Celebrating 35 years of service, building for the future
A message from the Board

Building a stronger SPLC for a challenging future

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your continued support for the Student Press Law Center’s legal and educational programming, which touches students and educators in literally every state in the nation. Whether it is in person, over our telephone hotline, on the Web or through a videoconference, SPLC staffers are constantly improving conditions for those who work on the front lines of the First Amendment.

Last year, the SPLC marked 35 years of service to the scholastic journalism community. As we reached that milestone, our Board of Directors took the opportunity to look toward the future. Assisted by a dedicated volunteer facilitator, Kathleen Criner, the Board devoted many, many hours to crafting a Strategic Plan that establishes the SPLC’s goals for the next five years. We asked many of you for your opinions and feedback on our services, and we based our plans on what you – our supporters, funders and constituents – told us you want and need most.

As the plan was being written, the journalism industry was – and continues to be – in the midst of a great upheaval. State budget cuts are making the turmoil even worse in the realm of student media, making journalism programs a tempting target.

The Strategic Plan acknowledges, and sets forth concrete steps to meet, these enormous challenges. The Plan makes it a top priority for the SPLC to harness technology to maximize the reach of its services: by upgrading the splc.org website, by adding multimedia features to our online library of publications, by tailoring our training materials to entrepreneurial student journalism start-ups and freelancers, and by using video to better dramatize the lasting human toll that censorship takes.

As an advocate, the SPLC will ensure that flagrant incidents of censorship have swift and visible consequences; will train students at the grassroots level to work toward free-press legislation in their home states; and will proactively identify and litigate more test cases that reinforce foundational First Amendment and open-government principles.

In response to admittedly daunting sustainability and funding challenges, the Center will make a sustained, Board-level effort to build a broader donor base, with greater participation from the legal and business communities that share our underlying goal of engaging young people positively in civic affairs.

This is where you come in. Your support – whether you are a perennial SPLC donor or a first-timer – is crucial to making the Plan a reality. If you are already a financial supporter of our work, consider bringing aboard a co-worker or a friend. And if you need to persuade them that the SPLC is a forward-looking organization with a central role to play in the shape of journalism to come, just point them to the Strategic Plan on our website: https://www.splc.org/pdf/stratplan2009.pdf

Virginia Edwards
Chair, SPLC Board of Directors
## Board of Directors

Moving forward with strategies for a changing landscape

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position/Institution</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caesar Andrews</td>
<td>University of Nevada-Reno Reynolds School of Journalism</td>
<td>Nevada, Reno</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angela Filo</td>
<td>Yellow Chair Foundation</td>
<td>East Palo Alto, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maureen Freeman</td>
<td>Newseum</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosalind Stark</td>
<td>RTNDA (retired)</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.J. Bauer</td>
<td>Freelance Journalist, student</td>
<td>New York, NY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrick Carome, Esq.</td>
<td>WilmerHale</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Garcia</td>
<td>National Public Radio</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Stodder</td>
<td>Dolan Media</td>
<td>Milwaukee, Wisc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jerry Ceppos</td>
<td>University of Nevada-Reno Reynolds School of Journalism</td>
<td>Nevada, Reno</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Godwin</td>
<td>WikiMedia Foundation</td>
<td>San Francisco, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reginald Stuart</td>
<td>The McClatchy Company</td>
<td>Silver Spring, Md.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Edwards (chair)</td>
<td>Education Week</td>
<td>Bethesda, Md.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank LoMonte, Esq.</td>
<td>SPLC Executive Director</td>
<td>Arlington, Va. (ex officio)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Witherspoon</td>
<td>Iowa State University</td>
<td>Ames, Iowa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*In photo, from left to right, Board members Tonda Rush, Casesar Andrews, Consulting Attorney Mike Hiestand, Board members A.J. Bauer and Rosalind Stark.*
A message from the Executive Director

Preserving journalistic values in a Facebook world

Imagine that you are a high school principal in today’s wired world, and that your school community is plagued by instances of uncivil attack speech on social-networking websites.

In a moment of exasperation, you might find yourself thinking: “If only someone would invent an educational program that taught young people to verify their facts, sign their names to what they write, correct their mistakes, take account of opposing points of view, and understand the risk of publishing false accusations.”

