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Claimants in Sandusky case could number as high as 30

Some two dozen men who alleged they were abused by former Pennsylvania State University football coach Jerry Sandusky moved closer to settling personal-injury claims with the school.

Kenneth Feinberg, an attorney in Washington, D.C., hired by Penn State to facilitate the talks, said he delivered settlement demands from lawyers for about 25 men—out of roughly 30 in talks—to the university on Friday.

He declined to provide dollar amounts, but he said they were based on factors including the severity of alleged abuse and number of alleged incidents. "I'm cautiously optimistic that the process will continue and result in settlements," said Mr. Feinberg, who oversaw compensation to families of 9/11 victims among other high-profile cases. "That's the goal of everyone participating in the process."

Penn State spokesman David LaTorre declined to comment on negotiations. He said six civil suits have been filed against the university by alleged victims of Mr. Sandusky. Penn State has said settlements would be paid by the university's insurer. However, Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Association Insurance Co. is contesting in court whether it should have to pay any claims related to the case.

Mr. Sandusky was convicted in June of sexually abusing 10 boys over more than a decade and is serving a 30- to 60-year prison sentence. Since then, other men have come forward to say they were abused by him as boys, dating back as far as the 1970s. Mr. Sandusky's attorneys are planning a formal appeal.

"Negotiations are at a delicate and sensitive stage and best left to the parties involved," said attorney Tom Kline, who represents a man known as Victim 5, who testified during the criminal trial.