



## **PRESS RELEASE**

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
Karen Di Prima: 856.382.2211

### **ATTORNEY CONTACTS:**

<b>Terry Fromson Esq.</b> Women's Law Project 215.928.5771	<b>Abbe Fletman, Esq.</b> Flaster Greenberg PC 215.279.9388; 215.287.6675 (cell)
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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **COURT CERTIFIES CLASS IN TITLE IX ACTION AGAINST DELAWARE STATE UNIVERSITY**

*Fromson of Women's Law Project, Fletman of Flaster/Greenberg PC Approved  
as Class Counsel*

*(Philadelphia, PA – July 13, 2010)* A Federal judge in the U.S. District Court for the District of Delaware yesterday (July 12, 2010) granted class action status to a lawsuit filed by Delaware State University (DSU) equestrian team members suing DSU for violating Title IX by eliminating the women's equestrian team at the conclusion of the 2009-10 academic year and failing to provide equal athletic opportunities for female students.

The Court certified a class of *"all present, prospective and future DSU female students, including currently enrolled students, students admitted for the 2010-11 academic year, and prospective students who participate, seek to participate, or have been deterred or prevented from participating in or obtaining the benefits of, intercollegiate athletics sponsored by DSU.* The Court also approved the eight named plaintiffs as representatives of the class, and designated Abbe F. Fletman of Flaster/Greenberg PC and Terry L. Fromson of the Women's Law Project as class counsel.

“Certification of class action status is significant because it allows the plaintiffs, all of whom are enrolled DSU student-athletes, to represent the interests of current and future DSU female students,” stated Fromson. “We are pleased with the ruling,” stated Fletman, “because we are seeking to achieve long-term gender equity in sports at DSU.”

The student-athletes brought the lawsuit in February of this year under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the federal law that prohibits sex discrimination in federally funded educational programs, and specifically applies to athletic programs. Title IX requires equity in scholarships, accommodation of athletic interests and abilities, and treatment. In April, the Court entered an order continuing the women’s equestrian team through the end of the 2010-11 academic year. Trial is scheduled to commence on October 18, 2010.

Joanne Pinckney, Esq., of the Wilmington law firm, Pinckney, Harris & Weidinger, LLC, is Delaware local counsel.

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**ABOUT THE WOMEN’S LAW PROJECT:** The [Women's Law Project](#) has challenged sex discrimination in employment, education, athletics, and insurance; advanced the rights of lesbian and gay parents; advocated on behalf of impoverished women; worked for fair and accessible procedures in child custody, child support, and protection from abuse actions; and championed the rights of sexual assault survivors. We take pride in being both a unique resource for Pennsylvania women and a national leader in the field of women's rights.

**ABOUT FLASTER/GREENBERG P.C.:** [Flaster/Greenberg, Attorneys at Law](#) has been providing legal services to individuals, entrepreneurs, privately held and family owned businesses and publicly traded corporations throughout the Delaware Valley for nearly four decades. A [regional business law firm](#) of 70 lawyers with offices in [Pennsylvania \(PA\)](#), [New Jersey \(NJ\)](#) and [Delaware \(DE\)](#), [Flaster/Greenberg](#) serves clients in dozens of industries and practice areas including [bankruptcy](#), [business & corporate](#), [construction](#), [environmental](#), [health care](#) and [intellectual property](#) law.