
12 has built his ministry on Lonnie's foundation while erasing Lonnie from the story."  
13 The producers of *Jesus Revolution* did not speak to her, she says, after Laurie told  
14 them she was dead. Nevertheless, Laurie successfully developed the Bible study  
15 group in Newport Beach. He and his wife Cathe (they started dating when she was  
16 15 and he was 18, and married after she graduated from high school) proved a  
17 reliable anchor for attracting followers.

18        53. Harvest Riverside is now one of the largest churches in the United  
19 States, supporting a congregation of approximately 15,000 each Sunday that  
20 continues to grow. Harvest Riverside's mission is "to know God and make Him  
21 known." It has an active program in Hawaii where Laurie and other ministers  
22 maintain luxury homes.

23        54. Since 1990, Harvest Riverside has organized regular Harvest Crusades,  
24 which have reached millions of people. It is a member of Calvary Chapel, a non-  
25 denominational association of evangelical churches, numbering 1,800 in the United  
26 States and additional locations abroad.

1           55. In 2017, Harvest Riverside joined the Southern Baptist Convention.  
2 This was considered a coup for the Southern Baptists because of Laurie's  
3 prominence in the evangelical movement.

4           **D. Paul Havsgaard**

5           56. Paul Havsgaard was born in 1949 and now lives in Forest Hills,  
6 California. At all material times herein, he was a resident of California.

7           57. He is the oldest of seven children. Their father was an alcoholic who  
8 was chronically out of work and frequently beat the children, and their mother was  
9 a nurse who was often absent because she had to support her struggling family.

10          58. Havsgaard grew up in Riverside, California and attended Ramona High  
11 School, graduating in 1967, and married his high school girlfriend Kathy Warrick  
12 ("Kathy") when she was 16. He then joined the Navy, serving on a destroyer off the  
13 coast of Vietnam as an aviation electrician's mate. He took some college classes but  
14 does not have a degree, and did not attend seminary. He and Kathy divorced in 2007  
15 and have both remarried.

16          59. When Havsgaard's marriage to Kathy was in difficulty in 1971, he was  
17 advised to attend Laurie's Bible study class. Kathy wanted to end the marriage  
18 because she felt no intimacy from Paul and his only sexual interest was in infrequent  
19 anal sex. Laurie told her that it was her duty as a Christian wife to make the marriage  
20 work, and she ultimately adopted this approach. She was later to say that according  
21 to the beliefs prevailing at Harvest, a wife who criticized or contradicted her husband  
22 was "lower than a sewer." The Havsgaards moved to be closer to Laurie and the  
23 Calvary community, becoming active in outreach and organizational work.

24          60. Laurie selected Havsgaard to run Harvest Homes in Romania in part  
25 because they had worked closely together for decades running Harvest Riverside.  
26  
27  
28

Figure 5: Havsgaard baptizing a young man as pastor of Calvary Chapel of the High Desert, 1982



61. Havsgaard became Assistant Pastor in charge of Children's Ministry at Harvest Riverside in 1976. In the early 1980s, he left Harvest to become senior pastor at the Calvary Chapel of the High Desert in Victorville, California. He liked running a church of his own, but as Harvest Riverside grew and Laurie began to travel more, Laurie thought Havsgaard would make a suitable senior deputy and asked him to return. Havsgaard accepted because it gave him a chance to operate in a growing organization with larger reach than his isolated congregation.

Figure 6: Laurie (front row, center) and Havsgaard (front row, far left, coral shirt) with other Harvest Riverside staff, 1990s



62. When Havsgaard returned to Harvest Riverside in 1984, many people viewed him as the second most powerful pastor next to Laurie and a possible competitor for the top job. It was a new, entrepreneurial organization, growing rapidly. Neither Laurie nor Havsgaard had a college degree or had worked outside the Calvary movement, which did not have established traditions or specific credentials required for leadership. That meant personal followings were an important barometer for pastors, and Havsgaard was popular with many at Harvest Riverside.

63. But Havsgaard also had his problems and detractors. He was known to be volatile, to have a big ego requiring constant praise, and to be badly organized, for example frequently forgetting scheduled meetings.

**GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

**I. HARVEST RIVERSIDE ESTABLISHES CHILDREN’S HOMES IN ROMANIA**

**A. Origins of the Harvest Homes**

64. As reported in *Calvary Chapel Magazine*, Havsgaard “first came to Romania on an outreach in 1998 as an assistant to Greg Laurie, who is a nationally known Calvary Chapel evangelist and pastor.”<sup>2</sup> Visiting under the auspices of a group called Samaritan’s Purse, Havsgaard distributed shoeboxes of gifts to children in Bucharest on behalf of Harvest Riverside.

65. The experience induced Havsgaard to suggest, and Laurie to approve, a permanent Harvest mission in Romania.

66. Romania was well known in the 1990s for attracting pedophiles, because in addition to the grinding poverty that drove many people, including children, into sex work, the country’s institutions were weak and corrupt, and foreigners could easily evade punishment. In fact, Bucharest was widely regarded as the pedophilia capital of Europe.

67. Later in 1998, Havsgaard returned to Bucharest with Kathy to implement a plan Laurie had approved to build up Harvest Riverside’s presence in Romania (“Harvest Homes”) and established a local Romanian entity, the *Fundatia Harvest Romanian* (“Local Foundation”), to handle the formalities.

68. While Defendants delegated much of the day-to-day running of the Harvest Homes to Havsgaard in Romania, key decisions were made in California by Laurie and Schutte in keeping with Laurie’s position of supreme authority at Harvest Riverside, and because an important object of the Romanian venture was to bring financial benefits and prestige to Harvest Riverside and Laurie.

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<sup>2</sup> Tom Price, *Saving One Child at a Time*, *Calvary Chapel Magazine*, 2002, at 7.

**B. The Harvest Homes Were a Fundraising Vehicle for Laurie and Harvest Riverside**

69. The Harvest Homes were designed in part as a fundraising and marketing tool for Harvest Riverside, which was able to attract more money and positive regard for itself and Laurie in the United States by highlighting its charitable efforts in Romania.

70. Defendants conducted regular and substantial fundraising programs in California based on the Romanian venture.

71. Defendants established a California charity, ARK, to raise money in the United States for the Harvest Homes and other international projects and to promote the Harvest organizations. Harvest Riverside and ARK, in partnership, conducted many fundraising events in California. The money raised in these joint fundraisers went through the California corporation and was then redistributed to Harvest Riverside and other Harvest Riverside ventures.

72. Harvest Riverside and ARK shared employees and management, including Havsgaard (employee of Harvest Riverside, on the board of ARK) and Schutte (employee and senior pastor at Harvest Riverside, on the board of ARK). Another ARK board member, Wes Denham (“Denham”), was a Calvary minister close to Laurie and Schutte.

73. Defendants set up ARK in California to be a fundraising vehicle for their activities in Romania and became a conduit for members of Harvest Riverside to donate funds meant for Harvest Riverside’s activities in Romania, in addition to funds sent directly by Harvest Riverside.

74. Harvest Riverside and Laurie effectively controlled ARK.

75. Money from Harvest Riverside and ARK paid employees of the Local Foundation.

1 76. ARK used Harvest Riverside's and Laurie's resources and contacts to  
2 raise money, including using Harvest Riverside's main fundraising telephone  
3 number in California.

4 77. The Harvest Homes showed many indicators of being an outpost of  
5 Harvest Riverside. They were commonly referred to as being part of "Harvest." The  
6 children were given Harvest-branded T-shirts and hats to wear. Visitors and  
7 volunteers from Harvest Riverside came to help at the Homes.

8 *Figure 7.a: Kathy and Harvest Homes children*  
9 *wearing Harvest-branded clothes*



Figure 7.b: Kathy and Harvest Homes children wearing Harvest-branded clothes



78. Havsgaard returned frequently to California, where he remained a resident at all relevant times, checking in with Schutte and Laurie, and sometimes bringing children with him as walking advertisements for his Romanian mission (and to sexually abuse in private at his house and elsewhere). They participated in multiple church services and raised money for Harvest Riverside and the Harvest Homes.

79. For years, Harvest Riverside deposited large sums of money supposedly designated for Harvest Homes' operating costs directly into Havsgaard's personal bank account. Havsgaard then used large portions of these funds to buy things for himself as well as abundant presents and alcohol for his child sex victims to keep them pliant, and to buy silence from Harvest staff about his child abuse.

80. Harvest Riverside allowed this misdirection of their funds to continue for years. Laurie set up a substantial venture in Romania and directed large sums to its support, but required no proper accounts or financial audits, no regular inspections of the Homes, no child protection policies or training. Instead, Laurie continued to gather the donations that flowed into Harvest Riverside based on energetic advertising in the United States about the supposed good works Harvest was doing in Bucharest, and the accompanying prestige.

**C. Havsgaard Arrives in Romania with a History of Sexual Criminality and Cruelty**

1. Havsgaard's Sister Makes an Early Report of His Abuse of Children

81. Havsgaard is the oldest of seven children, four boys and three girls.

82. When Havsgaard was twelve to 18 years old, he repeatedly raped his younger sister Mary M.<sup>3</sup> (who was eight to 14 years old at the time), threatening beatings and death if she reported him.

83. In this same period, Havsgaard similarly and regularly raped another younger sister, Hanna H., also starting when she was eight, also employing similar threats.

84. When confronted by Hanna H. and another sister, Samantha S., about this sexual abuse in or around 1994, in the presence of Havsgaard's wife Kathy, Havsgaard reluctantly admitted it but told Samantha S. "I don't need this drama; don't bother me with this."

85. At a later point, Samantha S. concluded she had to make sure Harvest Riverside knew that her brother was a danger to children. She found it strange that Havsgaard's big ego, bullying and volatile temper had not already set back his

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<sup>3</sup> Pseudonyms are employed in this Complaint to protect the anonymity of certain minor victims of Defendants, in the form of a first name plus an initial for the surname, such as "Abigail A." or "Peter P."

1 career. Given what she knew about his voracious sexual interest in children, she  
2 thought it likely he had been abusing them as a minister too, and worried it was all  
3 being covered up to protect Laurie and Harvest Riverside.

4 86. Samantha S. decided to put Havsgaard's pedophilia on the record with  
5 the organization. She met with a Harvest Riverside lay leader, Nehemias Quintanilla,  
6 who was teaching a Spanish Bible study course. The meeting took place at a coffee  
7 shop in the Redlands area.

8 87. Samantha S. reported to Quintanilla that when Havsgaard was a  
9 teenager, he had repeatedly raped his sisters Hanna H. and Mary M. as children.

10 88. Quintanilla replied, "This happens in a family if they learn it from  
11 another generation. That's just what happens." But Quintanilla also told Samantha  
12 S. that a letter critical of Havsgaard had been circulated among the Harvest Riverside  
13 congregation, implying that he respected her decision to report him, and ended the  
14 conversation there.

15 89. Upon information and belief, shortly after Samantha S.'s report to  
16 Quintanilla about Havsgaard's history of sexual abuse, Quintanilla told his superiors  
17 at Harvest Riverside about her allegations. On information and belief, they took no  
18 action in response.

19 2. Havsgaard Molests His Foster Daughter

20 90. While a pastor at Harvest Riverside, Havsgaard also molested a foster  
21 daughter, Julia J. starting in or around 1986, when he was in his late thirties, and she  
22 was 15 or 16.

23 91. Julia J. reports: "One day I was at the dryer, and Paul came up behind  
24 me and pushed himself onto me. His penis was erect. He knew my history and that  
25 being molested was what put me in foster care to begin with. I froze. He backed  
26 away and left the garage."

27 92. Shortly thereafter, when Julia J. was in her bedroom, Havsgaard "came  
28 in, crouched down, slipped his hand in my underpants, and inserted his finger into

1 my anus. Before he put his finger in my underpants, he put it in his mouth as though  
2 he had done it many times before. Every time he did it, it was the same thing. I lived  
3 there for over a year and a half. It happened five or six times during that period.”

4 3. Kathy Havsgaard Arrives in Bucharest Aware of Havsgaard’s  
5 Unsuitability for the Role

6 93. Kathy’s own marriage to Havsgaard was long troubled, in part because  
7 of his sexual compulsions. He did not want to have sex with her, and when they did,  
8 perhaps two or three times a year, he only wanted anal sex, which she disliked, and  
9 also to urinate inside her vagina. Havsgaard had also told Kathy that during his time  
10 in the Navy, he had strong sexual feelings for a man, whose name he would shout  
11 out during their sporadic sexual interactions. (She believed he had had sex with the  
12 man, but Havsgaard denied this.) She had reason to believe he had raped a four-year-  
13 old girl and urinated inside her. He was also emotionally distant and dominant.

14 94. Despite her unhappiness, Kathy felt a strong duty, one that had been  
15 reinforced repeatedly at Harvest Riverside and by Laurie, to stand by her husband  
16 as a good Christian wife. She did not at all want to accompany Havsgaard to  
17 Romania: she was still grieving the loss of her teenage daughter, caring for her and  
18 Havsgaard’s elderly parents, and wanted to be close to her children and  
19 grandchildren. But Havsgaard wanted to go, and Laurie said it was her obligation to  
20 go with her husband.

