**Formal Complaint Against Edison State College**

I am Steve Atkins, former Vice President, Academic Affairs at Edison State College. This complaint is in reference to Edison’s document, recently submitted to SACS/COC entitled Response Report to the Visiting Committee (Response). The document presents Edison’s case for reaffirmation of accreditation following 14 findings received from the SACS on-site team lead by Andrew Fulp in November 2011. After reviewing the Response, I find that it excludes important details, is exceedingly superficial and, at times, is fraudulent and thereby in violation of the SACS COC Standard of Integrity.

Having served as Accreditation Liaison as well as Chair of XXX SACS COC Reaffirmation and Substantive Change committees over three decades, I have the utmost respect for the accreditation process and confidence in its processes for ensuring the highest standards of integrity. It is my belief that SACS provides a basic framework of conduct that protects its public reputation, and guards against actions that would result in false incrimination and/or civil litigation against itself or others. This complaint will demonstrate that Edison has not achieved compliance with the Committee recommendations for the following core requirements and comprehensive standards, and that current institutional practices are not consistent with the practice of integrity in all matters.

* Integrity: The Committee recommends that the institution provide evidence that they have safeguards in place to ensure the integrity of its academic programs and all operations.
* CR 2.7.2: The Committee recommends the institution demonstrate that all degree programs embody a coherent course of study as appropriate to the designated field.
* CR 2.8: The Committee recommends the College ensure the number of full-time faculty members is adequate to support the mission of the institution and ensure the quality and integrity of its academic programs.
* CS 3.2.8 The Committee recommends the institution demonstrate they have qualified administrative and academic officers with the experience, competence, and capacity to lead the institution.
* CS 3.4.2 The Committee recommends that the institution provide evidence that their baccalaureate admission policies are clear and enforced in a consistent manner.
* CS 3.4.5 The Committee recommends that the institution publishes, implements and consistently enforces policies related to course substitutions that adhere to principles of good educational practice.
* CS 3.5.3 The Committee recommends that the institution provide evidence that requirements for undergraduate programs are consistently enforced.

This complaint also provides details concerning Edison’s unfair and purposeful distortion of my record and continuing pernicious and irresponsible allegations and actions that are defamatory, slanderous, and libelous toward me and others. While I understand that SACS/COC does not intervene in internal procedures of institutions, or perform as a regulatory body, the fact that the very conditions at Edison State College that resulted in the 1.1. Integrity violation the College received last November remain to this day, and that the College’s Response to the Visiting Team itself lacks integrity insomuch as it withholds vital information, misrepresents the facts about its academic programs, and blatantly scapegoats the very persons who had discovered and were attempting to remedy the problems with those programs. Because of the retaliation against me, I have filed lawsuits in the United States District Court (Appendix 2) against the College’s Board and Trustees and former President, Kenneth Walker.