

1-4-1995

## 01/04/1995 - Prevails In Suit.pdf

University Marketing and Communications

Follow this and additional works at: [http://thekeep.eiu.edu/press\\_releases\\_1995](http://thekeep.eiu.edu/press_releases_1995)

---

### Recommended Citation

University Marketing and Communications, "01/04/1995 - Prevails In Suit.pdf" (1995). 1995. 2.  
[http://thekeep.eiu.edu/press\\_releases\\_1995/2](http://thekeep.eiu.edu/press_releases_1995/2)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Press Releases at The Keep. It has been accepted for inclusion in 1995 by an authorized administrator of The Keep. For more information, please contact [tabruns@eiu.edu](mailto:tabruns@eiu.edu).

95-6

January 4, 1995

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EIU PREVAILS IN SUIT

CHARLESTON -- A lawsuit filed by The Daily Eastern News (DEN), Eastern Illinois University's student newspaper, against the Board of Governors Universities has been decided in the University's favor.

The student newspaper filed suit in Coles County Circuit Court in early October challenging the University's refusal to turn over police reports of two sexual assaults that occurred during the 1993-94 academic year and to furnish the paper with a police report on alleged threats by a university employee.

In denying the request on Jan. 3, Coles County Circuit Court Judge Paul C. Komada stated that the reports in the sexual assault cases fall under exemptions involving invasion of privacy.

He further ruled that another provision of the Freedom of Information Act protecting disclosure of confidential sources justified the University's refusal to turn over the police report on the alleged threats by an employee.

Komada cited a recent decision by the 4th Appellate Court in the ruling and noted that future cases could yield a different ruling.

-more-

**FILE COPY**

"We are pleased at the outcome, but it should be made clear that the primary concern from the beginning was the personal privacy of our students and employees," said BGU Chancellor Thomas D. Layzell. "In keeping with long-standing policies, the BGU universities will continue to provide all other pertinent details of crime reports to the media so long as they don't jeopardize ongoing investigations."

Eastern President David Jorns said he agreed with Layzell and added that while the University released all the details of the sexual assaults, it refused to disclose the names of individuals involved because releasing the names of sexual assault victims to the media would have a chilling effect on the reporting of these incidents to police.

The student newspaper has 30 days to file an appeal.