



REPORTERS COMMITTEE LITIGATION PRIORITIES

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The litigation priorities of the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press are as follows:

To pursue high-visibility and legal reform litigation for the benefit of journalists and news organizations.

Reporters Committee attorneys should endeavor to engage in impact litigation that involves important legal issues affecting journalists and news organizations. Litigation may be impactful either because it involves newsworthy subject matter or because it presents an opportunity to develop favorable case law in a jurisdiction. Ideally, Reporters Committee attorneys will litigate cases that have both of these characteristics.

Because the Reporters Committee's Steering Committee recognizes the need for more impact litigation in the areas of freedom of information under federal and state law, and access to court proceedings and court documents, litigating cases in those strategic issue areas is a priority. While not a requirement for impact litigation, it is a priority for Reporters Committee attorneys to represent journalists and/or media organizations in direct litigation matters.

To provide legal defense for nonprofit news organizations, freelance journalists, bloggers, and journalists without institutional affiliations.

The Reporters Committee's Steering Committee recognizes that changing technology and economic factors have impacted the news media industry in recent years and led to a rise in nonprofit news organizations as well as in the number of freelancers, bloggers, and journalists with no institutional affiliations. These circumstances have created a need for pro bono legal defense in the areas of libel, privacy and other newsgathering torts, and reporter's privilege, among others. Accordingly, assisting nonprofit news organizations and journalists with little or no access to other sources of legal representation in legal defense matters is a priority.