






In The News


WDAF sends former anchor a not-so-lovely parting gift




By Hearne Christopher Jr.
From the Kansas City Star




Think David and Goliath.




Little did former Fox4 weekend morning anchor **Scott Klaus** realize what was in store for him after he told the station last fall he'd decided to quit broadcast journalism.




Klaus joined Independence medical services firm this past January. Then in February-Wammo! – Fox Corporate slapped a going-away lawsuit on the mild-mannered reporter. One which sources say, the company is pursuing vigorously.




But to what end?




A spokeswoman for Fox4 declined to comment on the lawsuit describing it as a "personnel matter."



Court documents, however, reveal the station contends it was harmed because other Fox4 news staffers had to fill in for Klaus, expenses were incurred hiring and training his replacement, there were job difficulties related to his department and legal fees were incurred to "enforce Klaus' obligations" under his employment agreement. Klaus' three-year contract with WDAF was to expire in June. No specific dollar damage figures are included in the lawsuit.




"They have lost several major anchors...why are they worried about somebody doing the morning newscast on weekends?" says one TV news insider. "I mean, he didn't leave to go to work for a competitor."




One possibility: payback.

"I honestly think that's the root of the evil here," says Klaus' lawyer, **Brendan Donelon**. "We're saying he was retaliated against for supporting the union and that's what we're bringing a counterclaim for."




Klaus was an open supporter of a pro-union movement at the



station two years ago that passed by a single vote. That vote still is being appealed by Fox4.

"After this occurred things got a little rough for him and he started looking for work elsewhere."



Donelon says. "It's my opinion that this is a nuisance lawsuit, it's being filed to send a message to other people."

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