21 95. The fact that Harvest Riverside was able to send an apparently  
22 wholesome married couple to Romania was an important reassurance to Romanian  
23 authorities that the Harvest Homes would be properly run, and a plus for fundraising  
24 in California. Kathy joined Havsgaard on the Board of the Local Foundation.

25 **D. Daily Operations of the Harvest Homes**

26 96. Havsgaard never learned Romanian. Accompanied by a translator, he  
27 recruited children off the streets, most commonly by buying them McDonald’s meals  
28 and promising a better life. Once he recruited a few children who spoke English, he

1 used them (instead of an adult translator) to recruit more children. The youngest  
2 resident he recruited was four years old.

3 97. Funds raised by Defendants in California paid for everything to keep  
4 the Romanian operation afloat: the purchase of the Harvest Homes themselves, their  
5 furniture and equipment, salaries for Havsgaard and local staff, food and supplies,  
6 cars, and Harvest-branded shirts and hats for employees and children.

7 98. Laurie, Schutte and Harvest Riverside sent Havsgaard approximately  
8 \$17,000 a month, which in Romania at that time had huge purchasing power.

9 99. By comparison: Steve Quarles, an American minister working in  
10 Romania at the same time, was able to provide for his family of eight, run three  
11 different churches, and pay an assistant, all for \$1,400 per month.

12 100. Defendants sent the funds from California directly into Havsgaard's  
13 personal bank account. From there he transferred funds for the Harvest Homes'  
14 operation into the Local Foundation's Romanian bank account based on requests  
15 from the local Finance Director, Eugen Roman ("Roman"). Roman did not have  
16 visibility into what Havsgaard did with the rest of the money.

17 101. The Winter 2002 edition of the *Calvary Chapel Magazine* had a 16-  
18 page article, "Saving One Child At A Time – Harvest Romania" that displayed many  
19 gripping photos of Romanian street children, illustrating the moving story of Harvest  
20 Riverside's decision to establish a network of children's homes in Romania under  
21 Havsgaard. The article quoted Havsgaard as being "concerned about pedophiles that  
22 travel throughout Europe to engage abandoned children in their perverted practices.  
23 They find Romania's street children easy prey."<sup>4</sup>

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24  
25  
26  
27  
28 <sup>4</sup> Price, *supra*, at 7.

Figure 8.a: Page from Calvary Chapel Magazine, Winter 2002, showing Havsgaard, in red shirt, talking to street children in Bucharest



Figure 8.b: Zoomed-in extract from Figure 8.a, showing the US phone number for Harvest Homes in Romania

**Harvest Romania**  
Phone 011-40-92-794-766  
US Phone (909) 687-6902  
e-mail: harvestromania@aol.com

*Figure 8.c: Zoomed-in extract from Figure 8.a,  
discussing Havsgaard's work in Romania*

"Having your own children, and knowing how much you love them, makes it extremely difficult when you see the conditions of the Romanian children in the orphanages," said Bob. He has been to Russia twice on mission outreaches. This was his second trip to Romania. He was able to observe the work of ROCK ministries in the hospital in Bucharest.

"I was grieved by the hopeless situations of the babies where medical solutions are possible but finances prevent intervention." Bob was burdened when he spent time with Alexandra, a seven-month-old girl, suffering from brain damage. The doctors had given up on her recovery.

They also spent time with Paul Havsgaard, who works with street children. "Seeing children as young as eight-years-old begging on the streets, sniffing paint to get high, and being sold into prostitution by older children really breaks your heart," said Bob. "Then you see a man like

Paul Havsgaard, giving his life to these lost children. You can see the love in his eyes. They are drawn to him like you might imagine children being drawn to Jesus."

The senior pastor of CC Modesto, Damian Kyle, had heard about the work in Romania from Bill Welsh. The Modesto team met

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**We are troubled on  
every side, yet not  
distressed; we are  
perplexed, but not in  
despair; persecuted,  
but not forsaken; cast  
down, but not  
destroyed.**

*2 Corinthians 4:8-9*

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102. Page 15 of the Winter 2002 edition of the *Calvary Chapel Magazine* asks for donations to help Havsgaard's work and lists the same phone number that Harvest Riverside used for its day-to-day business in California, (909) 687-6902. This number was also listed on Harvest Riverside's website at the time.

103. Fundraising materials in the United States for the Harvest Homes also listed Harvest Riverside's California phone numbers as the method of contact.

104. Defendants sought publicity in other outlets in this period, including the *Christian Science Monitor*, which refers to Havsgaard as "director of the Romanian branch of the California-based Harvest Foundation."<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>5</sup>Andrea Snyder, *For Romania's dropouts, a fresh start*, The Christian Science Monitor (July 3, 2003, 12:07 PM), <https://www.csmonitor.com/2003/0703/p08s01-woeu.html>.

105. The July 2003 edition of *Prayer Watch*, a monthly publication by Harvest Riverside, lists Havsgaard's and Kathy's work at the Harvest Homes as one of its missions and asks members of the Harvest Riverside congregation to pray each day for the Havsgaards and the financial support of the Harvest Homes.<sup>6</sup>

*Figure 9: Extract from Prayer Watch, July 2003*

[DAILY PRAYER]

- ☀ **PASTORS:** Pray for Pastor Greg as he prepares for the 2003 Harvest. Remember the entire pastoral staff and their families as they serve the Lord.
- ☀ **NATION:** Pray for the wisdom and guidance of President Bush. Pray for the Pledge of Allegiance to be left in our schools.
- ☀ **MISSIONS:** Pray for Paul and Kathy Havsgaard and the financial support of their Romanian orphanages.
- ☀ **THE CHURCH:** Pray for Christian families to teach the Word of God to their children; intercede for the unemployed; and pray for teenagers to be obedient to their parents and to live holy lives.
- ☀ **HARVEST CRUSADES:** Hawaii, July 19–20; Anaheim, August 8–10; Australia, September 11–14; New Zealand, September 19–20.

106. After several months at rented premises in Iancului, Havsgaard received funds and authority from Laurie and Harvest Riverside to buy a property in Buftea, a suburb about 25 kilometers northeast of central Bucharest. The children moved there just before Christmas 1998.

107. Owning the Buftea property allowed Havsgaard to increase recruitment.

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<sup>6</sup> Harvest Christian Fellowship, *Prayer Watch*, Harvestriverside.org (July 2003), <http://www.harvestriverside.org/church/images/calendar-0703.pdf>, [<https://web.archive.org/web/20050325024915/http://www.harvestriverside.org/church/images/calendar-0703.pdf>].

*Figure 10: The Buftea home in 2017*



108. By 2000, Laurie authorized the purchase of two more homes to house the growing number of children in Havsgaard's care, one in the Dămăroaia district in north Bucharest for housing girls and young boys, and a smaller one in Strada Bârlogeni, mostly for boys.

109. Havsgaard quickly made such a name for himself that police officers would bring him children they found in the streets to put in the homes.

110. While the children in Havsgaard's care lived across multiple properties, they met frequently and came together for Bible study, prayer and Sunday school, all of which Havsgaard led in English, a language most of the children did not understand.

111. At first, the children were pleased to be admitted to the Harvest Homes. All had come from desperate situations, many sleeping on the street and subsisting by begging. The security of a bed, three meals a day, and the semblance of a normal family life were miracles to them.

Figure 11: Bible study at Harvest, which Havsgaard typically led



112. Once they had settled in, Havsgaard began to sexually abuse them.

**II. HAVSGAARD'S SEXUAL ABUSE OF PLAINTIFF AND OTHER CHILDREN WAS RAMPANT**

**A. Havsgaard Used Defendants' Authority and Resources to Groom Scores of Children for Sex**

113. Once Havsgaard successfully recruited a child, plucked from destitution and completely reliant on his goodwill to avoid returning to the streets, he started grooming them for sex. He would begin by treating them warmly and gently, showing kindness that was unusual for these children to experience from an adult, particularly a father figure.

114. Soon he might nuzzle the child, then progress to glancing touches, then lingering ones, on the lower back, then the thighs, buttocks, and groin. Then things got worse.

1 115. At the time Havsgaard was a heavy, powerful man, 5'9", 275-300  
2 pounds, clearly able to physically overpower children and teenagers.

3 1. Havsgaard's Multiple Forms of Child Sexual Abuse

4 116. Often, under the guise of punishment for infractions both real and  
5 invented, Havsgaard stripped off the children's trousers and underwear, bent them  
6 over his legs, and hit them. Then, with them naked from the waist down, he would  
7 force them over his knee, directly on top of his crotch, and spank them.

8 117. He often got erect, which the children could feel through his clothes.

9 118. At times, Havsgaard would also massage their legs and buttocks, at first  
10 rubbing in a way that was not painful, but eventually he would usually probe their  
11 anal area with his fingers.

12 119. This frequently led to Havsgaard painfully inserting his finger in the  
13 child's anus.

14 120. Sometimes he would smell or lick his fingers after doing this, even if  
15 covered with feces, a signature fetish.

16 121. The combination of spanking with digital anal penetration was so  
17 common that the children developed a polyglot Romanian-English term for it, which  
18 sounded like "spanky."

19 122. For boys, he also fondled their penis and scrotum.

20 123. Mostly Havsgaard abused the children in this way in private (in a  
21 bedroom or the attic), but he also did so in front of other children including at the  
22 Sunday church service, which Havsgaard led and where Harvest staff were present.

23 124. Havsgaard administered these painful sexual abuse sessions regularly,  
24 from multiple times a week to several times a day, depending on the child and  
25 Havsgaard's whims.

26 125. Many times, the cries of the victims were widely audible. This  
27 prompted Havsgaard to choke children during punishment, additionally terrifying  
28 them. One boy remembers being punished, then being asked to touch Havsgaard's

1 erect penis, with Havsgaard choking him to make sure he stayed quiet, saying: “It  
2 will all be over soon.”

3 126. Harvest staff knew of Havsgaard’s sexual abuse, and some used it to  
4 threaten children when they misbehaved, giving the kids a macabre choice of  
5 discipline: either kneel for hours with their bare knees on broken walnut shells, or  
6 with their face against the tile wall of a bathroom, arms raised, or “go with Paul”—  
7 to be spanked, fondled, masturbated, digitally penetrated, and sometimes anally  
8 raped.

9 127. Beyond the “spankies” with or without anal digital penetration, for both  
10 boys and girls, Havsgaard had multiple ways of sexually abusing the children in his  
11 charge, who were as young as four:

- 12 a. He took shirtless photos of the boys saying they were for their  
13 American sponsors but actually used them for his own sexual  
14 gratification.
- 15 b. He showed them pornography on computers and on his phone at  
16 the Harvest homes;
- 17 c. He made the children join him in watching pornography, both  
18 straight and gay, commenting favorably, normalizing sexual  
19 activity;
- 20 d. While walking or sitting with children, he repeatedly touched both  
21 boys’ and girls’ intimate areas, including their inner thighs and  
22 groins;
- 23 e. He fondled the children’s thighs and crotch on car trips while they  
24 sat in the passenger’s seat as he drove;
- 25 f. He took boys to spend nights in a hotel room alone with him, or  
26 on lengthy rides in his car late at night, during which he continued  
27 his touching, grooming and other sexual activities;
- 28

- g. He watched the children shower and bathe naked, often while masturbating himself;
- h. He masturbated in the boys' bedrooms, sometimes while groping one or more boys;
- i. He forced boys to masturbate him;
- j. He forced boys to accept masturbation from him;
- k. He forced boys to give him oral sex;
- l. He forced boys to accept oral sex from him;
- m. He forced boys to have anal sex with him;
- n. He would remove fecal matter from the children's anuses and lick his fingers; and
- o. He took and kept videos of sexual encounters with boys and girls, which was child pornography.

128. Havsgaard often accompanied his sexual abuse with a patter professing that he was their "father," that he loved them "as a father," and that they were all part of one loving "family"—with him in control. He told the children "I know what God wants," and "what I want, God wants."

129. Havsgaard's perverse murmurings added to the harm and upset from Havsgaard's sexual abuse.

130. Stories circulating about Havsgaard's abuse of the children caused outsiders to deride residents of the homes as gay, a terrible stigma in Romania at that time.

131. Like other child sex abuse victims, many residents of the homes were in complete tumult about their sexual identity.

132. Beyond Havsgaard's regular sexual conquest of boys, he also assaulted the girls. Havsgaard would undress them and force them on top of his lap. He would then brutally spank their bare bottoms. Whilst he was spanking some of them, he would touch himself.

1           133. When he had finished his physical attacks, Havsgaard would then force  
2 some of the girls to stand naked in front of him, while he looked them up and down,  
3 hugged them, caressed them, and kissed them.

4           134. Some educational programs were instituted at first, but these  
5 degenerated and the children emerged from the Harvest Homes with little or no  
6 schooling, prepared only for manual labor, a return to the streets and/or sex work.  
7 Some remain illiterate.

8                   2.     Havsgaard Lavishes Rewards on His Favorites, Further  
9                             Corrupting the Ethos of the Homes

10           135. The children, at sea in this abusive environment, learned that giving  
11 into Havsgaard's predation brought rewards.

12           136. His favorites received expensive gifts like stereos and PlayStations,  
13 branded clothing and sneakers, better food, trips outside the home, overnight trips to  
14 hotels with him (where they had to stay in the same room and bed), and sometimes  
15 permission to see their families (if they had one).