“If only…”

Of course, that program is journalism, and its importance and relevance today – when everyone with Internet access is a publisher – cannot be understated. And yet journalism’s survival in schools and colleges has never been more at risk. Financial distress provides a convenient fig leaf for administrators who never liked journalism anyway and eagerly seize any excuse to discontinue it.

This is why those who love and value journalism must be especially vigilant in today’s climate, and why the Student Press Law Center is working so hard to make the case to the public that journalistic skills and values still matter.

We’re doing this by helping create more substantive student journalism, through initiatives like the Campus Coverage Project, in which the SPLC helped create a new boot-camp training regimen to prepare 75 top college journalists to audit their schools’ performance.

We’re doing this by bringing together grassroots advocates on the ground in Kentucky, Nebraska, Wisconsin and Missouri to advocate for student press rights laws in their states, and by helping educate the public on the need for stronger shield laws to protect America’s most vulnerable journalists.

And we’re doing this by modernizing the way we deliver information through the freshly redesigned www.splc.org website. The improved site will enable us to more compellingly tell the stories of the exceptional young people who face down obstruction and intimidation to do important journalistic work.

We’re helping win the battle against fear and ignorance in places like Warrenton, Virginia, and Berwyn, Pennsylvania, where the SPLC’s intervention during 2009 helped defeat extremist prior-review policies that threatened the independence of students’ editorial voice. Still, too many fine journalism educators go to work each day wondering whether the next controversy will be the one they don’t survive.

We must – and we will – improve this, because journalistic skills and values do matter. And that is a story that, with your support, the SPLC will always be here to tell.

Frank D. LoMonte, Esq.
Executive Director
Student Press Law Center
Making headlines: SPLC in the news

- The American Constitution Society published Executive Director Frank LoMonte’s issue brief, “Reaching Through the Schoolhouse Gate: Students’ Eroding First Amendment Rights in a Cyber-Speech World,” as part of its journal, The Advance, distributed to attorneys nationwide. In the brief, LoMonte cautioned against the creeping expansion of schools’ authority to prevent or punish speech about the school on off-campus, personal websites: “Because it is impossible to craft an intelligible First Amendment standard that places ‘bad’ speech on one side of the line and ‘good’ speech on the other, a ruling that administrators may punish writings with no physical connection to school casts an ominous shadow over all speech, including legitimate journalism and whistleblower activity.”

- LoMonte represented the SPLC at American University Law School’s symposium honoring the 40th anniversary of the landmark Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District ruling, keynoted by lead plaintiff Mary Beth Tinker. As part of the symposium, the American University Law Review published LoMonte’s journal article, “Shrinking Tinker: Students Are ‘Persons’ Under Our Constitution – Except When They Aren’t,” in its June 2009 edition. The article analyzes how the “public forum doctrine” has been misapplied to schools in what LoMonte describes as a “heads-schools-win, tails-students lose” model of jurisprudence.

- The Freedom Forum featured LoMonte’s critical look at the nation’s push to regulate online student speech as part of a March 2009 online symposium, “Cyberbullying and Public Schools.” LoMonte’s lead article, “Censorship is Bullying,” describes the suffering that students experience — comparable to what victims of student-on-student bullying experience — when they are told that their life experiences are too “offensive” to be shared with the community. It concludes that uncensored journalism can be an antidote to hateful online attack speech: “Schools should embrace and nurture campus newspapers, Web sites and broadcasts as forums for the candid discussion of student views — however unpleasant to hear — with the benefit of coaching from a trained journalism instructor. Schools must appreciate that censorship of the student media does not extinguish dissent; it merely relocates it.”

- Many national media outlets took note of the SPLC’s leading role in protecting the freedom of online speech. Among them were the American Bar Association Journal, which quoted LoMonte in its July 2009 article, “No More Pencils, No More Facebooks,” examining a string of recent federal appeals-court cases in which the SPLC defended students’ rights to talk about school events when using personal websites on personal time. “When students misbehave off campus, there are ample remedies in the real world legal system,” LoMonte told the magazine. “If the speech is threatening, there are police for that. If it’s libelous, there are courts for that. And if it’s short of both of those things, there are phone calls to parents.”

