

Statement by Mark Foley's attorney, David Roth

October 3, 2006

Mark explicitly reaffirms his acceptance of responsibility and remorse. He reiterates unequivocally that he has never had sexual contact with a minor. Mark voluntarily entered a substance abuse and mental health facility on Sunday at approximately midnight Sunday Eastern Time.

I was there and he will be there for at least 30 days. This decision was Mark's. As was his decision to resign from the United States House of Representatives. This was a life decision not a tactical one made by others.

Mark does not blame the trauma he sustained as a young adolescent for his totally inappropriate emails and IMs. He continues to offer no excuse whatsoever for his conduct.

As is so often the case with victims of abuse, Mark advises that he kept his shame to himself for almost 40 years.

Specifically Mark has asked that you be told that between the ages of 13 and 15 he was molested by a clergyman.

Mark will address this issue further upon his release from treatment.

He very much wanted to release the name of the individual, the church affiliation and other details but was advised by civil counsel to delay that decision pending his completion of treatment after Mark has had an opportunity to consult with him.

Mark has also asked me on his behalf to thank the literally thousands of ordinary citizens as well as friends and others who have conveyed their prayers, love and best wishes to him.

Finally, Mark Foley wants you to know that he is a gay man.