



SINCE 1909

THE NATIONAL
JOURNALISM CENTER

3909 N. MERIDIAN ST.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND. 46208

317-927-8000

FAX: 317-920-4789

SPJ@SPJ.ORG

WWW.SPJ.ORG

Dear community partner,

On behalf of the Legal Defense Fund of the Society of Professional Journalists, I am reaching out to you today in support of a free press and free speech for all. Every day, journalists challenge government secrecy and speak out against corruption. They should be able to do so without fear of retaliation from those with more money or power.

Journalists belong in the courts to find truth, not to be hindered with subpoenas challenging their rights. For years, the LDF has been a legal and mental support system for those who find themselves in trouble while defending press freedoms. Even now, journalists continue to battle subpoenas from prosecutors, criminal defendants and civil litigants in order to protect sources.

One way SPJ raises funds for the LDF is through the live and silent auctions, held every year at our annual conference of over 1,000 journalists. The auction is a success because of donations from community partners like you. We hope you will consider donating an item for this year's auction. All funds raised go to helping journalists challenge unconstitutional lawsuits.

No donation is too great or too small. In the past, we have auctioned writing instruction services, tickets to sporting events, baskets of regional goodies and newsroom merchandise. We ask that you send your items by Aug. 26, 2011. Donations should be mailed to:

Legal Defense Fund Auction
Society of Professional Journalists
3909 N. Meridian St.
Indianapolis, IN 46208

If you have any questions about the donation process, please contact Lauren Rochester, SPJ Awards Coordinator, at lrochester@spj.org or call (317) 927-8000 ext. 210. Thank you in advance for contributing to our mission of improving and protecting journalism.

Sincerely,

Lauren Rochester
SPJ Awards Coordinator
(317) 927-8000 ext. 210
lrochester@spj.org