

From: James Johnson jjohnson@knightjohnson.com
Subject: Georgia Code Revision Commission v. Public.Resource.Org, Northern District of Georgia
Date: July 27, 2015 at 7:05 PM
To: carl@media.org

Mr. Malamud:

I had the misfortune of reading about the Georgia Code Revision Commission's federal lawsuit against public.resource.org in today's L.A. Times (the story has gone largely unreported here in Atlanta). I've also reviewed the actual complaint. The fact that the State has taken such a frivolous litigation position is unfortunate, but not surprising. As a lawyer, I am particularly appalled by the nonsensical argument that, unless your group's efforts to make the O.C.G.A.'s annotations easily accessible to the public are enjoined, the public "will face losing valuable analysis and guidance regarding their state laws." That doesn't even make sense. And given that our codes are officially entitled the "Official Code of Georgia Annotated," the State's position that the annotations are separate and distinct from the statutes themselves is simply wrong. And there is a little doctrine called "fair use" . . .

I fully support your cause. I assume you have access to legal counsel here in Georgia but my firm is willing to provide any assistance you may need. In any event, I am going to make a donation to help your efforts.

Keep up the good work —

James

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