

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA
SOUTHERN DIVISION

John F. Knight, Jr., et al.,

Plaintiffs and
Plaintiffs-Intervenors,

The United States of
America,

Plaintiff,

v.

CIVIL ACTION FILE
NO. CV-83-M-1676-S

The State of Alabama,
et al.,

Defendants.

ORDER

The Court has before it the Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Agreement Between Defendants Alabama State University ("Defendant ASU") and Troy University ("Defendant Troy") (Docket No. 3504), as well as the Joint

Motion for Approval of Settlement Agreement Between Defendants ASU and Auburn University-Montgomery ("AUM") (Docket No. 3505).


On December 4, 2006, the Court entered an Order directing that any objections to either of the above Agreements be filed by Friday, December 8, 2006. On December 5, 2006, the Court received a letter from Joe L. Reed, a member of Defendant ASU's Board of Trustees, asserting that Defendant ASU's Board had not appropriately approved the Settlement Agreements between Defendant ASU and Defendant Troy and Defendant ASU and AUM. (Docket No. 3510.) Mr. Reed does not purport to write for the full Board, but instead acts only as one of its members. No other Board member has complained about the actions of the Executive Committee of Defendant ASU's Board, and

more importantly, the Board as the governing authority for Defendant ASU and Defendant ASU itself have not complained about the actions of the Executive Committee in approving the agreements between Defendant ASU and Troy and Defendant ASU and AUM. Mr. Reed's letter does not express any objection to the substance of the agreements, but instead complains only as to the procedure used by Defendant ASU's Board to approve the agreements.

Mr. Reed's objections are not well stated, and the Court will not go behind the representation of counsel for Defendant ASU that Defendant ASU's Board approved the settlement agreements in an appropriate and authorized fashion. The Court therefore **OVERRULES** Mr. Reed's Objection (Docket No. 3510).

The Court has reviewed in detail the terms of the Agreements and finds that the Agreements are fair, adequate, and reasonable in all respects. ACCORDINGLY, the Court **HEREBY APPROVES** the Settlement Agreement Between Defendants Alabama State University and Troy State University (Docket No. 3504), as well as the Settlement Agreement Between Defendants Alabama State University and Auburn University-Montgomery (Docket No. 3505).

IT IS SO ORDERED, this the 16th day of December, 2006.


HAROLD L. MURPHY, JUDGE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT