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MEDIA RELEASE
For Immediate Release

February 9, 2009, Goshen, New York - - **STEPHEN JACKSON**, former principal of Mt. Vernon High School, has filed a federal civil rights suit against **W.L. Sawyer**, the current school superintendent, and against the school district in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, White Plains. Mr. Jackson alleges that he was disallowed from resuming his duties as a successful high school principal and consigned to much less significant functions after taking a leave of absence under the Family and Medical Leave Act and being cleared to return to his position.

In explaining why he would not allow Mr. Jackson to resume duties he had well performed, the superintendent discriminatorily presumed that Mr. Jackson was disabled and could not perform the duties associated with his former position. At the end of the 2007-08 school year, the superintendent and School Board baselessly dismissed Mr. Jackson, ending his employment with Mt. Vernon.

Mr. Jackson is seeking both restoration of his position and compensatory damages for the losses he has suffered as a consequence of the allegedly illegal conduct alleged in the Complaint.

Mr. Jackson is represented by Michael H. Sussman of Goshen, New York.

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