In 2009, SPLC celebrated 35 years since its founding — a period that has seen more than 60,000 calls to the Center’s attorney hotline and more than 100 editions of the popular Report magazine. SPLC Attorney Advocate Adam Goldstein answered his 10,000th call for legal assistance, emphasizing the continued high demand for SPLC’s unique guidance that is offered nowhere else. SPLC Consulting Attorney Mike Hiestand was selected to receive the National Scholastic Press Association’s Pioneer Award, the organization’s top honor for individuals, recognizing many years of dedicated service to the cause of student press freedom.
While the Student Press Law Center’s lawyers are able to handle almost all requests for legal assistance, on occasion students need local representation. To meet those needs, the SPLC maintains an Attorney Referral Network (ARN) of 150 lawyers nationwide who provide pro bono representation to the student media in their area. The SPLC greatly appreciates their assistance – as do the students – and we refer to them as our “freedom fighters.” Here’s a sampling of some of the great work they did last year and how they are making a difference:

- **Susan Alterman** of Portland’s Folawn Alterman & Richardson came to the rescue when the editor of the Clark College Independent was brought up on disciplinary charges for doing nothing more than insisting on student editors’ rights to participate in the hiring meetings for newsroom personnel. All disciplinary charges against the editor-in-chief were dropped, and a fellow editor got her charges reduced and ultimately expunged.

- **SPLC super-volunteers Richard Goehler and Patricia Foster** of Cincinnati’s Frost Brown Todd obtained the release of impounded copies of The Trojan Crier at Ohio’s Centerburg High School. The principal seized the papers because the students – truthfully and accurately – reported on complaints about the teaching methods of a football coach assigned to teach honors English classes.

- **Jim Hemphill** of Austin’s Graves Dougherty Hearon & Moody got the police department at Brookhaven College to stop blacking out all of the identifying information from incident reports requested by The Brookhaven Courier – and to stop making citizens sign an intimidating “assumption of liability” form as a precondition to obtaining copies of public records.

- **Attorneys Alice Lucan, Grant Penrod and Seth Berlin** – a First Amendment “dream team” – got disciplinary charges entirely dismissed against one James Madison University student reporter, and greatly reduced for another, in a dispute over their entry into a college dorm building to gather news.

- **Gabe Fuentes** of Chicago’s Jenner & Block came to the defense of editors at Illinois’ Stevenson High School bullied by their administrators into removing all mention of controversy from their newspaper, The Stevenson Statesman, and instead hand-distributing a school-sanitized sham newspaper. Working many nights and weekends, Fuentes obtained concessions allowing two of three disputed stories to eventually run, and allowing students to publish a “censored” white space in place of the third article.

- **Robert Dreps** of Godfrey & Kahn in Madison, Wisc., successfully sued the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee for release of public records wrongfully withheld on the basis of a bogus claim of “student confidentiality.” The suit settled with the release of all requested documents to the UWM Post newspaper along with full compensation for the law firm’s fees and costs.

- **Joseph P. Esposito** of Washington D.C.’s Hunton & Williams and associate Edward Hyatt filed an amicus brief before the U.S. 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia on behalf of SPLC on important First Amendment issues. Further, these matters for SPLC have afforded the junior attorneys at my firm a great opportunity to work on significant cases.

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“I have had the pleasure of serving as a volunteer attorney for the SPLC for several years. The work has been interesting, challenging, and extremely gratifying. It has been my privilege to represent two college journalists who were sued for defamation in federal court in Virginia, and to prepare a number of amicus briefs to the Second Circuit on behalf of SPLC on important First Amendment issues. Further, these matters for SPLC have afforded the junior attorneys at my firm a great opportunity to work on significant cases.

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Joseph P. Esposito
Partner, Hunton & Williams LLP

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**Thanks to our Freedom Fighters**

Volunteer attorneys work nationwide to assist journalism students and advisers

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- **Tom Burke** with Los Angeles’ Davis Wright Tremaine - within 24 hours of being contacted - helped students with the campus blog, IvyGateBlog.com, negotiate a liability release and avert a threatened libel suit.

- **Katherine Fallow** and **Carrie Apfel** with Washington D.C.’s Jenner and Block wrote an amicus brief on behalf of the SPLC in a case before the U.S. 4th Circuit Court of Appeals challenging the constitutionality of Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control Board regulations that restricted college student newspapers from publishing alcohol advertising.

