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Judge refuses to dismiss suit against Clemson

The Associated Press

U.S. District Judge Matthew Perry has refused to dismiss a lawsuit by a former Clemson University official against the school.

The former executive secretary to the school's board, Eugene Troutman, has said he was fired last year in retaliation for his accusations of fiscal mismanagement.

Troutman alleged increases in tuition and fees at Clemson weren't justified by cuts in state appropriations, and that trustees "hoarded" cash from the increases to build an \$80 million fund.

The trustees and school officials have denied any wrongdoing.

The Greenville News reported that Clemson's lawyers argued the school is an arm of the state and cannot be sued under the federal law. Perry said the Legislature had designated the school as a municipality and municipalities can be sued under the federal law.

Information from: The Greenville News, <http://www.greenvillenews.com>

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