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Contact: Cherri Senders, 818-884-8966 x104, cherri@sendersgroup.com

Judge Denies ACCJC Motion to Delay Proceedings

Fight for City College continues as the school's day in court nears

San Francisco – At a hearing earlier today, Superior Court Judge Curtis Karnow denied a motion by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) to delay proceedings in a lawsuit filed by the San Francisco City Attorney against the ACCJC.

“We’re thankful for the judge’s ruling,” said Tim Killikelly, President of AFT 2121. “This motion by the ACCJC was nothing more than a delay tactic and another example of the commission trying to avoid accountability while thumbing their collective noses at the court. We’re happy the court saw through this and that the trial is scheduled to go forward.”

San Francisco City Attorney Dennis Herrera filed a lawsuit against the ACCJC to stop the commission’s illegal disaccreditation order against City College of San Francisco (CCSF). The ACCJC asked the court to stay City Attorney Herrera’s suit, another attempt at denying CCSF a path to justice. The ACCJC’s request was based in part on a new process they created called Restoration Status, a policy that the California Federation of Teachers (CFT) has cited as flawed and unnecessary.

However, after hearing approximately 45 minutes of arguments, Judge Karnow ruled from the bench and denied the ACCJC’s motion, allowing the lawsuit to move forward. It is scheduled for trial on October 27, 2014.

Disaccreditation would effectively close City College, denying 80,000 students access to quality and affordable higher education. The courts' preliminary injunction in the Herrera lawsuit against the ACCJC delays such an action, and guarantees City College, its students and the city its day in court.

City College of San Francisco students, members of the community and faculty and staff were on hand at the hearing in support of Herrera’s lawsuit.

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The CFT represents over 25,000 faculty in thirty community college districts, and 120,000 educational workers at every level of the education system, from early childhood to higher education. More info: www.cft.org