



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

WESTPORT WESTON FAMILY YMCA

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MEDIA STATEMENT

We were deeply dismayed and disturbed to recently learn of the arrest of Brian Myers, a now-former staff member, who has been charged with possession of child pornography. When we learned of his arrest, we immediately terminated his employment. At this stage of the investigation, we have no reason to believe that any of the alleged pornography involved members or participants of our Y. We will continue to support the Westport police department in its investigation.

At the Westport Weston Family YMCA (WWFY), the safety and well-being of children in our care always has been and always will be a top priority. We are committed to providing a safe environment to every person who enters our doors—most importantly children who are entrusted to our care. We have a series of measures in place to keep kids safe. Currently, the WWFY:

- Conducts daily National Sex Offender Registry (BIB) checks on all staff;
- Conducts a State & County Criminal Record Checks (felony and misdemeanor), Social Security verification and National Sex Offender Registry (BIB) for all newly hired employees;
- Conducts daily screenings of all members against the National Sex Offender Registry (BIB);
- Conducts detailed interviews prior to hiring;
- Conducts a minimum of three reference checks for all applicants;
- Requires all staff to complete training on preventing, recognizing and responding to abuse;
- Prohibits staff from being alone with a child where they cannot be observed by others;
- Restricts staff contact with children outside of YMCA programs;
- Has a policy in place forbidding/limiting electronic communication between staff and youth
- Reports any allegations or suspicions of abuse to the proper authorities in accordance with Connecticut law;
- follows/exceeds local licensing requirements for supervision ratios of staff to children;

The WWFY takes pride in providing safe places for children to grow in skills and self-confidence.

Any further questions about the investigation and arrest should be directed to Lt. Eric Woods, Westport PD at ewoods@westportct.gov and at 203-341-6009.