



Larry Nassar victims to receive \$380 million in sex abuse settlement

By Ben Kessler

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Simone Biles testifies in Sept. against Larry Nassar, whose victims will receive \$380 million

USA Gymnastics and the U.S. Olympics committee agreed Monday to give \$380 million to victims of Larry Nassar's sex abuse, the Wall Street Journal reported.

Gold medalists like Simone Biles, Aly Raisman and McKayla Maroney will receive money in the settlement after it was revealed that team doctor Nassar had been repeatedly abusing gymnasts for decades.

Nassar, 58, a former Michigan State University and USA Gymnastics doctor, has been accused of sexual abuse under the guise of medical treatment by more than 260 women. He will rot in prison until death with sentences totaling hundreds of years for criminal sexual conduct and child pornography convictions.

Ending a five-year legal battle, the agreement is the largest ever for sex abuse victims, according to the WSJ, which said TIG Insurance Company will pay a majority of the sum.

Olympians Simone Biles, Aly Raisman and McKayla Maroney will receive payment in the settlement.

"We are pleased that these brave women are again recognized for coming forward and what they went through," **Jordan Merson** — who represents multiple victims in the bankruptcy case — told The Post.

USA Gymnastics filed for bankruptcy in 2018, unable to deal with the volume of lawsuits the organization was facing. Former gymnasts have since ripped the organization for being complicit in the abuse. The FBI also came under fire for its role in the investigation when the DOJ's inspector general found the bureau made mistakes that allowed Nassar to keep abusing dozens of girls before he was finally arrested.

"I believe without a doubt that the circumstances that led to my abuse and allowed it to continue are directly the result of the fact that the organizations created by Congress to oversee and protect me as an athlete, USA Gymnastics, and the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee, failed to do their jobs," Biles said, alleging the organizations knew what was going on and did nothing.

"After telling my entire story of abuse to the FBI in the summer of 2015, not only the FBI did not report my abuse, but when they eventually documented my report 17 months later, they made entirely false claims about what I said," Maroney said.

High-profile victims of Larry Nassar spoke about the way their abuse was ignored by USA Gymnastics and the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee.

Attorney Jamie White, who represents dozens of Nassar's victims, said the size of the settlement should set an example going forward.

"To the institutions that only care about maximizing profits while disregarding the human toll, we hope this sends a message: this is how much a cover-up costs," White said in a statement.

Victims also praised the non-monetary parts of the settlement, which include board seats designated to survivors and implementing more safeguards to protect athletes.

"For years we have been demanding change from these organizations that failed us, and the institutional reforms that are part of this settlement will help ensure this abuse does not happen to young athletes in the future," Tasha Schwikert Moser, a victim of Nassar's, said.

— Additional reporting by Priscilla DeGregory