

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

**Date: 7/7/2006, 12:13 AM**

**From: Bill Densmore <mediagiraffe@journ.umass.edu>**

**To: Elena Ruth Sassower <judgewatchers@aol.com>**

Elena:

Because of a temporary email outage, I didn't see the earlier email in this exchange. Can you please send it to me again?

-- bill

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Bill Densmore, director/editor  
The Media Giraffe Project  
Journalism Program / 108 Bartlett Hall  
Univ. of Massachusetts  
Amherst MA 01003  
OFF: 413-577-4370 / CELL: 413-458-8001  
densmore@journ.umass.edu

**DID YOU MISS: "Democracy and Independence:  
Sharing News and Politics in a Connected World"?**  
June 29-July 1, 2006

**WHAT WAS IT?**  
<http://www.mediagiraffe.org/conference/>

**WHO WAS THERE:**  
<http://www.mediagiraffe.org/wiki/index.php/Participants>

**VIDEO OF MANY SESSIONS:**  
<http://www.mediagiraffe.org/wiki/index.php/Live>

**WHAT BLOGGERS ARE SAYING:**  
<http://www.mediagiraffe.org/wiki/index.php/Bloggers>

**THE PROGRAM:** <http://www.mediagiraffe.org/program.pdf>

----- Forwarded message -----

Date: Thu, 6 Jul 2006 10:59:36 -0400

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

Subject: RE: Evidentiary Significance of CJA's Public Interest Lawsuit vs NYT

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Including as a Case Study for Establishing News Councils  
vs NYT -- Including as a Case Study for Establishing News Councils

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](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; Keibel@knightfdn.org; Ellen Hume;  
ellenhume@ellenhume.com  
Cc: tomrosen@journalism.org  
Subject: Evidentiary Significance of CJA's Public Interest Lawsuit vs  
NYT -- Including as a Case Study for Establishing News Councils

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