



SPJ LEGAL DEFENSE FUND REQUEST

Name:

Date:

Affiliation: (i.e. employer or college)

Mailing address:

Phone Numbers:

E-mail:

Amount requested: _____

Please give a brief description of the case:

- Is this an appeal? If so, please describe the history of the case:

- What broad journalistic purpose will be served by this case?

- What is the total estimated cost of your legal efforts?

Please include links to any news coverage of this case and attach any published clips or other documents. Please include a copy of the lawsuit or complaint.

A six-person committee reviews LDF requests for up to \$5,000. Anything above \$5,000 requires a vote of the full SPJ board.

Information from this application could be used on the SPJ Web site or by SPJ in other ways to promote understanding of a First Amendment legal issue and the events. Your personal information, such as your phone number and address will not be made public.

ABOUT THE LEGAL DEFENSE FUND

The Society of Professional Journalists collects and distributes contributions for aiding journalists in defending the freedom of speech and press guaranteed by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution.

The primary role of the Legal Defense Fund is to initiate and support litigation that enforces public access to government records and proceedings, which can be the most expensive way to defend the First Amendment. The fund also can be but rarely is used as a source of support for FOI hotlines, coalitions and newsletters, as well as for legislative lobbying activities aimed at enforcing public access to government records and proceedings.

All requests for money from the Legal Defense Fund will be weighed with special consideration for activities that will effect the most far-reaching and positive outcomes.

PLEASE E-MAIL APPLICATION TO:

Mark Bailen
Baker Hostetler
mbailen@bakerlaw.com

PLEASE MAIL ANY SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS THAT CANNOT BE SENT ELECTRONICALLY TO:

Baker Hostetler
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1050 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 861-1660