

Chap 3. Gathering News
Right of Access to Public Records?
Providence Jov. vs. McCoy
City ordinance held

unconst. by Dist. Judge on grounds
that city council was discriminating
and acting as a licensing body
as to what papers could print.
Paper wanted to pub. tax abatement

State ex rel. Noe vs. Knop, Sheriff
Paper photo wanted to take
pic but Sheriff said no. Court
held paper could take pic as long
as didn't interfere with work
of Sher.

Lee vs. Beach Pub Co
St. cannot constitutionally close
its police records to the gatherers
of newspaper info.

Does Newspaper have 'Special Interest'?

Forwood vs. Fuller, Auditor Gen.
Auditor would allow newspaper
to publish public disbursements.
Court held that ^{citizen} individual has a
common law right to public accounts.

This citizen had special ^{interest} ~~right~~
because wanted to give news to
his readers.

Bent Pub. Co v Haner, County Clerk.
Any public citizen has right
to examine public records
for some lawful purpose.
Newspaper - same right.

X Donahue vs Halbrook

A citizen has no right to
public records because is a
elector, but must state his
reason. I must show that he
has a "special interest." which
defendant did not in this case. He
the denial.

Holcomb, Sheriff vs. St. Paul. Chamberlain

Mobile Register wanted to look
into jail records. Court held
that any person with interest
in it could & that newspapers
had special interest.

What records are Open + Closed!

Matthews vs Dyle.

Gov. of Ariz. withheld documents of investigation. Court held Gov. didn't have ^{final} right to say what records could be closed to public examination. Court did!

Berkley Newspaper vs. Hunter

Divorce X - Court held divorce records not open because clerk can but doesn't have to keep a record - hence - not public record.

tax collector -

Hardman vs. Collector

Paper could have access to tax collector books since would make incredibly convenient of his work. Only inept when it is that he had done wrong.