16           137. Some boys were permitted to have girlfriends and have sex with them  
17 in the homes starting at age 13 or 14—Havsgaard's way of reassuring the boys that  
18 they were "not homosexual" despite regular anal rape from Havsgaard, and a reward  
19 for being available to him and keeping silent.

20           138. They were allowed to drive Harvest vehicles while underage and  
21 without a license. On at least one occasion, a boy caused a serious accident.

22           139. Several boys would unlock and open the bathroom door to watch  
23 Havsgaard's wife Kathy showering. She asked Havsgaard to intervene to stop them,  
24 but he did nothing, and they continued to besiege and ogle her in the bathroom.

25           140. Finally, Kathy took to having a bucket in her bedroom to urinate and  
26 used baby wipes to give herself a "shower."

1 141. Havsgaard's favorite boys basked in their special status, despite their  
2 inner turmoil, and often taunted and beat up the other kids without repercussions  
3 from Havsgaard or other Harvest staff.

4 3. Children Were Terrified of Havsgaard's Abuse of Others

5 142. Havsgaard's flagrant abuse of children meant that everyone lived on  
6 constant high alert, fearing when he might next single them out.

7 143. The children often saw Havsgaard sexually abuse others through open  
8 doors: "spankies," masturbation, oral sex, digital penetration, anal sex, and more.

9 144. One child found shoeboxes and wastebaskets full of feces in the attic of  
10 the Buftea home, where Havsgaard engaged in frequent anal sex with boys in his  
11 care.

12 145. One child who wanted permission to go out for an evening confronted  
13 Havsgaard in front of the other children and adults in the Harvest home. He asked  
14 Havsgaard directly, "What's the deal? Do I have to stay for you to suck my dick to  
15 go out?"

16 146. Havsgaard's response was to give a beating and "spankies."

17 4. Children Repeatedly Witness Havsgaard Having Sex with One  
18 of the Boys in His Care, Leo L.

19 147. The children often saw evidence that Havsgaard was sexually abusing  
20 other children—their friends. For instance, one girl noticed that one of the boys, Leo  
21 L., at times left Havsgaard's bedroom with a wet spot on the back of his shorts,  
22 which was apparently caused by leftover sexual lubricant or semen. Other times,  
23 children spotted dark stains on Leo L.'s trousers.

24 148. In or around 2007, when Havsgaard broke his leg, he requested that  
25 another minor resident of the Harvest Homes, Roxana-Maria Turuianu, tend to him  
26 in various ways. On at least one occasion, Havsgaard asked Roxana to wash him and  
27 got an erection. Mihai Petcu walked past and saw Havsgaard masturbating himself  
28 while Roxana washed his feet.

1           149. One of the children living at the Buftea home, Cristian Aeroaiei, noticed  
2 Havsgaard going up to the attic and followed him there after a little while, curious  
3 about what was up there after he had seen Havsgaard carrying boxes upstairs.  
4 Cristian found Havsgaard with Leo L., both with their pants down. Leo L. was  
5 cleaning his buttocks.

6           150. Another child, Bogdan Ionescu (“Bogdan”), witnessed Havsgaard  
7 perform oral sex on Leo L. In or around 2006, Bogdan went to the bathroom, which  
8 was located near Havsgaard’s bedroom upstairs in Buftea. Havsgaard’s bedroom  
9 door was left slightly ajar, and Bogdan could see Havsgaard kneeling on the floor,  
10 shirtless, while Leo L. sat in front of him on the couch sucking Havsgaard’s penis.

11           151. Alexandru-Cristian Busca (“Alexandru”) also witnessed Havsgaard  
12 perform oral sex on Leo L. One day, Havsgaard had bought Leo L. a stereo, but Leo  
13 L. did not like how it sounded. Havsgaard purchased him another one, and he placed  
14 the first stereo in the attic of the Buftea house. Alexandru told Leo L. that he would  
15 like to have the discarded stereo. Leo L. told Alexandru that he (Leo L.) would ask  
16 Havsgaard if Alexandru could have it. Havsgaard and Leo L. went to the attic  
17 purportedly to look for the stereo, but they did not come back for several minutes.  
18 Alexandru went to look for them, but when he opened the door, Havsgaard was  
19 kneeling with Leo L. standing naked in front of him. Havsgaard had his mouth on  
20 Leo L.’s penis.

21           152. Finally, Adrian also once entered a bedroom and saw Leo L. without  
22 trousers on with Havsgaard kneeling in front of him, performing oral sex on Leo L.  
23 Adrian closed the door immediately and left.

24           5.     Children Repeatedly Witness Havsgaard Having Sex with One  
25                   of the Boys in His Care, Mark M.

26           153. Cristian Aeroaiei (“Cristian”) also walked in on Havsgaard performing  
27 oral sex on another boy, Mark M., in the home. Cristian had been looking for  
28 Havsgaard because he was promised money to buy new jeans. Although Cristian

1 was surprised by what he saw, he did not leave; he just asked Mark M. to translate  
2 his request for cash so Havsgaard would understand it. Havsgaard then grabbed a  
3 handful of money and gave it to Cristian, showing no embarrassment over the sexual  
4 crime he was in the act of committing. Havsgaard returned to the blow job as soon  
5 as Cristian started to leave the room.

6 154. Alexandru. also shared a room with Mark M., who would beg  
7 Alexandru not to leave the room, telling him, “don’t leave, Paul is coming again to  
8 suck my dick.”

9 6. Havsgaard Installed Video Recording Equipment in the Attic  
10 Where He Regularly Abused Children

11 155. Photography has been a lifetime hobby for Havsgaard.

12 156. Havsgaard installed videography equipment in the attic of the Bufta  
13 home, some of which was positioned over a hole in the ceiling of the shower. In the  
14 attic, Havsgaard kept audio recording devices, a box of video tapes including small  
15 format ones, and boxes with significant amounts of Romanian money.

16 157. This equipment is consistent with reports that Havsgaard took videos  
17 of naked children.

18 158. After some of his equipment and tapes were stolen, Havsgaard put all  
19 of his tapes in a leather bag carried over his chest that he never parted with.

20 7. A Life-Long Child Sex Abuser, Havsgaard Was Cruel and  
21 Perverse

22 159. Havsgaard used his total power over the children not just to gain sexual  
23 access, but to express his nasty and dominating personality.

24 160. For example, Havsgaard put some brothers in different homes to keep  
25 them isolated and increase his own power over them. He put children who displeased  
26 him out on the street in the winter, letting them plead in the cold and dark for re-  
27 entry.  
28

1 161. Havsgaard strangled and smothered children with pillows, letting go  
2 just before they lost consciousness, had them tied to beds and radiators, and kept  
3 them under “room arrest” for days.

4 162. Havsgaard would promise children they could see their families but  
5 then never permit it, or he would grant, but then withdraw, permission, to prove he  
6 was the boss or make them more pliable.

7 163. Havsgaard kicked children out of the homes without notice, without  
8 any place to go or funds to tide them over.

9 164. Havsgaard took the children to use computers at the internet café owned  
10 by Cătălin Manescu (“Manescu”), who worked as a Harvest Romania driver and was  
11 later promoted by Havsgaard to Finance Director, located on Starada Mitropolit  
12 Varlaam. They also used a computer at the Buftea house with internet capability,  
13 often to watch porn with Havsgaard’s encouragement and participation.

14 165. Also, with Havsgaard’s encouragement, some of the underage boys  
15 accessed online sex forums. The boys then procured customers, sold their naked  
16 pictures, and also met for paid sex, with Havsgaard taking a cut of the proceeds.

17 166. In the evenings, Havsgaard also took boys to bathhouses where men,  
18 usually foreign tourists, would pay to wash and masturbate the boys, or for the boys  
19 to masturbate them.

20 167. Havsgaard took a cut of their earnings. He picked the boys up late at  
21 night after their activities, taking them back after he received his share.

22 168. The misery of Havsgaard’s regime extended to his wife, Kathy. She  
23 saw less and less of him, because “he always had a boy with him.” Excluded by  
24 Havsgaard from anything significant, and lacking purpose, Kathy “crocheted  
25 constantly” and taught this to some of the girls to have something useful to do.  
26 Havsgaard remained autocratic and emotionally distant, and she felt lonely and  
27 besieged in the acutely dysfunctional homes, to the point where she was constantly  
28 taking Valium to feel less awful. Things were so bad that Kathy built up a supply of

Valium in case she had to commit suicide—and she was not a powerless child like Plaintiff, but an adult, an American, the wife of the man in charge, and a director of the Local Foundation.

169. She returned to the United States and divorced Havsgaard in 2007.

**B. Havsgaard Exploits Sponsors in California to Abuse Children**

1. Havsgaard's Fundraising Trips to California

170. Defendants in California had an active fundraising program for the Bucharest homes.

171. One aspect was Havsgaard's regular fundraising trips to California during which he spoke at Harvest Riverside during Laurie's services and at other churches. He went for several weeks every Christmas, and at other times too. Laurie enjoyed how the Romanian program reflected well on Harvest Riverside and him.

172. During the Christmas trips, he usually brought children living in the Harvest Homes with him to show them off and elicit more sympathy and money from donors. They considered this a great privilege and he mainly picked his favorites, who were most inured to acceding to his sexual demands.

*Figure 12: Harvest Homes children in California on the beach with hosts*



173. Havsgaard required sex from them in California too, keeping the boys upstairs in his house with him and ordering the girls to stay downstairs.

174. On a trip in 2003, Romanian authorities required him to bring along a social worker employed by the Harvest Homes, Carmen Andreosi, to ensure that the children were properly treated. She spoke English and was supposed to accompany them on their activities. “In reality, once we arrived in the United States, Paul excluded me from caring for or supervising the children,” she says. “He used me as a cover to justify his travel with the children.”

*Figure 13: Two Harvest Homes children in California*



175. Havsgaard left Andreosi alone in his California house for long periods, sometimes for many days, without giving any information about where he was taking the children. International calls were blocked, internet access was infrequent and Andreosi was in practical terms marooned, with a few eggs and leftovers from the children’s excursions left in the refrigerator.

176. Several times they were scheduled to go back to Romania; Havsgaard would leave Andreosi waiting for a pickup at the church, the library or even at the airport but not appear, changing his plans impulsively and without notification.

177. She observed: “In Romania, Paul frequently took the same group of teenage boys with him on private outings. He showered them with gifts—clothes, sweets and other items—while the younger children were excluded,” which made them upset. “The boys who went with him always returned quiet, never explaining where they had been or what had happened. This secrecy, combined with his favoritism, left me deeply uneasy. Although I did not personally witness physical abuse, I came to suspect that Paul might be a pedophile. The staff suspected something was wrong, but no one felt able to act at the time.”

2. False Promises to and About Sponsors

178. Another fundraising program tried to establish a direct connection between sponsors in California and individual children in Romania.

179. The families in California sent care packages and money to their sponsored children, sometimes as much as \$500 per month.

180. Havsgaard bragged to the children that the sponsors were putting money aside as nest eggs to launch them when they graduated from the homes. In fact, none of the children received any of these funds, either while they stayed at the homes or afterwards. Havsgaard siphoned much of these earmarked funds for himself and his sexual favorites.

181. The sponsorship program, with its promise of a rosy future after Harvest, was another lie Havsgaard exploited to line his own pockets while enticing sex and compliance from the children.

182. Some children spoke periodically to their sponsor families and told them they never saw any of this money. The sponsor families reported this back to Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte, but Defendants kept Havsgaard in place nonetheless.

3. Exploiting Promises of Adoption

183. Another form of cruelty came from Havsgaard’s assurances to many children that they were to be adopted by their sponsor families and live in the United

1 States. Some children discussed this possibility with their future California families  
2 by video call, and the families were enthusiastic.

3 184. In one instance, two children, Bogdan Ionescu (“Bogdan”) and Cristina  
4 Popescu, were told that Harvest Riverside had prepared the documents needed for  
5 their adoption and move to America, and all that was required was Havsgaard’s  
6 signature in front of some officials at the airport.

7 185. At the airport, Havsgaard pulled Bogdan aside to go to the bathroom.  
8 Inside, Havsgaard went to grab the boy’s penis, but Bogdan objected.

9 186. Havsgaard used this as an excuse to refuse to sign the papers, and both  
10 children were forced to return to the Harvest Homes. They were crushed that  
11 Havsgaard had thwarted their near-escape.

12 187. Back at the homes, Bogdan was spanked and sexually assaulted by  
13 Havsgaard as a further punishment for resisting sexual abuse at the airport.

14 **C. Children in Harvest Homes Suffer Intense Trauma as a Result of**  
15 **Havsgaard’s Abuse**

16 188. Being a child at Harvest Homes was the opposite of the settled,  
17 supportive home life Defendants advertised: it was a cruel and hypocritical jungle  
18 that taught the way to survive was to give sex to Havsgaard, and to lie.

19 189. But the alternative, the children knew, would be awful: living on the  
20 street, sleeping on newspapers, dirty, always hungry, fearful, vulnerable to violence  
21 and even death.

22 190. Having to live with the possibility of physical and sexual abuse every  
23 day based on the changing whims of Havsgaard as the price for food and a bed was  
24 immensely stressful, indeed traumatic.

25 191. If they accused a rich and powerful American pastor of sex abuse, they  
26 were sure that poor street kids like themselves would be disbelieved and kicked out.