- **Alan Johnson**, of Willis and Knight, Nashville, Tenn., successfully represented a college student newspaper at Austin Peay State University (and several commercial news organizations) sued for libel and various other claims by a pro se litigant.
SPLC’s legal advisory committee
Selflessly working to defend the First Amendment

Robert A. Bertsche
Prince, Lobel, Glovsky & Tye, LLP

Adam Biegel
Alston & Bird, LLP

Thomas R. Burke
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP

Jonathan R. Donnellan
Hearst Corporation

Joseph P. Esposito
Hunton & Williams LLP

Gabriel A. Fuentes
Jenner & Block LLP

Nancy Hamilton
Jackson Walker LLP

Jim Hemphill
Graves Dougherty Hearon & Moody, P.C.

Karen Henry
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP

Thomas R. Julin
Hunton & Williams LLP

Karen Kaiser
The Associated Press

Benjamin E. Marks
Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP

C. Amanda Martin
Everett Gaskins Hancock & Stevens LLP

Rachel Matteo-Boehm
Holme Roberts & Owen LLP

Gayle C. Sproul
Levine Sullivan Koch & Schulz, LLP

Charles D. Tobin
Holland & Knight LLP

Volunteer attorneys, SPLC help college get records
“The SPLC fought tirelessly on our behalf”

Aided by legal assistance from the Student Press Law Center, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Post succeeded in its challenge against the university’s claim that any document that mentions a student is a confidential “educational record” exempt from the state’s public records laws.

Post editors were refused access to agendas, minutes and audio recordings of meetings of the Union Policy Board, which makes policy for the UWM Student Union, a campus cultural and recreational center. Although the board meetings were open for members of the public to attend, UWM denied the Post’s request almost entirely, claiming that the names of students - and even the sound of their voices - were protected by the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), also known as the Buckley Amendment. The university agreed to release only edited records - including an audio recording on which all but one voice was erased.

The Post and its former editor-in-chief, Jonathan Anderson, filed suit in November 2009 in Milwaukee County Circuit Court, alleging that the records were covered by the Wisconsin Open Records Law. The complaint was filed by attorneys Robert J. Dreps and Rebecca Kathryn Mason of the law firm of Godfrey & Kahn, representing the students as part of the SPLC’s Attorney Referral Network.

The university agreed to a favorable settlement resulting in the release of all records, and as part of the settlement, it paid the paper’s attorneys more than $11,700 in fees. Anderson, now earning a master’s degree in Media Studies at UWM, and Kevin Lessmiller, last year’s editor-in-chief, both said the SPLC’s assistance and guidance helped them immensely during the challenge.

“Without a doubt, the Post’s freedom of information lawsuit wouldn’t have happened were it not for the steadfast work of the Student Press Law Center,” Anderson said. “Ever since I reported to SPLC that my university denied a public records request under FERPA, Frank (LoMonte), Adam (Goldstein), and the rest of the center’s staff championed the case. SPLC found seasoned local counsel – arguably the top media law firm in Wisconsin -- and continuously collaborated with them, conducting legal research, advising on strategy, and advocating on the Post’s behalf.”

Lessmiller said he and the Post staff were also grateful for the SPLC’s assistance: “The SPLC fought tirelessly on our behalf, believing just as strongly as we did in the public’s right to know. The Post is extremely grateful for SPLC’s invaluable support in our recent freedom of information lawsuit.”
“We were fighting for the rights of newspapers and the journalism field”

We are ecstatic to announce that the newspaper and its First Amendment rights have prevailed! We couldn’t have done it without the help and guidance the Student Press Law Center.

Ten months after it was censored, the Thunderbird High School newspaper, *The Challenge*, successfully published and distributed its third edition of the 2009-10 school year with the “performance based assessment article” about student testing as the front page story on Friday, Feb. 12, 2010.

To avoid a case in the federal district court, we, along with our wonderful lawyers David Bodney and Aaron Lockwood of Steptoe & Johnson LLP, met with Principal Matt Belden and Glendale Union High School District Superintendent Jennifer Johnson to come to a resolution on the article.

