

DURHAM COUNTY  
FILED  
APR 9 2003 IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION  
7 CVS 6365  
AT 1:28 P.M.  
CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF DURHAM

SEAN HAUGH, ET AL

Plaintiffs,

v.

COUNTY OF DURHAM, ET AL,

Defendants.

**BRIEF OF *AMICUS CURIAE***

**THE INTEREST OF THE *AMICUS* IN THIS CASE**

The American Civil Liberties Union of North Carolina (“ACLU-NC”) is a statewide, nonprofit, nonpartisan organization with approximately 7,000 members. Since its inception, the purpose of the ACLU-NC and its Legal Foundation has been to defend the constitutional rights of all people through educational programs, public statements, opinion letters to public officials, and litigation. The rights guaranteed to individuals that are found in the First Amendment to the United States Constitution are fundamental rights that protect all Americans, even attorneys, from abuse of governmental power. Because these rights are indispensable to a free society, the ACLU-NC and its Legal Foundation have undertaken to defend and protect the rights of all citizens from violations of their right to freedom of speech. The ACLU-NC is particularly interested in the case at bar because of the potential impact the Court’s decision could have on the First Amendment rights of all attorneys to speak to the press about pending North Carolina lawsuits, as well as the right of the press to interview attorneys about lawsuits pending in North Carolina courts.

