

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
OFFICE OF THE FIRST PRESIDENCY
47 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE STREET, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84150-1200

May 28, 2013

To: General Authorities and the following leaders in the United States: Area Seventies;
Stake, District, and Mission Presidents; Bishops and Branch Presidents; and Stake and
Ward Auxiliary Leaders

(To be read in sacrament meeting)

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Church Relationship with the Boy Scouts of America

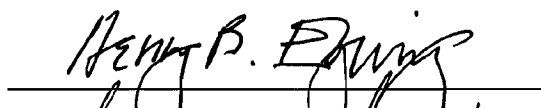
For 100 years, the Church has enjoyed a strong, rewarding relationship with the Boy Scouts of America. We are thankful for Scouting's emphasis on duty to God and moral behavior and its positive influence in the lives of boys and young men. The Church will move forward in its association with Boy Scouts of America, with a focus on strengthening young men in their role as bearers of the Aaronic Priesthood.

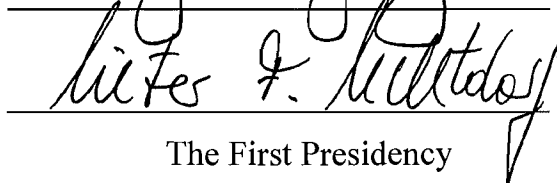
We reaffirm the Church's established policy for its activities—including Church-sponsored Scouting activities: "young men . . . who agree to abide by Church standards" are "welcomed warmly and encouraged to participate" (*Handbook 2: Administering the Church* [2010], 8.17.3). These standards are outlined in *For the Strength of Youth* and include willingness to abstain from sexual relationships outside of marriage. The Church remains committed to these standards and to protecting and strengthening boys and young men.

Leaders of Church-sponsored Scout units are encouraged to continue to plan and hold activities that help young men strengthen relationships with their families, develop moral character, and fulfill their duty to God.

Sincerely yours,


Thomas S. Monson


Henry B. Eyring


Dieter F. Uchtdorf

The First Presidency

This letter is being distributed in English only in the United States. If leaders need it in other languages, they may contact the member of the Presidency of the Seventy who supervises the area. Area leaders can forward requests to Church headquarters (1-801-240-2933).

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