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## Ohio State Settles Claims Of Doctor's Abuse For \$100M

By **David Steele**

Law360 (June 4, 2026, 5:20 PM EDT) -- Nearly 300 former students accusing former Ohio State University sports doctor Richard Strauss of sexual abuse have settled their claims with the university for \$100 million, according to the school's Board of Trustees and the plaintiffs' attorneys.

The board voted on a resolution to ratify the settlement in principle at its public meeting on Wednesday, the university announced.

Strauss was the university's sports doctor from 1978 to 1998 and died by suicide in 2005. Ohio State University began investigating reports of Strauss' abuse in 2018, and the school has previously paid out \$61 million in settlements to 317 survivors.

The school still faces three **suits** in Ohio federal court related to claims of Strauss' abuse of athletes and other male students.

Four of the plaintiffs in one of the suits notified the court on Tuesday that they were jointly dropping their complaints with the university with a settlement in place. The other plaintiffs in that suit did not dismiss their claims, according to the order granting the dismissal. No notification on those plaintiffs or the ones in the other two suits had been posted to court dockets as of Thursday afternoon.

The university and the attorneys for the groups of plaintiffs issued a joint statement after the board ratified the deal.

"Ohio State and 279 of the 280 individual remaining Richard Strauss survivors involved in the pending litigation have reached settlements in principle in a total amount of \$100 million," the joint statement read. "The university's Board of Trustees has now publicly ratified these agreements in principle, and all parties thank the mediators for their assistance. The mediation and its confidentiality are continuing as the parties work to finalize the details of the settlements, and additional information will be shared as appropriate."

The plaintiffs are represented by attorneys at Emery Celli Brinckerhoff Abady Ward & Maazel LLP, Ratliff Law Office, The Law Office of Simina Vourlis, Sauder Schelkopf LLC, Sharp Law LLC, Karon LLC, Estey & Bomberger LLP and Public Justice PC.

Ohio State University is represented by Michael H. Carpenter, David J. Barthel, Jennifer A. L. Battle, Michael N. Beekhuizen and Timothy R. Bricker of Carpenter Lipps LLP.

The cases are Steve Snyder-Hill et al. v. The Ohio State University, case number 2:23-cv-02993, William Knight et al. v. The Ohio State University, case number 2:23-cv-02994, and Edward Gonzales v. The Ohio State University, case number 2:23-cv-03051, in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio.

--Editing by Nicole Bleier.