

One Year Defamation Statute of Limitations Applies to Online Postings

November 2, 2006

A federal court in Texas has ruled that Texas' one year statute of limitations applies to online publications. Nationwide Bi-Weekly Administration Inc., an Ohio based mortgage services company, had filed suit against the Dallas Morning News claiming inaccuracies in a column appearing in an online version of the paper. Nationwide had argued that, given the more permanent nature of the Internet, a one year statute of limitations should not be applied. In dismissing the case as untimely, the court found no reason to distinguish between offline and online defamation in applying the one year statute of limitations.

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