1 192. Some channeled their stress and misery into suicide attempts, including  
2 by hanging, by cutting their wrists, by drinking chlorine and many by taking pills.  
3 Havsgaard did nothing to help. Once they got better, he abused them again.

4 **III. HAVSGAARD REPEATEDLY SEXUALLY ABUSES PLAINTIFF**

5 **A. Abuse from Havsgaard at Harvest Homes**

6 193. Havsgaard paid Plaintiff special attention when he arrived at the  
7 Harvest Homes. Havsgaard spoke with Adrian frequently, brought him sweets, and  
8 fed him better food than fed some of the other children.

9 194. Adrian's happiness in being singled out for special treatment changed  
10 when Havsgaard began to make sexual advances towards him. These made Adrian  
11 feel confused, frightened, stressed, and dirty.

12 195. Soon, Havsgaard started to find reasons to spank Adrian, saying that it  
13 was punishment for mistakes Adrian had made. Havsgaard would force Adrian to  
14 undress and then painfully spank him between ten and twenty times. After spanking  
15 Adrian, Havsgaard would stop and smell his own hand, seemingly finding pleasure  
16 from the smell.

17 196. Afterwards, Havsgaard put Adrian on his lap. Havsgaard would play  
18 with Adrian's genitals and forcibly penetrate Adrian's anus with his finger.  
19 Havsgaard would then tell Adrian how much he loved him and that he would get a  
20 reward if he kept quiet.

21 197. Adrian would scream from the pain. Havsgaard would become red in  
22 his face and start to shake. As a child Adrian was confused but now understand that  
23 Havsgaard was sexually gratifying himself.

24 198. After the first sexual assault, Adrian spent four days hiding from  
25 Havsgaard—under his bed, in the wardrobe, and in the water tank behind the house.  
26 Still, Havsgaard's "spankies" continued to happen, often in Havsgaard's bedroom.

27 199. On many occasions, Havsgaard forcibly masturbated Adrian.  
28 Havsgaard found special pleasure in squeezing Adrian's penis in a brutal manner

1 and rotating it. It was painful, and Adrian screamed for help. Havsgaard tried to  
2 convince Adrian this was a positive experience that he should want by saying that  
3 Adrian “wanted to get wet,” and that he “should not be shy.”

4 200. On multiple occasions, Havsgaard also attempted to anally rape Adrian.

5 201. When Adrian was in fifth grade, he received a bad mark in school.  
6 Havsgaard was notified and once Adrian returned from school, they had an intense  
7 argument about the grade. Havsgaard took Adrian to his room, pulled his trousers  
8 down and spanked him even more heavily than usual, to the point of making his  
9 bottom numb. Still, moments later, Adrian felt a sharp pain in his anus as Havsgaard  
10 forcibly penetrated him.

11 202. At that moment, Adrian tried to fight Havsgaard off. In the struggle to  
12 be free from Havsgaard, Adrian hit his head on a radiator and started to bleed. He  
13 started to feel dizzy and fell to the ground. Eventually, staff came to the room to help  
14 him. Havsgaard lied and told the staff that Adrian tried to escape routine spanking.

15 203. Adrian still has a scar on his head from this injury.

16 204. The same evening, Adrian ran away from Harvest Homes. After two  
17 days in the streets, he reached his parents’ home. That same evening, Havsgaard  
18 arrived to bring Adrian back. Adrian’s mother was hospitalized at the time, and his  
19 father said that he had to go with Paul because they did not have money to feed him.  
20 Adrian started screaming with fear and begging to not be taken back, but Havsgaard  
21 prevailed. Adrian spent the entire car ride with Havsgaard focusing on the car door,  
22 biding his time to escape but never got the opportunity. Havsgaard forced him to  
23 return to Harvest Homes.

24 **B. Abuse from Harvest Staff**

25 205. Adrian remembers that the Harvest staff were cruel and often physically  
26 abusive towards him. They asked the children to call them “Mom” and “Dad,” but  
27 still punished them regularly.  
28

1        206. If Adrian refused a “spanky” from Havsgaard as punishment, the staff  
2 forced him to spend two to three hours kneeling on walnut shells, in the attic, in the  
3 dark, which made his legs bleed.

4        207. Other times when the staff thought Adrian was misbehaving, they  
5 would lock him in his room for up to a week. He was only allowed to leave for school  
6 or to use the bathroom; at all other times he was locked in his room. Staff  
7 occasionally brought him food as if he were in prison. He spent much of his time  
8 reading the Bible and hoping to be saved from his misery. His roommates were not  
9 allowed to enter the room while Adrian was locked in it, except at 10 p.m. to go to  
10 sleep.

11        208. Havsgaard and staff at Harvest Homes forbade Adrian from visiting his  
12 mother, even when she was hospitalized. Adrian tried to run away a few times but  
13 was caught, then locked in a room again for up to a week. A few times, Havsgaard  
14 promised Adrian to take him to see his mother, but only if Adrian agreed to being  
15 sexually abused by Havsgaard.

16        **C. Havsgaard Makes False Adoption Promises to Adrian**

17        209. Another sinister form of manipulation that Havsgaard employed was  
18 telling Adrian that he had a sponsor family in the United States, who would like to  
19 adopt him. This promise, like many others of Havsgaard’s, never materialized.

20        **D. Romanian Staff’s Knowledge About Havsgaard’s Abuse**

21        210. It is obvious to Adrian that the staff at Harvest Homes were aware of  
22 Havsgaard’s sexual abuse. Adrian told a woman staffer, Mihaela Mustata, about the  
23 abuse, including the attempted rape by Havsgaard. She seemed to believe him but  
24 said she could not protect Adrian because Havsgaard was the pastor and her boss.

25        **E. Circumstances of Leaving Harvest Homes**

26        211. Adrian ran away from Harvest in around 2006, when he was 14 years  
27 old, as he could no longer withstand the abuse he was suffering. Harvest failed to  
28 provide him with any meaningful education or life skills.

212. Adrian subsequently found work in construction and as a chef in a restaurant.

**IV. HARVEST RIVERSIDE IS GIVEN REPEATED NOTICE THAT HAVSGAARD IS SEXUALLY ABUSING CHILDREN AT THE HARVEST HOMES**

**A. Romanian Staff Quickly Recognized Havsgaard as a Pedophile**

213. Employees of the Local Foundation, Directors of the Local Foundation, and visitors from Harvest Riverside (including employed ministers) all quickly developed suspicions that Havsgaard was a child abuser, and word of this got back to Harvest Riverside in California.

214. Children at the Harvest homes repeatedly complained about being sexually abused, both to each other and to responsible adults, including the cook “Mama Tina” Radu Florea, the night watchman Paul Crivceac (“Crivceac”), and Roman, the Finance Director.

215. Kathy, Havsgaard’s wife and a Director of the Local Foundation, had known Havsgaard was a pedophile since at least 1994, when she was present for a family discussion convened by his sisters to get his apology for raping them when they were little girls. In Romania, she also suspected Havsgaard’s abuse but did not believe she should or could act on it. She was entirely dependent on Havsgaard in an unwelcoming foreign country for her entire existence—income, food, shelter, and adult conversation in English (she did not speak Romanian)—and subordinated any worries that arose about what he was doing to children in the Harvest Homes to her duties of devotion and obedience as a wife as taught by Laurie and the doctrine at Harvest Riverside, which had been her lodestar for 30 years. To oppose or publicly rebuke him was actually inconceivable.

**B. Peter P. Reports Havsgaard’s Sexual Abuse to Harvest Homes Staff**

216. Peter P. was a homeless child when he met Havsgaard. He moved into one of the Harvest Homes in or around 1998. He was an early source of reports to

1 Local Foundation officials about Havsgaard's sexual abuse. As is typical of sex  
2 abuse survivors, he tried different routes to get help from responsible adults,  
3 escalating over time as he kept being ignored.

4 217. Havsgaard's abuse of Peter P. was consistent with that of other children.  
5 Havsgaard regularly pulled down Peter P.'s trousers and underwear and spanked his  
6 bare bottom; sometimes Havsgaard would let his hand linger, massage Peter P.'s  
7 buttocks, kiss them, or put his finger in Peter P.'s anus, which was painful and  
8 shocking.

9 218. Peter P. noticed that Havsgaard had favorites, on whom he would lavish  
10 gifts and special trips. Peter P. was not a favorite and complained to Havsgaard about  
11 getting less than the others. To console him, Havsgaard invited Peter P. into town.

12 219. After the trip, when Peter P. was sleeping on the top bunk of his room,  
13 Havsgaard came in and began to caress and massage him. Havsgaard put his hands  
14 under Peter P.'s clothes and around his buttocks. Because it was difficult to reach  
15 him on the top bunk, Havsgaard asked the boy in the bottom bunk to switch with  
16 Peter P. The boy did, giving Havsgaard greater access to Peter P.'s body. Havsgaard  
17 massaged and caressed Peter P.'s buttocks for half an hour. Peter P. understood this  
18 was the price he paid for his special outing that day.

19 220. When Peter P. was twelve or 13 years old, he broke his leg. With Peter  
20 P. especially vulnerable, Havsgaard insisted on washing Peter P. with his own hands.  
21 Havsgaard would caress Peter P.'s back and chest, and then move on to his buttocks  
22 and penis. Havsgaard would massage Peter P.'s genitals for 25 minutes or more.  
23 When Peter P. asked him to stop, Havsgaard told him that he was "like a son" to  
24 him, and to relax.

25 221. Another time, Havsgaard and Peter P. were in the garden for a "father-  
26 son" talk. During the conversation, Havsgaard proceeded to perform manual sex on  
27 Peter P.  
28

1           222. On another occasion, Peter P. recalled Havsgaard having a heart-to-  
2 heart with him about how proud he was of Peter P. Once again, Havsgaard put his  
3 hands down Peter P.'s trousers and began performing manual sex on him.

4           223. Havsgaard asked Peter P., "Do you mind if you get a little bit wet?"  
5 Then, standing behind Peter P., Havsgaard began to masturbate so that he could  
6 ejaculate on Peter P.'s buttocks.

7           224. Havsgaard then rubbed his erect penis against Peter P.'s buttocks and  
8 attempted to rape him anally, aggressively asserting his authority by violently biting  
9 Peter P. Peter P. was terrified and managed to flee, a memory that still haunts him.

10          225. Peter P. felt confused and trapped. He could not reconcile Havsgaard's  
11 abuse with the man he was supposed to trust as father figure and pastor. He knew he  
12 could not question the abuse without risking eviction and further assaults.

13          226. Peter P.'s response to this dilemma was to become more defiant.

14          227. Peter P. told staff members about the abuse, including the cook, Mama  
15 Tina, and Crivceac, the night caretaker. Nothing changed.

16          228. Peter P. wanted to provide more definitive proof so the adults at Harvest  
17 could no longer pretend everything was normal.

18          229. One night in 2002, Peter P. invited a group of boys and Crivceac into  
19 the living room and phoned Havsgaard on speakerphone without telling him.

20          230. In Peter P.'s words, this is what followed:

21               I asked [Havsgaard] what he would do if I came to his apartment. He said  
22 we would play. I asked him if he would give me a blow job. He said he  
23 wouldn't force and would only do it if I liked it. I said no, I didn't like it. I  
24 asked him if he liked it. Paul said he'd like to "suck me." Paul had made a  
25 full confession to the room, including the staff assembled there, without  
26 realizing it. Then Paul said he would have one of his favorites the next night  
27 anyway.  
28

**C. A Couple from Harvest Riverside Encounters Signs of Child Abuse by Havsgaard and Reports Back to California**

231. Another Harvest Riverside congregant, Randi Douthitt (“Douthitt”), visited the Harvest Homes in approximately 2002. She recalls that Havsgaard was always asking for money for the children, and she had raised \$10,000 to help. When she arrived, she could see the children needed winter coats and suggested using the money for this purpose. Havsgaard refused. He also refused to let her give the children Bibles. Both of these refusals surprised her.

232. She was also surprised at the dilapidated state of the Harvest Homes. The walls were dirty and there was a big pile of broken bicycles.

233. She noticed that Havsgaard spent excessive amounts of time with Mark M., including late at night, and not with his wife. She also saw that Havsgaard showered Mark M. and another favorite, Stefan S., with gifts.

234. Douthitt knew that Havsgaard had rented a separate apartment for Stefan S., so he could stay there at age 17 with his girlfriend, who then had a baby at age 16, which she did not think taught proper Christian values.

235. At the same time, Havsgaard was very harsh with other children; he always had at least one child on lockdown.

236. Douthitt had gone to Bucharest with a friend, Sheryl, who was supposed to check the books. Havsgaard gave her only very limited access to financial information. Sheryl suspected that Havsgaard was running two sets of accounting books.

237. All this disturbed Douthitt sufficiently that she returned to the Harvest homes two weeks later with her husband John, a minister employed by Harvest Riverside.

238. The Douthitts offered to paint the dirty walls and to fix the bicycles, but Havsgaard would not let them. They offered to stay in Bucharest to help him for several months, but Havsgaard refused that too. The Douthitts got the impression

1 that Havsgaard did not want them to know what was going on in the Harvest Homes.  
2 They did not see direct evidence of pedophilia, but they suspected it.

3 239. When the Douthitts returned to California, they heard from an official  
4 at Harvest Riverside who wanted to know what they had seen at the Harvest Homes.  
5 They gave a full report of what they had witnessed and their impressions of  
6 Havsgaard.