We agreed to give the district the opportunity to comment in the story, despite their refusal to do so in the original article, and print the story that includes their statements on the purpose of the test.

For background, the staff wrote an article for the last newspaper of the 2008-09 school year about the student test that Belden censored as we were going to press. After discussion, *The Challenge* staff decided to leave the cover with a blank, 8 ½ inch square of white space.

Although I left for college and Business Editor Sophia Curran is no longer on the staff, we decided to continue the fight to have the article published. We contacted the Student Press Law Center and asked a countless number of questions we had. Thank you for being so helpful and supportive. We also give thanks to our adviser, Sheri Siwek for supporting us and refusing to back down.

Looking back, we don’t regret a thing. We heard stories and found out that we were unfortunately fighting a much bigger issue. We were fighting for the rights of newspapers and the journalism field. We were fighting a district that would rather conduct work out of the public eye. We were fighting for what’s right.

In our eyes, the resolution was a victory. The principal and district haven’t attempted to censor a story this school year, and we hope this ordeal will make them think twice about overstepping the role of the adviser and trumping the voices of the students. Due to our efforts, we received the Sunshine Award from the Society of Professional Journalist’s Valley of the Sun Chapter and the Courage in Journalism Award from the Arizona Interscholastic Press Association.

“...The SPLC was proactive and extremely helpful with advice and guidance”

In these days when so many disputes involve censorship and restriction of student media, I want to share some good news about working with administrators to develop a workable publications policy that allows student publications to continue to practice sound journalism.

Last summer the Fauquier County School Board adopted a restrictive publications policy that decreed student publications were not forums for student expression and the principal was the editor in chief of all publications with students serving as assistants. This policy was adopted by the Virginia Association of School Boards, a group that develops policy positions for a variety of issues.

I learned about the policy in mid September from another adviser who questioned whether she could allow her students to publish opinion pieces and editorials under it. I was concerned about the new policy and contacted the Student Press Law Center for assistance.

As the policy appeared to require prior review and we were a week from publishing, I asked my principal when he planned to review the issue and to notify him that I would finish the year as adviser, but that I would not continue after that. My principal has always supported student press rights, has had faith in my ability to advise the paper, and has never wanted to exercise prior review.

He forwarded my concerns to the superintendent’s office and what ensued was an intense series of emails, meetings, and negotiations.

Ultimately, the School Board adopted a revised publications policy in December designating student publications as limited forums for student expression subject to restraints on speech under the *Tinker* standard. Student leadership of the publications was restored and an appeals process was put in place under which students can challenge censorship by either a principal or an adviser. There are still some areas to be addressed, but our newspaper continues to operate much as it always has — as a public forum.

From the start, Frank LoMonte of the SPLC was proactive and extremely helpful with advice and guidance both to me and my editor-in-chief. I cannot say enough good things about him and the SPLC.

-By *Marie Miller*, publications adviser to The Falconer at Fauquier High School, Virginia
UWM’s Jonathan Anderson earns ‘09 College Press Freedom Award

Jonathan Anderson, former Editor-in-Chief of the Post at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, won the 2009 College Press Freedom Award for his tireless advocacy in pressing for greater access to public records from the university and its student government association.

The annual College Press Freedom Award is sponsored by the Student Press Law Center and by the Associated Collegiate Press to honor an individual or group that has demonstrated courage in advancing free-press rights for college journalists. The award was presented Oct. 31 at the National College Journalism Convention in Austin, Texas, organized by the ACP and by College Media Advisers.

Courage in Journalism Awards go to Rome, Zweifler and Thill

Two high school journalists who successfully opposed a retaliatory censorship policy and an Illinois newspaper adviser who boldly choose to resign her post rather than work received the 2009 Courage in Student Journalism Award.

The student winners are Seth Zweifler and Henry Rome, the current and immediate past editors-in-chief of Pennsylvania’s Conestoga High School newspaper, The Spoke. The faculty/administration winner is Barb Thill of Illinois’ Stevenson High School, an English teacher and former adviser of the school’s Statesman.

The awards, were presented at the National High School Journalism Convention on Nov. 14 in Washington, D.C., are given each year to student journalists and school officials who have demonstrated outstanding support for the free press rights of students.

