

alleges 1970s sex abuse in lawsuit



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A former Boy Scout has filed a lawsuit claiming he was abused in the 1970s by a Scout leader for his Columbia Heights troop.

John Doe 157's lawsuit, filed Monday in Ramsey County District Court, accuses the Boy Scouts of America and its local chapter, the Northern Star Council, of negligence for failing to adequately supervise the troop leader.

According to the lawsuit, John Doe 157, now 53, was abused by troop leader Wallace Schrade between 1974 and 1979, when he was 11 to 16 years old.

He claims the abuse occurred at the Columbia Heights church where Troop 162 met, as well as Schrade's house and several Scout campsites in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Schrade, reached by phone Monday, said it was the first he'd heard of the claims and the first time anyone had ever accused him.