

Nebraska but lives in Kansas, was elected national commander of the 2.4 million member American Legion last August in Charlotte, North Carolina, during the 96th national convention of America's largest veterans' organization, David said in a released statement.

He serves as the chief executive officer and official spokesman of the American Legion, with full power to enforce provisions of the organization's constitution, bylaws and resolutions, according to David.

A U.S. Army veteran during the Vietnam War, Helm served with the 82nd Airborne Divi-



National Commander Michael Helm

During his service as chairman of the veterans affairs and rehabilitation commission, he chaired the System Worth Saving Task Force, a team of dedicated and knowledgeable volunteers, providing in-depth and up-to-date analysis of the status of VA health care to Congress and to veterans advocates nationwide.

Helm also served as a member of the Veterans Planning and Coordination Committee and of The American Legion Ad Hoc Committee studying the Military and Veterans Affairs response to traumatic brain injury and post traumatic stress disorder.

At the local and state levels,

active in the American Legion Auxillary, having served as District 9 president and as the Department Junior Activities chairwoman.

Helm and his wife are the proud parents of five legion family members: Aaron and his wife, Robie, both graduates of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y.; Rebecca and her husband, Jaron Cox, both graduates of Kansas State University; Jacob, a senior cadet at the U.S. Air Force Academy; Matthew, an Army ROTC cadet at Kansas State University and Timothy, a student at Decatur Community High School in Oberlin, Kansas.

EPSTEIN:

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sponsored by Epstein. Reportedly he and several other scientists were invited to the event, which included a trip to Epstein's island. Court documents also mention Little St. James as being part of the Virgin Islands.

According to those documents, filed in a federal court in Palm Beach, Florida, a woman said she was "forced to have sexual relations with... Prince (Andrew) when she was a minor in London at Ghislaine Maxwell's apartment, in New York, and on Epstein's private island in the U.S. Virgin Islands in an orgy with numerous other under-aged girls."

The court documents also noted that Epstein "persuaded, the alleged victim, then 15, with the assistance of (Ghislaine) Maxwell, converted her into a sex slave."

Maxwell is said to be the daughter of the late media mogul Robert Maxwell.

The documents allege that Epstein abused the woman,

when she was a girl between 1999 to 2002 on his private jets, in the Virgin Islands, New York, New Mexico, and in international airspace.

The scandal meanwhile is also getting increased attention in London media, forcing Buckingham Palace to issue a denial.

According to the Associated Press Dershowitz meanwhile has filed a detailed denial of woman's claims he had sexual contact with an under-age girl. Her attorneys have since sued Dershowitz for alleged defamation.

In the Jan. 5 court document filed, Dershowitz said he has multiple witnesses to refute the allegations made by the woman, identified only as Jane Doe No. 3.

She claimed Epstein required her to have sex with Dershowitz, Prince Andrew and others when she was still under age 18.

Buckingham Palace has also emphatically denied her allegations about Prince Andrew. Dershowitz, who has previously

made general denials, said in the court document the allegations "threaten to damage my reputation irrevocably."

"Never under any circumstances have I ever had any sexual contact of any kind, which includes massages or any physical contact whatsoever, with Jane Doe No. 3," Dershowitz said.

Epstein pleaded guilty in 2008 to Florida state sex charges but avoided more serious federal charges in a deal negotiated partly by Dershowitz. In addition to Simpson, Dershowitz, a Harvard law professor, is perhaps best known for defending Claus Von Bulow in the "Reversal of Fortune" case.

The allegations against Prince Andrew, the second son of Queen Elizabeth II who is also known as the Duke of York, and Dershowitz surfaced early this month in a long-running lawsuit involving Epstein.

Four unidentified women claiming to be his victims as minors are suing the U.S. government over its plea deal with

Epstein, contending their rights were violated and seeking to have the agreement thrown out.

Paul Cassell, a University of Utah law professor, and Florida attorney Bradley J. Edwards, who are representing the women filed their lawsuit against Dershowitz after he described them to CNN as "villains" in this case and that they had failed to fact check their clients' claims.

"They are lying and I can prove it," Dershowitz told CNN, the AP reported.

Cassell and Edwards say their reputations had been defamed by such comments and were seeking an unspecified amount of damages.

"Our four victims do not oppose Mr. Dershowitz having an opportunity to present his arguments to the court," Cassell said.

At the center of the recent allegations is Epstein's private island, Little St. James.

The 72-acre island was reportedly the scene of where several under age girls were

allegedly required to perform sexual acts on several older men.

Epstein's Virgin Islands connection became national news in 2012 when the Daily Caller, a conservative online newspaper, reported that then First Lady de Jongh worked for Epstein's VI Economic Development Corporation tax program recipient company.

In 2011 Epstein settled out of court with at least 17 alleged sex-crime victims.

Among Jane Doe No. 3's allegations are that she had sex with Dershowitz on the private Caribbean island owned by Epstein. Dershowitz said in his response he was there only one time with his wife and daughter, and that they all slept overnight in the same room together after having dinner with Epstein and others.

According to the Associated Press Dershowitz said in response that "during our entire stay on the island, we never saw any young women that fit the description of Jane Doe No. 3."

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