7 **D. Roman Triggers Investigation by Harvest Riverside**

8 1. Roman Learns of Havsgaard's Sexual Abuse of Children

9 240. As early as 2001, a woman Harvest hired as an educator told Roman,  
10 the Finance Director and board member of the Local Foundation, that there was  
11 something suspicious happening between Stefan S. and Havsgaard. She suspected  
12 that Havsgaard was a pedophile.

13 241. Roman then asked Stefan S. if Havsgaard had been abusing him. Stefan  
14 S. denied this, but told the other boys that Roman had "figured it out."

15 242. The news of Roman's discussion with Stefan S. reached Havsgaard,  
16 who summoned Roman to an urgent meeting with Kathy also present.

17 243. Havsgaard tried to gaslight Roman, asking "How could you think I  
18 would harm [the children]?"

19 244. Roman remained suspicious. He made a friend at Harvest Riverside,  
20 Dan Cojocnean ("Cojocnean"), who was originally from Romania and immigrated  
21 to California. Cojocnean was in charge of assembling contributions to the Harvest  
22 Homes from members of Harvest Riverside in California, and then arranging their  
23 transport to Romania as an agent of Harvest Riverside and ARK. On their behalf, he  
24 visited the Harvest Homes three times. No later than 1999, Roman told Cojocnean  
25 that he feared Havsgaard was a pedophile.

26 245. Cojocnean told Roman that when Havsgaard went back to California  
27 for his fundraising trips, he badmouthed Roman as dishonest, apparently seeking to  
28 "prebut" any possible criticisms of his own behavior.

1           246. Havsgaard apparently suspected that Roman had told Cojocnean about  
2 his pedophilia, so Havsgaard then badmouthed Cojocnean to people at Harvest too.

3           247. On information and belief, Cojocnean told his supervisors at Harvest  
4 about his suspicions of Havsgaard's pedophilia. Cojocnean eventually became  
5 disgusted that Harvest Riverside was leaving Havsgaard in place and taking  
6 advantage of the people whose donations he was canvassing for Romania, so he left  
7 the church.

8           248. Roman felt intimidated by Havsgaard but continued to collect evidence  
9 about his illicit behavior.

10           249. In 2003, Roman went to the Buftea home and asked the staff if  
11 Havsgaard was doing anything unusual at night. The night staff told him that  
12 Havsgaard was often out with a boy named Julian J.

13           250. Roman learned that Havsgaard had ordered the night watchman,  
14 Crivceac, not to log his nocturnal travels with boys. Crivceac said to Roman it  
15 seemed evident Havsgaard was having sex with Julian J.

16           251. Roman found receipts that corroborated Havsgaard's late-night trips  
17 with Julian J. and other boys, showing repeated purchases of snacks for two people  
18 after midnight at gas stations on the Bucharest ring road including purchases of  
19 alcohol.

20           252. Armed with this new evidence, Roman confronted Havsgaard, who  
21 claimed he was taking Julian J. out "to evangelize him." Roman did not believe this.

22           253. Roman then discovered that Havsgaard was paying his driver, Marcel  
23 Musceleanu, \$600 per month, compared to the \$400 per month Roman was earning  
24 as Finance Director—a huge salary for a driver, much more than the Local  
25 Foundation needed to pay at standard rates.

26           254. This suggested to Roman that Havsgaard was using Harvest money to  
27 buy silence from his driver about where he was taking him, who was with him, and  
28 what he was doing.

1        255. Roman also learned that Havsgaard was paying Manescu, another  
2 driver who also ran an internet café Havsgaard liked to go to, directly in cash and  
3 without receipts, which also signaled Havsgaard was trying to hide something.

4        256. Finally, Julian J. disclosed to Roman that Havsgaard had committed  
5 sexual acts with another child. Mama Tina, the cook, also told Roman that Peter P.  
6 had come into the kitchen very upset and asked Mama Tina if she knew what  
7 Havsgaard “did to the children.”

8        257. Roman spoke to Mugur Dragomir, a lawyer friend and former police  
9 colonel, who said the evidence was sufficient to destroy Havsgaard and Harvest’s  
10 reputation.

11        258. While stopping Havsgaard was important to Roman, Roman did not  
12 want to destroy the Harvest Homes and force the children back into the streets.

13        259. By October 2004, Roman thought he had enough evidence confirming  
14 Havsgaard’s pedophilia and confronted him again. Roman then gave Havsgaard 30  
15 days to have Laurie choose and announce Havsgaard’s replacement.

16                    2.        Harvest Riverside Investigates Havsgaard in 2004

17        260. Havsgaard did contact Laurie and Schutte about Roman’s ultimatum,  
18 but, on information and belief, he falsely accused Roman of stealing money and of  
19 trying to obscure that theft by accusing Havsgaard of child abuse.

20        261. At about this same time, Steve Quarles, a Calvary minister working in  
21 Romania, heard reports that Havsgaard was abusing the children in the homes. He  
22 left a phone message at Harvest Riverside laying this out in a way he expected would  
23 generate a rapid response. No one called him back.

24        262. Disturbed by the strange silence, he asked the pastor from his home  
25 church in California, John Dulkan of Calvary Chapel Lake Elsinore, to call on his  
26 behalf and implore Harvest Riverside to investigate.

27        263. Some weeks later, Quarles was home in California and happened to be  
28 in the Lake Elsinore church office when he took a phone call in the absence of Pastor

1 Dunkan. A person he believes to be Schutte said, “We have a problem. One of your  
2 missionary pastors has made an awful accusation about Paul Havsgaard.” Schutte  
3 was angry. Quarles told Schutte that in fact he was the source of the accusation, and  
4 a tense conversation ensued.

5 264. Several days later, as he was being driven to the airport to go back to  
6 Romania, Quarles received another call from Schutte, who was much more amiable.  
7 Schutte asked Quarles if he would replace Havsgaard and run the Harvest Homes.  
8 Quarles did not want the job but agreed to perform an audit of the Harvest Homes.  
9 Anticipating that Havsgaard would be fighting for his professional life, Quarles said  
10 he would run the audit only if he could have the help of two other Calvary pastors  
11 working in Romania, Shane Herman (“Herman”) and Bob Keenan (“Keenan”).  
12 Schutte agreed.

13 265. The three performed the audit in October 2004.

14 266. Quarles, Herman and Keenan interviewed staff at all the houses being  
15 run by Havsgaard and discovered turmoil.

16 267. Crivceac, the night caretaker, provided a statement to the audit team,  
17 stating that his wife, a cleaner at the homes, had told him that things there were “not  
18 right,” so he had kept his eyes open and began seeing suspicious behavior by  
19 Havsgaard.

20 268. Crivceac reported that Havsgaard was “overly touchy” with the kids,  
21 looking to cuddle them much too often. He gave some boys large amounts of  
22 attention and would go out at night with a single boy at a time, not returning until  
23 well past midnight.

24 269. Crivceac also reported that Havsgaard took one particular favorite, Leo  
25 L., on trips and gave him many gifts. When Crivceac asked Leo L. where Havsgaard  
26 took him, Leo L. refused to answer.

27 270. Havsgaard would also regularly take individual boys into the attic for  
28 extended periods.

1        271. Three boys—Alexandru M., Peter P. and Mark M.—had told Crivceac  
2 that Havsgaard had sexually abused them, and Peter P. often loudly and publicly  
3 proclaimed this.

4        272. Quarles was so alarmed by what he learned from Crivceac and others  
5 that he insisted to Schutte that he come see the Harvest Homes for himself.

6        273. On information and belief, Schutte discussed this brewing crisis in  
7 Harvest's Romanian mission with Laurie, who kept his distance by sending Schutte  
8 rather than going to see for himself.

9        274. In November 2004, Schutte, accompanied by Wes Denham  
10 (“Denham”), another senior Calvary pastor on the board of ARK, arrived in  
11 Bucharest to see the Harvest Homes on behalf of Harvest Riverside and Laurie. They  
12 met with the audit team of Quarles, Herman and Keenan, who told the visiting chiefs  
13 from headquarters the following findings from their survey of the homes:

- 14            a. Ample money was arriving from Harvest Riverside, some  
15                \$17,000 a month, but Havsgaard was spending some \$5,000 of it  
16                without receipts or other records. Because dollars went a long  
17                way in Romania at that time, these were substantial sums,  
18                particularly as the siphoning accumulated over the years.
  - 19            b. They had seen receipts gathered by Roman which showed  
20                Havsgaard taking boys to hotels hours away from Bucharest, and  
21                going on trips with them in Bucharest where they would buy  
22                snacks and alcohol after midnight.
  - 23            c. Roman had told the audit team that he had heard multiple  
24                accounts of sexual abuse by Havsgaard from both staff and  
25                children in the homes.
  - 26            d. Roman had told them that he also understood that Havsgaard had  
27                been arrested for child abuse in Romania.
- 28

1        275. Schutte and Denham then met with Roman directly. Their line of  
2 questioning surprised Roman, who was worried about Havsgaard's sexual abuse,  
3 because the visitors avoided that topic to focus on Havsgaard's misuse of Harvest  
4 Riverside money.

5        276. Roman answered their questions, telling them how suppliers were not  
6 being paid because Havsgaard was not providing him with enough funds despite the  
7 regular payments from Harvest Riverside, and produced detailed accountings over  
8 many months. Schutte was shocked and asked for a copy, which Roman provided.  
9 Schutte then promised that Harvest Riverside would pay the shortfall and send it  
10 directly to the Local Foundation's account, bypassing Havsgaard to whom Harvest  
11 Riverside had previously sent all California funds directly.

12        277. Roman also raised his worries about Havsgaard as a pedophile. He gave  
13 the visitors an account of Havsgaard's inappropriate spending on late-night  
14 excursions with the boys, and relayed reports from other staff about Havsgaard's  
15 abuse.

16        278. At the end of the meeting, Schutte took him aside and directed him to  
17 stop talking about any child abuse by Havsgaard. Schutte then returned to California.

18        279. Even so, Quarles was now persuaded that Havsgaard was a pedophile.  
19 He was based in Romania and called Roman to say he was thinking of reporting  
20 Havsgaard to the police.

21        280. Roman worried that the homes might collapse and told Quarles that  
22 replacing Havsgaard would be better than abruptly getting him sent to jail and  
23 leaving the Harvest Homes leaderless.

24        281. Quarles pursued the idea of replacing Havsgaard quickly with his  
25 contacts at Harvest Riverside in California.

26        282. Several weeks later, Schutte returned to Romania.

27        283. Quarles believed the overwhelming evidence that Havsgaard was a  
28 pedophile and thought firing him from Harvest was essential. He told Schutte and

1 Denham, “Paul [Havsgaard] needs to be on that plane with you when you leave  
2 tomorrow. He doesn’t need to be another day in Romania. He is an embarrassment  
3 to every single missionary and Christian worker. Get him out of here and into  
4 counselling.”

5 284. That started out as the plan. Schutte, Pastor Shane Herman and a  
6 Romanian businessman, Robert Dinca, met with Roman and told him that Havsgaard  
7 would be on a plane to California in the next few days, but Roman also had to resign.

8 285. Apparently, Defendants wanted a “clean sweep” of the old regime and  
9 no one in power left to reveal their failings to authorities in Romania or California.  
10 Quarles and Herman were going to take over for Havsgaard, and Dinca was going  
11 to take over for Roman.

12 286. But Havsgaard refused to leave, and Defendants acquiesced. When the  
13 time came for Havsgaard to go, Schutte and Denham told Quarles that Havsgaard  
14 “is very important because he is the face of the ministry. He’s the one who goes and  
15 talks to the churches and raises the money. We can’t not have him be part of things.”

16 287. This answer had to reflect the views of Laurie, the ultimate authority at  
17 Harvest Riverside who had set the entire Romanian enterprise in motion and had  
18 taken credit for it. This was an acutely sensitive matter, Havsgaard was Laurie’s  
19 long-time collaborator, and the idea that Schutte decided this independently of  
20 Laurie is not credible.

21 288. This reply was so shocking that Quarles told Harvest leaders he  
22 “wanted to have nothing to do with them after this.”

23 289. The result was that Havsgaard was not replaced. Schutte and Denham  
24 went back to California leaving Havsgaard in command in Romania, the same as  
25 before—except with added powers. Instead of appointing Dinca as Finance Director  
26 as Schutte had arranged, Laurie and Schutte let Havsgaard appoint Manescu, his  
27 driver who ran the internet café where he often took boys for sex-cam work, at a  
28

1 highly inflated salary. Manescu had no background for the position and had good  
2 reason to go on protecting Havsgaard.

3 **V. HARVEST RIVERSIDE AND LAURIE COVER UP HAVSGAARD'S CHILD SEX**  
4 **ABUSE**

5 290. Schutte and/or Denham reported the disturbing results of their inquiry  
6 mission to Laurie at Harvest Riverside when they returned to California.

7 291. The scale of Havsgaard's crimes and his rank incompetence in running  
8 the Harvest Homes should have been anticipated by Laurie and were easily  
9 discoverable by all Defendants from the start of Havsgaard's time in Bucharest.  
10 Nevertheless, the clear notice of Havsgaard's pedophilia, theft, and chaotic  
11 management that Schutte brought back with him from Bucharest in 2004 gave  
12 Harvest Riverside, and Laurie, an obligation to take immediate corrective action.