The presenting sponsor is the Center for Scholastic Journalism, a program of the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Kent State University. The award is co-sponsored by the Student Press Law Center and the National Scholastic Press Association.

Zweifler and Rome successfully fought a prior review policy put in place by the school board after The Spoke ran a story about the criminal background of a school janitor.

Thill was one of the most respected journalism educators in America when she resigned in response to a retaliatory prior review policy that took editorial decisions out of the hands to the student newspaper staff.

Advisory Council Steering committee

Providing guidance and advocacy against censorship

Ellen Austin, Adviser
Palo Alto Senior High School
Palo Alto, CA

Pamela Foster
Director of Student Publications
Tennessee State University, Nashville

Mark Newton, Adviser
Grand Junction High School
Grand Junction, CO

Candace Perkins Bowen
Director for Scholastic Journalism
Kent State University, Kent OH

Malcolm Gibson, Adviser
University of Kansas
Lawrence, KS

Chad Rummel, Adviser
Oakton High School
Vienna, VA

Anne Christiansen-Bullers
Johnson County Community College
Overland Park, KS

Paul Kandell, Adviser
Palo Alto High School
Palo Alto, CA

Rod Satterthwaite, Adviser
Dexter High School
Dexter, MI

Vincent DeMiero, Adviser
Mountlake Terrace High School
Mountlake Terrace, WA

Michael Koretzky
Florida Atlantic University
Hollywood, FL

Cathy Stablein, Adviser
College of DuPage
Glen Ellyn, IL

Andi Mulshine, Adviser
Communications High School
Wall, NJ

Board of Directors Liaison:
Angela Filo
### Balance sheet

#### Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash &amp; cash equivalents</td>
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<td><strong>$2,273,632</strong></td>
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#### Liabilities and net assets

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<td>Total liabilities</td>
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<td>Total net assets</td>
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<td>2,266,714</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND ASSETS</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,736,281</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,273,632</strong></td>
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#### Statement of Activities

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2009</th>
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<td>Revenue</td>
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<td>Contributions</td>
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<td>Investment income (endowment proceeds)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
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<td>8,405</td>
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<tr>
<td>Publications</td>
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<td>5,502</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other revenue</td>
<td>431</td>
<td>347</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
<td><strong>$956,151</strong></td>
<td><strong>(183,406)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program services</td>
<td>377,827</td>
<td>375,226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting services</td>
<td>143,157</td>
<td>143,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>$518,448</strong></td>
<td><strong>$518,421</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Change in net assets</td>
<td>447,369</td>
<td>(701,827)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets at beginning of year</td>
<td>2,266,714</td>
<td>2,968,541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,714,083</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,266,714</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the Audited Financial Statements reported by Gelman, Rosenberg & Freedman, an independent certified public accounting firm, for the year ending December 31, 2009. A copy of the entire financial statement (IRS Form 990) may be viewed online through guidestar.com or by request to the SPLC.

---

**Interns & Fellows:**

- Michael Beder
- Joanna Brenner
- Chris Carter
- Julia Chapman
- Stefanie Dazio
- Laura Dobler
- Michael Edwards
- Anne Elliott
- Mary Keister
- Catherine MacDonald
- Katie Maloney
- Nicole Ocran
- Wayne Pollock
- Brian Stewart
- Elizabeth White

*From left to right: Spring 2009 journalism intern Katie Maloney, intern Nicole Ocran, Publications Fellow Julia Chapman and intern Laura Dobler.*
The SPLC wishes to thank the Taproot Foundation for dedicating its time and talent to the redesign of the SPLC website

Student Press Law Center friends

Thank you to our 2009 contributors

The Student Press Law Center gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the following institutions and individuals without whose support defending the free press rights of student journalists would be a far more difficult task. As a not-for-profit organization, the SPLC is entirely dependent on donations from those who are committed to its work. All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

### Student Voice Champions ($5,000 to $9,999)
- Hugh Hefner Foundation
- Illinois College Press Ass’n
- Kent State University
- National Scholastic Press Ass’n
- Newman’s Own Foundation
- Park Foundation
- Scripps Howard Foundation

