



WOOLF, McCLANE, BRIGHT, ALLEN & CARPENTER, PLLC

— A T T O R N E Y S —

900 Riverview Tower | 900 S. Gay Street | Knoxville, TN 37902-1810

Mailing Address: Post Office Box 900 | Knoxville, TN 37901-0900

Phone: (865) 215-1000 | Fax: (865) 215-1001

www.wmbac.com

DALE C. ALLEN
J. NICHOLAS ARNING, JR.
HUGH B. BRIGHT, JR.
LUIS C. BUSTAMANTE
DAVID J. CANTRELL
W. KYLE CARPENTER
J. KEITH COATES, JR.
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KAITLIN F. TWEEL
ROBERT L. VANCE
LOUIS C. WOOLF (RETIRED)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 27, 2022

We are extremely disappointed that Premier Athletics Knoxville West (“Premier Knoxville”) was inaccurately implicated in a press conference regarding a lawsuit that was filed in Memphis, Tennessee. The lawsuit contains many inaccuracies and false statements about Premier Knoxville and its employee, Susan Traylor, which need to be cleared up.

First, the company that owns Premier Knoxville did not own any gyms until August 6, 2021. All of the allegations in the Complaint prior to that date do not pertain to Premier Knoxville’s current ownership.

Second, on June 26, 2022, Susan Traylor of Premier Knoxville was told by an athlete that he had received photographs from a coach, Nick Frizzell, that were inappropriate. No copies or screenshots of the photographs were provided to substantiate this claim, and this was the first time Ms. Traylor or Premier Knoxville had received reports about this alleged misconduct. Premier Knoxville promptly suspended Mr. Frizzell and immediately reported the athlete’s claim to local law enforcement as well as the USASF. Local law enforcement did not substantiate the complaint, nor did USASF. Premier Knoxville terminated Mr. Frizzell’s employment.

Third, on September 18, 2022, the Knoxville West location was informed by an athlete that a different athlete, whom we believe to be John Doe 1, had a “physical relationship” with Mr. Frizzell. John Doe 1 never reported this to Premier Knoxville, nor did his mother or any of his representatives. Premier Knoxville immediately reported this new claim to local law enforcement and also filed a report with USASF that same day. After reporting the matter to law enforcement Premier Knoxville did not have any contact with the alleged victim or his family so as not to be falsely accused of interfering with law enforcement’s investigation.

All of these law enforcement and USASF filings are available through the Freedom of Information Act and we encourage media to request these documents.

One thing that is accurate in the lawsuit filed is the admission that John Doe 2 never told Premier Knoxville of his allegations. The majority of those allegations occurred from 2018 through 2021, prior to the current owner purchasing Premier Knoxville.

The health and safety of athletes that train at its facilities is extremely important to Premier Knoxville. Premier Knoxville has taken all of the appropriate and required steps based on the reports it received and it will continue to protect the health and safety of its athletes.

For further information contact attorney Chad Hatmaker at chatmaker@wmbac.com.