13 292. Instead, they did nothing.

14 293. Defendants did not recall Havsgaard for questioning.

15 294. Defendants did not put Havsgaard on leave.

16 295. Defendants did not discipline Havsgaard.

17 296. Defendants did not require Havsgaard to attend counselling.

18 297. Defendants did not induce Havsgaard to retire.

19 298. Defendants did not fire Havsgaard.

20 299. Defendants did not shut down the Harvest homes.

21 300. Defendants did not send competent administrators to replace or  
22 supervise Havsgaard.

23 301. Defendants did not introduce any guard rails to prevent Havsgaard from  
24 further abusing children in Romania.

25 302. Defendants did not institute mechanisms for children or staff at Harvest  
26 Homes to report future abuse by Havsgaard.

27 303. Defendants did not arrange for medical or psychological help for the  
28 affected boys and girls.

1 304. Defendants did not order any more inspection trips or other inquiries,  
2 nor did Laurie or Schutte visit themselves.

3 305. Defendants did not immediately report Havsgaard to the police or child  
4 protection authorities in Romania or the United States, although Schutte, Denham,  
5 and Laurie were at all material times “mandatory reporters” of child sex abuse under  
6 California law, and this obligation extended to abuse committed outside of  
7 California, especially by one of their employees.

8 306. Instead of taking any of the meaningful actions listed above, Laurie  
9 made the strategic decision to cover up the scandal. He turned a blind eye, and thus  
10 so did everyone else at Harvest Riverside.

11 307. Defendants protected their money by cutting back on the amounts they  
12 sent to Havsgaard to run the Harvest Homes but otherwise acted as if everything was  
13 fine.

14 308. Defendants had a legal and moral obligation from the day they opened  
15 the Harvest Homes in Romania in 1998 to assure they were run safely.

16 309. Instead, Defendants ignored repeated evidence of Havsgaard’s abuse of  
17 children in California before he left for Romania, and again from his arrival in  
18 Bucharest in 1998.

19 310. The abuse the children endured after 2004, when Laurie, Schutte and  
20 Harvest Riverside clearly knew all about it but simply ignored their legal and moral  
21 obligation to intervene, is especially reprehensible.

22 **A. After the Cover-Up, Harvest Homes Get Poorer while Child**  
23 **Sexual Abuse Remains Rampant**

24 311. Once he weathered Defendants’ consequence-free investigation,  
25 Havsgaard retaliated against Roman for blowing the whistle and fired him.

26 312. Despite Havsgaard’s pedophilia and long misuse of Harvest funds, he  
27 was given authority over Harvest’s Romanian bank accounts, appointing his poorly  
28

1 educated driver Manescu to be Finance Director, at a highly inflated salary he knew  
2 depended on Havsgaard's continued good standing with Harvest Riverside.

3 313. Manescu sometimes refused to pay the staff, likely pocketing their  
4 wages.

5 314. As Finance Director, Manescu required that some of the children living  
6 in the Harvest Homes work 12-hour shifts in his internet café at less than minimum  
7 wage. When they protested, he threatened to throw them out. When the children  
8 complained to Havsgaard, he did nothing to protect them.

9 315. Manescu derided Mariana Constantin ("Constantin"), the regular social  
10 worker, for caring for the children and told her not to bother, since they all came  
11 from the streets and were "just garbage" anyway.

12 316. Manescu knew about Havsgaard's sexual abuse of children. Knowing  
13 that Havsgaard got away with it, Manescu felt emboldened to abuse children himself.  
14 Manescu primarily preyed on minor girls, either by groping their breasts, touching  
15 them in a lingering way, and pressuring them to have sex with him. He would force  
16 girls out of the homes and into a van, where he then sexually assaulted them.  
17 Mimicking Havsgaard, Manescu thereafter gave his victims extra privileges and/or  
18 gifts.

19 **B. Once Defendants Finally Close Harvest Homes, Its Children Have**  
20 **Nowhere to Go; Many Turn to Sex Work**

21 317. Under the joint leadership of Havsgaard and Manescu, with much of  
22 the shrinking money still coming from California being diverted to their personal  
23 use, the homes became even more dangerous. Food and heat were sporadic, and the  
24 danger of more abuse by Havsgaard was constant.

25 1. Havsgaard's Supervisors Leave Him Unchastened

26 318. Constantin, a social worker, inspected the Harvest Homes for the  
27 Romanian government between 2004 and 2005, among many other facilities on her  
28 roster. Her assignment was to check only for sufficient food and living conditions

1 and she did not have time to interview any children. In 2005, Harvest advertised a  
2 job for a resident teacher in the Buftea home, which she thought would be more  
3 interesting and a shorter commute, and got the job. Constantin was surprised because  
4 Havsgaard hired evangelical Christians only, and Constantin is Orthodox. She  
5 concluded that he thought her presence would reassure the next social worker who  
6 would not feel a need to look deeply into his operation.

7 319. Constantin says she “realized that something strange was definitely  
8 happening to the boys.” She asked Mama Tina, the cook, who said “don’t ask, bad  
9 things are happening” and started crying. Mama Tina told her that she had lots of  
10 children at home, so she had to keep her mouth shut or lose her job.

11 320. Constantin saw that Havsgaard had favorites and regularly took them  
12 away for one-on-one expeditions, after which the boys would come back subdued  
13 and not disclose where they had gone or what they had done. When she remonstrated  
14 with him and said the boys should be in school, he would say the boy in question  
15 needed some extra attention because he had had a bad day.

16 321. After she developed a good relationship with the boys, they told her  
17 that Havsgaard had ordered them not to talk about what they were doing, and that  
18 they were scared of being kicked out if they did.

19 322. Some boys ultimately confessed to her that Havsgaard was abusing  
20 them but told her not to tell anyone so they did not end up back on the street. She  
21 told them that together they could figure out a better path, but they were too scared.

22 323. Unable to get any direct confessions, Constantin looked for physical  
23 evidence like photos when she moved around the house but never found any. She  
24 came to feel impotent and guilty, and ultimately quit, convinced that Havsgaard was  
25 an active pedophile at the Harvest Homes.

26 324. Monique Smith, an American visitor who spent several months a year  
27 in the homes starting in 2002, noticed that as early as 2005, conditions had  
28 deteriorated significantly, particularly at the girls’ home in Dămăroaia.

1 325. The children did not have regular meals and were often fed bread  
2 sandwiches and cabbage.

3 326. There was no running hot water in the bathroom for at least a month,  
4 and the staff boiled water to mix with cold water to bathe.

5 327. As the money ran out, Harvest Riverside and Laurie made no provision  
6 for the children's further housing, safety, welfare or education.

7 328. When the Harvest Homes finally closed, Defendants dumped the  
8 children on the street and gave them no exit money, no plan, not even a number to  
9 call in an emergency.

10 329. Few had any education that would help them survive safely, let alone  
11 prosper; some were not even literate.

12 330. Many roamed the streets hungry, homeless, in despair and fear, and  
13 were routinely assaulted. Laurie and Harvest abandoned them.

14 331. Having learned from Havsgaard that the route to survival was to sell  
15 their bodies to him and others, many turned to sex work.

16 **VI. AFTER HARVEST HOMES CLOSE, PLAINTIFF STRUGGLES WHILE**  
17 **DEFENDANTS THRIVE**

18 **A. Plaintiff's Present Circumstances**

19 332. Adrian has struggled since his experiences at Harvest Homes. He is  
20 constantly scared, and easily frightened. He is afraid of the dark and suffers from  
21 low self-confidence. He feels alienated from others due to the abuse he has suffered  
22 and finds it difficult to create meaningful relationships, although he now has a  
23 girlfriend and two children.

24 333. Due to Havsgaard's scheme to persistently assault and terrorize him and  
25 other children, Adrian suffers from moderately severe, Post-Traumatic Stress  
26 Disorder, anxiety, depression, flashbacks, nightmares, daily shame, guilt, and  
27 hypervigilance. Adrian has not yet been able to travel to a country where he could  
28 be examined by a neuroscience professional, but his behaviors and apparent

1 cognitive difficulties indicate he has suffered frontal lobe damage due to his  
2 exposure to severe violence, trauma and sexual abuse.

3 *Figure 14: George-Adrian Vasile, 2025*



15  
16 334. Also because of Defendants' scheme to abuse the Romanian children,  
17 Adrian has remained in abject poverty his entire adult life. He has not been able to  
18 stay durably employed or sober and has been intermittently homeless throughout his  
19 adulthood.

20 335. After Adrian ran away from the Harvest Homes, he struggled. He often  
21 resorted to stealing food and valuables to survive. He has been arrested and  
22 imprisoned several times.

23 336. Adrian started using heroin after he ran away from the Harvest Homes,  
24 partly as a way to numb his memories of the abuse. He has used other drugs too. He  
25 has managed to stay sober for the last three years.

**B. Havsgaard Has Continued His Ministry, Protected and Even Praised by Laurie**

337. The cover-up strategy chosen by Laurie and Harvest Riverside involved turning down their fundraising featuring Romanian homeless children slowly so people in California would not see any abrupt change of direction and would continue to donate, while also slowly shutting off the money spigot to Bucharest, causing the Harvest Homes to slowly wither and finally die for lack of funds.

338. That process of quiet extrication, delicately orchestrated by Defendants, took four more years, until 2008, during which Havsgaard remained in charge and licensed by Laurie to sexually abuse scores of children thousands of more times.

339. Laurie gave Havsgaard a substantial gift in a series of severance payments totaling approximately \$200,000.

340. When the homes did close, Havsgaard returned to the United States with an unblemished record and no restrictions, a noble missionary coming home.

341. In 2009—a year after the closure of the Harvest Homes and five years after the Schutte mission had found evidence of Havsgaard’s theft and industrial-grade pedophilia—Laurie praised Havsgaard publicly. Laurie described Havsgaard as “a pastor who faithfully served the Lord for many years at Harvest Christian Fellowship, the church where I pastor,” and compared his work in Romania to that of Moses with the Israelites, because his “life demonstrates the power that just one godly person can have.”<sup>7</sup>

342. Havsgaard was permitted to take up duties in the Calvary Chapel network.

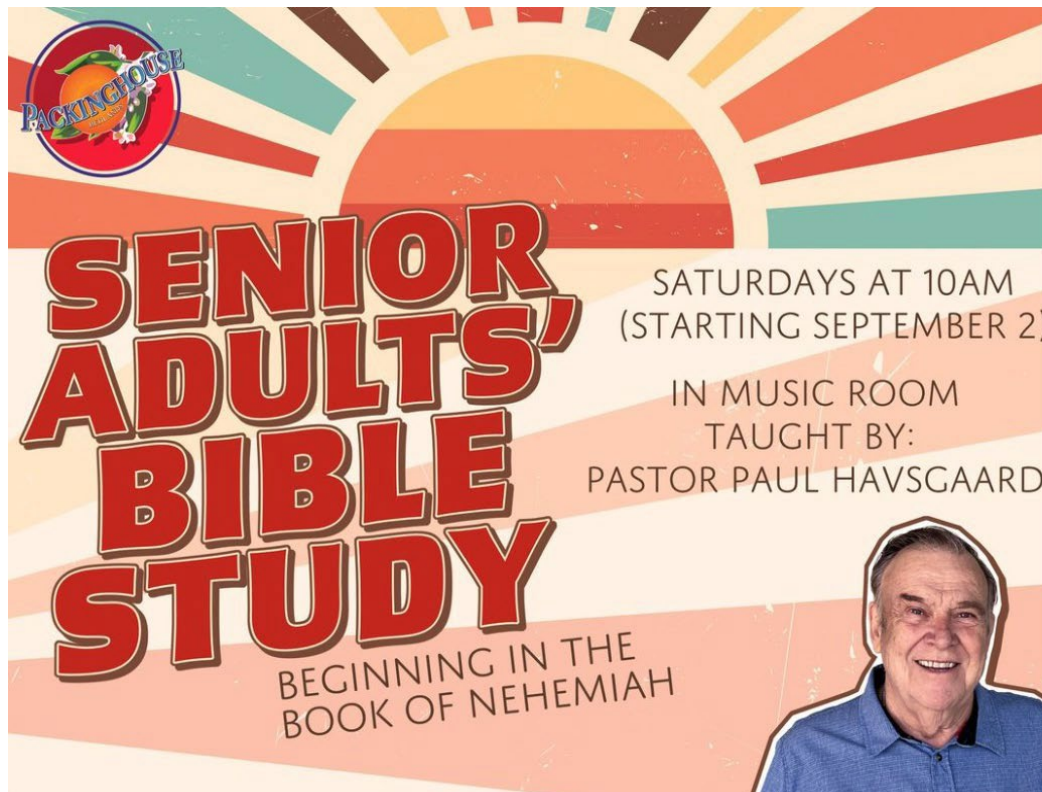
343. Laurie, Schutte and Harvest Riverside did not warn any of these churches about Havsgaard’s compulsive pedophilia and violence.

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<sup>7</sup> Laurie, *supra*.

1 344. Throughout his post-Bucharest pastoral work in California, Havsgaard  
2 has continued to have unsupervised access to children.