### Student Voice Advocates ($500 to $999)
- Logan Aimone
- California College Media Ass’n
- Jerry Ceppos
- Shawn Chen
- Garden State Scholastic Press
- Kevin Goldberg
- Michigan Interscholastic Press Ass’n
- Tonda Rush
- Anjan Shah
- Rosalind & Martin Stark
- Washington Journalism Education Ass’n

### First Amendment Friends ($100 to $499)
- Stephanie Abrutyn
- Alston & Bird LLP
- Susan Alterman
- Michael Becker
- Robert Becker
- Robert Bluey
- Karen Bosley
- Sidney Bosley
- Bucknell University, PA
- California State U-San Marcos
- Cardinal Points Newspaper, NY
- Carlos Castro
- Rich Cameron
- Cody High School
- Madeleine Corson
- Cypress Ridge High School, Houston
- Mark Davis
- Charles Donaldson
- Sara Duran
- John Rory Eastburg
- Joe Esposito
- Dwight Evans
- Susan Everett
- Findlay High School, OH
- Ann Franke
- Megan Fromm
- Fullmont College Association, NY
- Greenberg Traurig, LLP
- Diana Hadley
- Sandy Hall-Chiles
- Donna Harrington-Lueker
- Barbara Hines
- Illinois Journalism Education Ass’n
- Indiana High School Press Ass’n
- Richard Johns

### Freedom Fighters ($10,000 or more)
- American Society of News Editors
- College Media Advisers Inc.
- Ethics & Excellence in Journalism Foundation
- Philip L. Graham Fund
- Journalism Education Association
- McCormick Foundation
- Yellow Chair Foundation

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- ACLU Foundation
- Caesar Andrews
- Ass’n for Education in Journalism & Mass Communications
- Babson Foundation
- Candace Bowen
- John Bowen
- Dorothy Bowles
- Patrick Carome
- College Newspaper Business & Advertising Managers
- The Daily Tar Heel
- Thomas Eveslage
- Gannett Foundation
- Garden State Scholastic Press Assoc., NJ
- Richard Goehler
- Mark Goodman
- Nancy Hudak
- Jostens
- Journalism Association of Ohio
- Journalism Education Ass’n
- Kansas Associated Collegiate Press
- Frank LaMonte
- Lesley Marcello
- Missouri Interscholastic Press Ass’n
- Nichols & Pratt, LLP
- Quill & Scroll
- Society for Collegiate Journalists
- Southern California JEA
- Andrew Stark
- Walsworth Publishing Company
- Western Ass’n of Univ. Publications Managers

---

David Cay Johnston
- Johnston Community College, IA
- Ronald E. Johnson
- Beverly Keneagy
- Christine Keysler-Fanick
- La Sierra High School, CA
- David Langlois
- Sheri Lewis
- Liberty High School, IL
- Kate McLaughlin
- Eston Melton
- Mineaha Academy
- Matthew Morin
- National Scholastic Press Association
- Kathleen Neumeyer
- New York Press Association
- Ocean County College, NJ
- Peninsula Press Club
- Susan Peterson
- Mark Plenke
- Kimberly Fraser
- Harry Proudfoot
- David Randall
- Redwood High School, CA
- John David Reed
- Carol Richtsmeier
- Eric Robinson
- Kelli Sager
- James Salzer
- Tracy A. Sena
- Shawnee Mission North High School, KS
- Helen Silha
- Adam Syle
- Anthony Smith
- Southern University Newspapers
- Howard & Juanita Spanogle
- Staples High School, CT
- Mary Stapp
- M.K. Staudaher
- Stoughton Area School District
- Reginald Stuart
- Susan Tantillo
- Sherris Taylor
- The College at Brockport, NY
- Amanda Thrash
- Tillamook Bay Community College, OR
- Stephen Thurston
- Charles Tobin
- University of South Carolina
- Ferr Valentine
- Virginia Association of Journalism Teachers
- Andrea Watson
- Mark Webber
- Stephen Wermiel
- John W. Wheeler
- Theresa White
- Thomas Whitehead
- Willamette University
- Esther Wojicki
For 35 years the SPLC has been the only national advocate for the free press rights of collegiate journalists. Had there been no SPLC, there is no doubt some publications would not have survived, and dozens more would have been censored or turned into an organ of an administration.

Kevin Schwartz
Director and General Manager, The Daily Tarheel

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