

1 AN ACT concerning civil law.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Code of Civil Procedure is amended by
5 changing Section 13-201 as follows:

6 (735 ILCS 5/13-201) (from Ch. 110, par. 13-201)
7 Sec. 13-201. Defamation - Privacy.

8 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this Section, actions
9 ~~Actions~~ for slander, libel or for publication of matter
10 violating the right of privacy, shall be commenced within one
11 year next after the cause of action accrued.

12 (b) When slander, libel, or publication of matter violating
13 the right of privacy is committed anonymously, under a false or
14 fictitious name, or without identifying the speaker, author, or
15 publisher sufficiently to permit an action to be commenced
16 against the person, the period of limitations shall not run
17 during the time period in which the person entitled to bring
18 the action undertakes to discover the identity of one who may
19 be responsible in damages via an action or actions brought
20 under Illinois Supreme Court Rule 224 or Federal Rule of Civil
21 Procedure 27 or similar actions for pre-suit discovery under
22 the law of other states or nations. In no event may an action
23 be commenced under this subsection (b) more than 3 years after

1 the commission of the slander, libel, or publication of matter
2 violating the right of privacy. Nothing in this amendatory Act
3 of the 98th General Assembly extends the period of limitations
4 of any claim of slander, libel, or invasion of a right of
5 privacy brought against the news media, provided the identity
6 of the news media is sufficiently known at the time of the
7 slander, libel, or invasion of a right of privacy. As used in
8 this subsection (b), "news media" means a newspaper published
9 at regular intervals whether in print or electronic format, a
10 news service whether in print or electronic format, a radio
11 station, a television station, a television network, a
12 community antenna television service, or a person or
13 corporation engaged in making news reels or other motion
14 picture news for public showing.

15 (Source: P.A. 82-280.)