

Subject: RE: Evidentiary Significance of CJA's Public Interest Lawsuit vs NYT -- Including as a Case Study for Establishing News Councils

Date: 7/6/2006, 10:59 AM

From: Ellen Hume <ellen.hume@umb.edu>

To: Elena Ruth Sassower <judgewatchers@aol.com>, jr3@nyu.edu,
jeffjarvis@gmail.com, densmore@newshare.com, sims@journ.umass.edu,
rww@journ.umass.edu, gary@news-council.org, Newton@knightfdn.org,
Kebbel@knightfdn.org, ellenhume@ellenhume.com

cc: tomrosen@journalism.org

Dear Ms. Sassower, I don't know what you are trying to accomplish, but I do take issue with how you have characterized my participation in the Media Giraffe conference. I think you misunderstood the gist of my comments when I said something like "journalism does not need reinvention." I was picking up a theme proposed by a previous speaker, and was specifically and at some length expressing my view that the basic values of journalism do not need reinventing, i.e., presenting verified facts, transparently maintaining independence and impartiality instead of representing some hidden agenda. It was really about focusing on the content of what we do rather than the pipeline that content goes into. Instead of the meticulously presented material that you have sent to us, which read like a legal brief, perhaps you could express in some short narrative what your beef is and what you think anyone should do about it.

-----Original Message-----

From: Elena Ruth Sassower [mailto:judgewatchers@aol.com]

Sent: Thursday, July 06, 2006 9:17 AM

To: jr3@nyu.edu; jeffjarvis@gmail.com; densmore@newshare.com; sims@journ.umass.edu;
rww@journ.umass.edu; gary@news-council.org; Newton@knightfdn.org; Kebbel@knightfdn.org; Ellen Hume; ellenhume@ellenhume.com

Cc: tomrosen@journalism.org

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TO: Jay Rosen, Jeff Jarvis, Bill Densmore, Norman Sims, Ralph Whitehead, Jr., Gary Gilson, Eric Newton, Gary Kebbell, Ellen Hume

Attached is my memo to you of today's date, enclosing my yesterday's letter to Tom Rosenstiel, to which you are indicated recipients.

I look forward to your response.

Thank you.