3 *Figure 15: Ad in a Packinghouse Facebook post showing Havsgaard as*  
4 *a respected religious figure in circles close to Harvest Riverside,*  
5 *August 17, 2023*



19 345. In 2012, Havsgaard became Pastor at Calvary the Cross in Riverside, a  
20 15-minute drive from Laurie's office at Harvest Christian Fellowship.

21 346. On September 2, 2023, Havsgaard led a senior adults' Bible study at  
22 the Packinghouse Christian Fellowship, run by Probert.

23 347. Havsgaard has periodically visited Tijuana, Mexico with Robert  
24 Probert, like him one of the original incorporators of Calvary Chapel Riverside, the  
25 precursor to Harvest Riverside. The declared mission of these trips is to minister to  
26 poor people. Tijuana, like Bucharest, has one of the highest rates of child trafficking  
27 and child prostitution in the world.  
28

1 348. As recently as September 23, 2025, Havsgaard advertised himself on  
2 LinkedIn as “Open to Work” as a bereavement counselor.

3 349. Havsgaard now leads a quiet life in retirement close to Riverside,  
4 spending hours a day online. Topics in which Havsgaard has expressed public online  
5 interest in the past two years include: “Feeling awkward after his last Google search  
6 on his phone and how to delete it,” “Removing his personal information from Google  
7 searches,” “How to screen record someone with an Android phone,” “Banks  
8 watching him move large sums of money in his bank account,” “How to quickly  
9 remove your browsing history with a short keystroke,” “Wiping data from phones  
10 and computers before selling them,” “Deleting his Google drive cache,” and  
11 “Converting VHS tapes to digital.” The collection of pornography Havsgaard  
12 showed to children in Bucharest was on VHS, as were the tapes used in the cameras  
13 set up in the attic rooms where he had sex with children.

14 350. Other topics he searched include “The deep cost of his sin” and “Can  
15 we forgive when an offender won’t repent?”

16 351. In 2014, Havsgaard married Susan Marlowe. Between them they have  
17 at least ten grandchildren. They moved to Forest Falls, California, where  
18 Havsgaard’s office is located in a remote section of the house alongside the guest  
19 bedroom where the grandchildren stay. Laurie did not warn Marlowe about  
20 Havsgaard’s history of prolific bullying and sexual abuse.

21 **C. Harvest Riverside Flourishes**

22 352. In the years since the cover-up, Harvest Riverside has flourished. Its  
23 estimated annual revenues are at least \$52 million, generating at least \$13 million in  
24 free cash flow. Harvest Riverside and Laurie together own and lease properties  
25 conservatively valued at over \$100 million, including a 30-acre campus in Riverside,  
26 and luxury homes in California and Hawaii. Laurie has written over 70 books, has a  
27 television show and highly successful podcast. Laurie’s national prominence only  
28 continues to increase.

1 **VII. CONCLUSION**

2 353. Plaintiff and many others came to the Harvest Homes as discarded,  
3 deprived children seeking dignity and stability. They were promised care and  
4 compassion, but were sexually, physically and emotionally abused over many years,  
5 then dumped back out onto the streets. Nearly 20 years later, it is time for their  
6 suffering to end.

7 354. Children spent an average of 6.5 years in the Harvest Homes.  
8 Havsgaard was able to keep them there so long because, as he cynically calculated,  
9 they were desperate to stay off the streets, would not want to make waves, and  
10 anyway no one would take their word over his if they did complain.

11 355. Worst of all, Havsgaard's cynicism was precisely right. Certainly his  
12 prediction that no one would do much to stop him accurately describes the other  
13 Defendants.

14 356. Laurie sent Havsgaard to Romania, chose him to run Harvest  
15 Riverside's mission there, and thereafter acted as if he and Harvest Riverside had  
16 nothing to do with the Harvest Homes they set up—no regular inspections, no  
17 policies, no staff training, no safeguarding protocols, no following up when  
18 disturbing stories got back to California—no effective supervision as Havsgaard  
19 energetically abused scores of children. Yet Harvest Riverside, Laurie, and Schutte  
20 happily reaped praise and donations as they refused to see the grim reality of their  
21 Romanian outpost.

22 357. When Laurie finally had to send an inspection team in 2004 headed by  
23 Schutte to dig into the details after receiving dreadful reports that could not be  
24 ignored, Schutte came back with conclusive proof that Havsgaard was an active  
25 pedophile presiding over bedlam.

26 358. Even then, Laurie did nothing to help the children. Instead he let  
27 Havsgaard remain in control for another four years of inflicting sexual abuse on the  
28

1 powerless, and then welcomed him back to a life of comfort and esteem in California  
2 with a generous gift of severance payments and public praise.

3 359. In 2018, after reports of sexual misconduct by other senior Calvary  
4 ministers became widely reported, Laurie said:

5 It is a great disappointment to me when a pastor fails. A pastor needs to be  
6 a good example. He is a spiritual leader. People expect pastors to live  
7 morally and to be honest. That is a realistic expectation. They expect it of  
8 Christians, certainly they have that expectation of a Christian leader.

9 360. One might expect Laurie's commendable determination to live morally  
10 and honestly to be reflected in his stance toward the terrible results of Defendants'  
11 misadventures in Romania, but so far that has not been evident.

12 361. Havsgaard is an unrepentant lawbreaker, but he has ample company in  
13 the ugly saga of the Harvest Homes. Laurie, Schutte and Harvest Christian  
14 Fellowship also continue to deny and cover up the suffering they have caused  
15 Plaintiff and his colleagues for the last two decades. They knowingly created the  
16 conditions that posed a substantial risk of child sexual abuse, let it run unchecked  
17 for years, and then, once the dreadful consequences could no longer be ignored,  
18 conspired to cover up those crimes.

19 362. Defendants are properly subject to the power of the State of California  
20 and United States to punish this long record of misconduct, and to the power of the  
21 public to abhor it. Plaintiff thus turns to this Court for redress.

22  
23  
24 *(This space is left intentionally blank)*  
25  
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27  
28

1 **CLAIMS FOR RELIEF**

2  
3 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

4 **NEGLIGENCE**

5 ***Against Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte***

6 ***GENERAL NEGLIGENCE***

7 363. Plaintiff restates the allegations set forth in the preceding paragraphs.

8 364. The conduct and actions of Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte  
9 created an environment in which Havsgaard for decades abused minor children,  
10 including Plaintiff, who was a minor at the time of Havsgaard's sexual assaults.

11 365. Harvest Riverside, Laurie, and Schutte were in a special relationship  
12 with Plaintiff. Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte created, funded, and controlled,  
13 set policy, and were responsible for all aspects of managing the Harvest Homes.  
14 Harvest Riverside voluntarily took Plaintiff into the Harvest Homes and agreed to  
15 care for and provide for Plaintiff who was a child under the age of 18.

16 366. At all material times, Plaintiff was a resident of Harvest Homes in the  
17 custody and care of Defendants.

18 367. Prior to the last time Plaintiff was sexually abused by Havsgaard,  
19 Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte were aware and/or on notice of Havsgaard's  
20 sexual misconduct with minors. By performing the acts alleged herein, it was or  
21 should have been reasonably foreseeable to Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte  
22 that by continuously exposing and making Plaintiff available to Havsgaard, they  
23 created a risk of harm to Plaintiff and made Plaintiff's position worse.

24 368. Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte allowed and empowered  
25 Havsgaard to represent himself as their employee and/or agent when he recruited  
26 Plaintiff and other children, which gave Plaintiff an expectation and right to be  
27 protected by Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte.

1           369. Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte assumed responsibility for the  
2 safety of Plaintiff whose parents were not present while Plaintiff was a resident of  
3 Harvest Homes.

4           370. At all material times, Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte were able  
5 to control Havsgaard's conduct related to his custody and care of Plaintiff and other  
6 child residents of the Harvest Homes.

7           371. At all material times, Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte owed  
8 Plaintiff a duty of reasonable care to protect him from foreseeable injury and abuse  
9 while Plaintiff resided within the Harvest Homes in Havsgaard's custody and care,  
10 and while Plaintiff relied upon the assurance of Harvest Riverside, Laurie and  
11 Schutte of safety and protection.

12           372. Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte breached their duties by failing  
13 to take any reasonable steps or implement any reasonable safeguards for Plaintiff's  
14 protection.

15           373. Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte breached their duties to Plaintiff  
16 by putting Havsgaard, a man with an extensive history of child sexual abuse they  
17 knew or should have known of, in charge of children's homes; locating those homes  
18 in a country known to attract pedophiles and have weak and corrupt governmental  
19 institutions; not regularly inspecting the homes; not regularly checking with staff at  
20 the homes about conditions there; not instituting regular training for staff about  
21 recognizing and reporting child abuse; not having any safeguarding policies or  
22 guardrails in place; instituting lax financial controls such that Havsgaard was easily  
23 able to divert funds into purchases for his sexual favorites and hush money for  
24 employees; ignoring reports from credible sources that Havsgaard was an active  
25 pedophile taking advantage of children at the homes; after receiving further and  
26 conclusive proof of Havsgaard's pedophilia in 2004, leaving him in charge without  
27 any reduction in his powers or changes in the way the homes were run or supervised;  
28 not reporting Havsgaard to the authorities in California or Romania; continuing to

1 praise Havsgaard in public despite knowing him to be a pedophile; not trying to  
2 identify Havsgaard's victims or help them recover.

3 374. At all material times, Laurie and Schutte personally participated in,  
4 authorized, directed the wrongful action and inaction by Harvest Riverside and its  
5 authorized agents in breach of Defendants' duty of reasonable care.

6 375. At all material times, Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte were guilty  
7 of oppression, fraud, and/or malice insomuch as they, individually or collectively,  
8 acted with intent or willful and conscious disregard for the rights or safety of  
9 Plaintiff, subjecting Plaintiff to cruel and unjust hardship under the circumstances.

10 376. As a direct, foreseeable and proximate cause of Harvest Riverside's,  
11 Laurie's and Schutte's breach of their respective duties of reasonable care, Plaintiff  
12 suffered compensable injuries, including physical and emotional injuries as set forth  
13 herein.

14 *NEGLIGENCE PER SE*

15 377. Plaintiff restates the allegations set forth in the preceding paragraphs.

16 378. In or around 1999 and continuing thereafter, while Plaintiff was a  
17 resident in the care of Havsgaard in the Harvest Homes, Harvest Riverside, Laurie  
18 and Schutte and their employees and agents received complaints in their professional  
19 capacity and within the scope of their employment that minimally raised a  
20 reasonable suspicion that Havsgaard was engaging in sexually inappropriate and  
21 abusive conduct with Plaintiff.

22 379. At all material times, Plaintiff was a minor under the age of 18 years  
23 old.

24 380. At all material times, Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte and their  
25 employees and agents were mandated reporters within the meaning of Cal. Pen.  
26 Code § 11165.7.

27 381. By statute, each of Laurie and Schutte and the employees and agents of  
28 Harvest Riverside had a duty to present to appropriate authorities the reports of

1 suspected child abuse, neglect, and sexual abuse Plaintiff suffered while in the care  
2 of the Harvest Homes.

3 382. At no material time did Laurie, Schutte or the agents or employees of  
4 Harvest Riverside report their reasonable suspicions of Havsgaard's sexual abuse of  
5 Plaintiff to appropriate authorities.

6 383. The failure to report Havsgaard's sexual abuse as required by statute  
7 constitutes negligence per se.

8 384. At all material times, Defendants were guilty of oppression, fraud,  
9 and/or malice insomuch as they, individually or collectively, acted with intent or  
10 willful and conscious disregard for the rights or safety of Plaintiff, subjecting  
11 Plaintiff to cruel and unjust hardship under the circumstances.

12 385. As a direct and proximate cause of the failure to report Havsgaard's  
13 sexual abuse of the Plaintiff, Plaintiff continued to suffer sexual, physical, and  
14 emotional abuse by Havsgaard while Plaintiff remained in the care of the Harvest  
15 Homes, resulting in the injuries and damages individually set forth herein.

16 *NEGLIGENT INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS*

17 386. Plaintiff restates the allegations set forth in the preceding paragraphs.

18 387. Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte negligently failed to deal with  
19 Plaintiff in good faith including, but not limited to, by engaging in outrageous  
20 conduct by unreasonably, maliciously, oppressively failing to remove Havsgaard  
21 from his position and from access to children even after discovering that he was  
22 sexually abusing Plaintiff and other children.

23 388. As a result of the actions and inaction of Harvest Riverside, Laurie and  
24 Schutte, Plaintiff suffered severe emotional distress of such substantial and enduring  
25 quality that no reasonable person in a civilized society can be expected to endure it.

26 389. Plaintiff has suffered from serious emotional distress including but not  
27 limited to nightmares, depression, PTSD, and suicidal thoughts.  
28

1       390. The negligent failure by Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte to deal  
2 with Plaintiff in good faith was a substantial factor in causing Plaintiff's severe  
3 emotional distress.

4       391. As a result, Plaintiff has suffered damages as set forth in this complaint.

5                   **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

6                   **NEGLIGENT SUPERVISION**

7                   ***Against Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte***

8       392. Plaintiff restates the allegations in the preceding paragraphs.

9       393. At all material times, Havsgaard was an employee and/or agent of  
10 Harvest Riverside.

11       394. At all material times, Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte owed  
12 Plaintiff a legal duty to reasonably and adequately supervise the employees and  
13 agents selected and entrusted to run the Harvest Homes in Romania.

