

## **Penn State begins settlement negotiations in Jerry Sandusky sex abuse scandal**

**University-hired attorney Ken Feinberg reportedly presented PSU officials with settlement demands but victims' attorneys are keeping a cautious outlook.**

Penn State's recovery from the Jerry Sandusky sex abuse scandal took a step forward Friday, when university-hired attorney Ken Feinberg reportedly presented PSU officials with settlement demands from numerous Sandusky victims.

Feinberg told The Associated Press that he and the other parties and their lawyers would now wait to hear from Penn State "in the next few weeks."

But while this phase of the case — the numerous civil claims — has been eagerly anticipated, some of the victims' attorneys were exercising a cautious outlook, and none would comment on the monetary figure being sought.

"We don't take issue with Penn State starting settlement negotiations," Marci Hamilton, a Benjamin Cardozo law professor who represents two Sandusky victims who did not testify during Sandusky's criminal trial last year, told the Daily News on Monday. "But our case is filed in court. We want to make sure that the real issues are addressed by Penn State. This is not just about money. For Jeff (Anderson, another attorney working with Hamilton) and I, there is a lot at stake. You can't rush justice. I expect Penn State to show some serious changes."

Sandusky, 69, was sentenced last fall to 30 to 60 years in prison after being found guilty of 45 counts of child sexual abuse. The long-time Penn State assistant football coach did not take the stand during his trial, while eight victims testified against him.

**Tom Kline, another attorney who represents the man known as Victim 5, told The News that it would not help this "delicate" phase of the case by speaking about the negotiation process.**

**"The confidential negotiations are at a delicate and sensitive stage and best (kept) private between various parties and PSU," Kline said. "Public statements at this particular point pertaining to demands and offers, in my view, do not advance Penn State's end game of settling the claims globally."**

And Mike Boni, who represents Victim 1, whose name is Aaron Fisher, told The AP that Feinberg had told him his client was "asking for too much."

"At the end of the day, I don't think we're all that far apart," Boni said.