

Feuchtenberger, Karen

From: Ammerman, Paula <PRA4@psu.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2012 6:46 PM
Subject: JVP statement/attorney-client privilege

Importance: High

Rod Erickson asked that I distribute the below message to you.

To Board Members:

Below is a message I'm planning to send out to the Penn State community on Friday morning. Please let me know if you have any reservations about this message or any edits to offer. Lanny has edited this statement from an earlier version. Please send any comments to Paula by noon tomorrow (Thursday).

Thanks,
Rod

This week has been filled with both mourning and celebration of the contributions of Joseph Vincent Paterno. I first want to offer my sincere condolences to his wife Sue, his children and their families. While we knew the public educator, football coach and philanthropist, his family knew him intimately as husband, father and grandfather. During an interview a few years back, he was asked what was his secret ambition. His reply, "To be a good father and grandfather." I ask all members of the Penn State community to respect the family's privacy as they mourn the loss of their loved one, and continue to support the Paternos with your thoughts and prayers.

Much has been written through the decades about Joe Paterno's life and his iconic coaching career. He will always be remembered for his "Grand Experiment" of combining academic excellence with championship-caliber athletic performance. This approach set a new standard for all intercollegiate programs around the nation, and became known as the Penn State way -- "Success with Honor." The stellar graduation rate of Joe's players and all Penn State student-athletes can be traced to his emphasis on scholarship.

As a result, Joe did much more than prepare his players for athletic competition; he prepared them to be life-long learners and engaged citizens. Many left Penn State for professional football careers but many more went on to become professionals in other fields of endeavor. In either case, Joe's players credit him for teaching them the lessons of life that made them responsible leaders in their homes, professions, communities and the nation.

Joe and Sue endowed many programs and facilities at Penn State that helped to lift our academic reputation. Their scholarship support served to make a Penn State degree an achievable goal for many students.

In closing, let us remember Joe Paterno's words that he spoke to the graduating class of 1973: "It is being involved in a common cause, which brings us joy and memories, which endure....It is making our very best effort, that we have stretched to the very limit of our ability, which makes us bigger men and more able to

stretch again: to reach even higher as we undertake new challenges.” And let’s always remember Joe’s constant refrain, “Enjoy the game, you will only get to play so many in life.”

www.pennstatesunshinefund.org