14       395. By their action and inaction, Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte  
15 breached their duties of reasonable and adequate supervision when they failed,  
16 despite known and foreseeable risks of sexual abuse in the Harvest Homes, to  
17 regularly inspect the homes; to regularly check with staff at the homes about  
18 conditions there; to institute safeguarding policies or mechanisms; to educate, train,  
19 or warn potential victims of Havsgaard and their parents; to institute proper financial  
20 controls to keep Havsgaard from readily diverting funds into purchases for his sexual  
21 favorites and hush money for employees and others who might report his illegal acts;  
22 to act on reports from credible sources that Havsgaard was an active pedophile taking  
23 advantage of children at the homes after receiving conclusive proof of his pedophilia  
24 and theft, to recall Havsgaard or change the way the homes were run and inspected;  
25 and to timely report him to authorities in California or Romania.

26       396. At all material times, Laurie and Schutte personally participated in,  
27 authorized, or directed the wrongful action and inaction by Harvest Christian  
28

1 Fellowship and its authorized agents in breach of Harvest Riverside's, Laurie's and  
2 Schutte's duty of reasonable and adequate supervision.

3 397. At all material times, Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte were guilty  
4 of oppression, fraud, and/or malice insomuch as they, individually or collectively,  
5 acted with intent or willful and conscious disregard for the rights or safety of  
6 Plaintiff, subjecting Plaintiff to cruel and unjust hardship under the circumstances.

7 398. The failure of Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte to reasonably and  
8 adequately supervise Havsgaard and other employees and agents in Harvest Homes  
9 was a direct, proximate, and substantial factor in causing Plaintiff to suffer  
10 compensable injuries, including physical and emotional injuries as set forth herein.

### 11 **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**

#### 12 **NEGLIGENT RETENTION**

#### 13 ***Against Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte***

14 399. Plaintiff restates the allegations in the preceding paragraphs.

15 400. At all material times, Havsgaard was an employee and/or agent of  
16 Harvest Riverside.

17 401. At all material times, Laurie and Schutte had the authority to control  
18 the terms and conditions of Havsgaard's employment with Harvest Riverside,  
19 including the authority to terminate his employment.

20 402. During his employment with Harvest Riverside, Havsgaard was or  
21 became unfit or incompetent to perform the work for which he was hired.

22 403. During his employment with Harvest Riverside, Havsgaard's unfitness  
23 and/or incompetence created a particular risk to others, including Plaintiff.

24 404. Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte knew or should have known  
25 Havsgaard was or became unfit and/or incompetent to perform the work for which  
26 he was hired because of the particularized risk to others.

27 405. Despite actual or constructive knowledge of Havsgaard's unfitness to  
28 perform the work for which he was hired, Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte

1 failed to take appropriate remedial action to terminate Havsgaard or otherwise alter  
2 the terms and conditions of his employment to address Havsgaard's particularized  
3 risk of harm to Plaintiff.

4 406. Havsgaard's unfitness and/or incompetence harmed Plaintiff.

5 407. The negligence of Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte in retaining  
6 Havsgaard despite actual and constructive notice of Havsgaard's unfitness and/or  
7 incompetence was a direct, proximate, and substantial factor in causing Plaintiff's  
8 harm.

9 408. At all material times, Laurie and Schutte personally participated in,  
10 authorized, or directed the wrongful action and inaction by Harvest Riverside and its  
11 authorized agents in breach of the duty of Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte not  
12 to retain an unfit person.

13 409. At all material times, Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte were guilty  
14 of oppression, fraud, and/or malice inasmuch as they, individually or collectively,  
15 acted with intent or willful and conscious disregard for the rights or safety of  
16 Plaintiff, subjecting Plaintiff to cruel and unjust hardship under the circumstances.

17 410. The failure of Harvest Riverside, Laurie and Schutte to reasonably and  
18 adequately supervise Havsgaard and other employees and agents in the Harvest  
19 Homes was a direct, proximate, and substantial factor in causing Plaintiff to suffer  
20 compensable injuries, including physical and emotional injuries as set forth herein.

#### 21 **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

#### 22 **INTENTIONAL INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS**

#### 23 ***Against Harvest Riverside, Laurie, and Schutte***

24 411. Plaintiff restates the allegations in the preceding paragraphs.

25 412. By their actions and inaction, Defendants engaged in outrageous  
26 conduct that is so extreme as to exceed all bounds of decency in a civilized society.

27 413. By their actions and inaction, Defendants acted knowingly and  
28 willingly with the intent or with reckless disregard of the probability of causing

1 emotional distress despite actual and constructive knowledge of Plaintiff's peculiar  
2 susceptibility to emotional distress due to his young age, unstable living conditions,  
3 and previous sexual and emotional abuse by Havsgaard.

4 414. As a result of the actions and inaction of Defendants, individually or  
5 collectively, Plaintiff suffered severe emotional distress of such substantial and  
6 enduring quality that no reasonable person in a civilized society can be expected to  
7 endure it.

8 415. The actions and inaction of Defendants were the direct and proximate  
9 cause of Plaintiff's severe emotional distress.

10 416. At all material times, Laurie personally participated in, authorized, or  
11 directed the wrongful and outrageous action and inaction by Harvest Riverside and  
12 its authorized agents which resulted in Plaintiff's damages.

13 417. At all material times, Defendants were guilty of oppression, fraud,  
14 and/or malice insomuch as they, individually or collectively, acted with intent or  
15 willful and conscious disregard for the rights or safety of the Plaintiff, subjecting  
16 him to cruel and unjust hardship under the circumstances.

17 418. As a result, Plaintiff has suffered damages as set forth in this complaint.

18 **FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

19 **CIVIL CONSPIRACY IN VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA LAW**

20 ***Against Harvest Riverside, Havsgaard, Laurie and Schutte***

21 419. Plaintiff restates the allegations in the preceding paragraphs.

22 420. Defendants conspired with others both known and unknown, and  
23 continue to conspire, to commit intentional infliction of emotional distress, sexual  
24 battery, negligence, negligence per se, negligent infliction of emotional distress,  
25 negligent supervision, negligent retention, and sex trafficking offenses, and to cover  
26 up those offenses and the conspiracy.

27 421. Defendants formed a group of two or more persons who conspired and  
28 agreed to a common plan or design to commit tortious acts, including intentional

1 infliction of emotional distress, sexual battery, negligence, negligence per se,  
2 negligent infliction of emotional distress, negligent supervision, negligent retention,  
3 and sex trafficking.

4 422. Defendants formed the conspiracy on an unknown date no later than  
5 1999, when Cojocnean, working as agent of Harvest Riverside, learned from Roman,  
6 the Harvest Homes and Local Foundation Finance Director, that Roman had  
7 evidence of Havsgaard's pedophilia, and reported this to officials at Harvest  
8 Riverside.

9 423. Defendants had actual knowledge that tortious acts including  
10 intentional infliction of emotional distress, sexual battery, negligence, negligence  
11 per se, negligent infliction of emotional distress, negligent supervision, negligent  
12 retention, and sex trafficking were planned by the co-conspirators and concurred and  
13 participated in the tortious scheme with knowledge of its unlawful purpose.

14 424. Defendants intended to aid their co-conspirators in the commission of  
15 the planned tortious acts, including intentional infliction of emotional distress,  
16 sexual battery, negligence, negligence per se, negligent infliction of emotional  
17 distress, negligent supervision, negligent retention, and sex trafficking.

18 425. Defendants committed numerous wrongful acts, including intentional  
19 infliction of emotional distress, battery, negligence, negligence per se, negligent  
20 infliction of emotional distress, negligent supervision, negligent retention, and sex  
21 trafficking against Plaintiff in the State of California pursuant to their agreement  
22 with their co-conspirators.

23 426. Defendants committed overt acts in California in support of the  
24 conspiracy that included, among others, the following:

- 25 a. Continuously funding Havsgaard and the Romanian homes after  
26 receiving notice of Havsgaard's sexual battery of minors,  
27 including Plaintiff;  
28

- b. Assisting in and facilitating fundraising for Havsgaard's activities in Romania;
- c. Failing to institute financial procedures or checks to curb Havsgaard's misuse of Harvest Riverside funds to serve his sexual predation of minors;
- d. Failing to institute routine inspections, safeguarding policies or guardrails at the Harvest Homes;
- e. Leaving Havsgaard in post after receiving notice of his sexual battery of minors, including Plaintiff; and
- f. Failing to report Havsgaard's sexual battery of minors to appropriate authorities.

427. Even after concluding Havsgaard was a pedophile, Defendants paid Havsgaard \$200,000 and kept quiet about his history of assaults, leaving him at the helm of the Harvest Homes to abuse existing residents and attract new ones for abuse.

428. Defendants' affirmative conduct in furtherance of the conspiracy was undertaken with the express and/or implied agreement or understanding that Laurie and Schutte and others would facilitate and/or enable the intentional infliction of emotional distress, sexual battery, negligence, negligence per se, negligent infliction of emotional distress, negligent supervision, negligent retention, and sex trafficking in order to enrich themselves and Harvest Riverside.

429. Plaintiff was damaged as a direct result of Defendants' agreement and actions in furtherance of the conspiracy.

430. Defendants' conduct has caused and continues to cause Plaintiff serious and permanent harm and damage.

**SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

**AIDING AND ABETTING**

***Against Laurie and Schutte***

431. Plaintiff restates the allegations in the preceding paragraphs.

432. In committing the acts alleged herein, Laurie and Schutte had actual knowledge of the torts of sexual battery, intentional infliction of emotional distress, and sex trafficking being committed by Havsgaard.

433. Through their action and inaction, Laurie and Schutte knowingly gave substantial assistance to Havsgaard's commission of sexual battery, intentional infliction of emotion distress and sex trafficking on Plaintiff.

434. As an actual and proximate cause of the wrongful and malicious acts of Laurie and Schutte, Plaintiff suffered physical, emotional, and psychological harms in an amount to be proven at trial.

**SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

**TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PROTECTION REAUTHORIZATION ACT**

**(“TVPPRA”), 18 U.S.C. §§1591(a) and 1595(a)**

***Against Havsgaard, Laurie, Schutte, and Harvest Riverside***

435. Plaintiff restates the allegations in the preceding paragraphs.

436. Defendants knowingly used the instrumentalities and channels of interstate and foreign commerce to facilitate violations of 18 U.S.C. § 1591(a)(1).

437. Havsgaard knowingly recruited, enticed, harbored, transported, provided, obtained, advertised, maintained, patronized, and/or solicited Plaintiff for the purpose of causing him to engage in commercial sex acts through force, fraud, or coercion in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1591(a).

438. Section 1591(a) applies extraterritorially to sex trafficking in Romania by virtue of 18 U.S.C. § 1596(a) because an alleged offender, Havsgaard, is a national of the United States.

1 439. Defendants' conduct caused Plaintiff serious and permanent harm,  
2 including, without limitation, physical, psychological, financial, and reputational  
3 harm, that is sufficiently serious, under all the surrounding circumstances, to compel  
4 a reasonable person of the same background and in the same circumstances to  
5 perform or to continue performing commercial sexual activity, in order to avoid  
6 incurring that harm. As a victim of sex trafficking in violation of 18 U.S.C. §  
7 1591(a), Plaintiff may bring a civil action against Havsgaard as a perpetrator and  
8 against Defendants as beneficiaries pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1595(a).

9 440. Laurie, Schutte, and Harvest Riverside knowingly benefited by  
10 receiving something of value from participation in a venture that they knew or should  
11 have known was engaging in sex trafficking in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1591(a).

12 441. As a result, Plaintiff has suffered damages as set forth in this complaint.

13 **EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

14 **ILLICIT SEXUAL CONDUCT IN FOREIGN PLACES IN VIOLATION OF**  
15 **18 U.S.C. §§ 2423(c) and 2255**

16 ***Against Havsgaard***

17 442. Plaintiff restates the allegations in the preceding paragraph.

18 443. In violation of 18 U.S.C § 2423(c), Havsgaard is a U.S. citizen who  
19 travelled to Romania and engaged in coerced sexual abuse of Plaintiff.

20 444. Havsgaard engaged in a commercial sex act with Plaintiff.

21 445. Plaintiff was a minor at the time of the events complained of herein.

22 446. As a direct result of Havsgaard's violations as described herein,  
23 Plaintiff has suffered and will continue to suffer from the psychological and  
24 economic damages as described above.

25 447. Plaintiff seeks remedies to which he is entitled under 18 U.S.C §  
26 2255(a) including actual damages and the costs associated with this suit, including  
27 a reasonable attorney's fee.  
28

**DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

448. Plaintiff hereby demands a jury trial in this action.

**PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff seeks a judgment against Defendants awarding the following relief:

- A. Damages in amounts to be established at trial, including without limitation, damages for past, present, and future emotional pain and suffering, ongoing and severe mental anguish and physical injuries, loss of past, present and future enjoyment of life, and past and future lost earnings and earning capacity, and out-of-pocket expenses, punitive damages and liquidated damages;
- B. Pre- and post-judgment interest;
- C. Attorney's fees;
- D. A fund administered by the Court to locate and compensate victims of Defendants yet unknown; and
- E. Such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

Dated: September 28, 2025

McALLISTER OLIVARIUS

By: /s/ Jan Cervenka

Jan Cervenka

*Attorneys for Plaintiff*