

EWC, family settle wrongful death suit

Johnathan Glenn was shot to death in 2004 outside his dormitory.

By BETH KORMANIK
The Times-Union

Edward Waters College has reached a \$2.75 million settlement with the family of Johnathan Glenn, a student who was slain just a day after he wrote an essay about feeling unsafe on campus.

The wrongful death settlement, reached last month, also requires the Jacksonville private college to award an annual scholarship in his name for tuition, room and board for the next five years.

But his family's attorney said the greatest benefit is that the campus is now safer than it was three years ago.

"It brings some sense of relief that this is over and these issues have been brought to



Glenn

the school's attention," said Jay Cohen, the family's Fort Lauderdale-based attorney. "The Glenn family believes they have had an impact on

the security at the school."

Glenn, a freshman, was shot to death in 2004 in a robbery attempt as he stood outside of his dormitory. Two men had demanded his Tracy McGrady basketball jersey, cell phone and wallet.

The day before, Glenn turned in a class essay critical of campus security. He wrote that students were "terrified."

Glenn's family sued, claiming the college had inadequate security and misrepresented the safety of the campus.

Attorneys for Glenn's fam-

EWC: Family to receive \$2.75 million settlement

Continued from A-1

ily later said security cameras had not worked for years and that the school lacked enough trained security officers and safety lighting.

"The college is very satisfied to have this unfortunate situation behind it," said Michael Freed, Edward Waters' attorney. "The college was more than happy to pay tribute to Johnathan through a scholarship and looks forward for more positive things to come."

Insurance companies representing the college and its security provider, Alrod Enterprises, paid the settlement.

"There is no question in my

mind that EWC and Alrod both became well-educated with respect to their responsibilities and better ways to provide security on a college campus," Cohen said. "This lawsuit brought that to their attention dramatically."

Cohen said the college now devotes more resources toward security, including a greater presence of security officers.

Kenell Dashawn Coleman received a life sentence for shooting Glenn. His accomplice, Jermell Maurice Campbell, testified against him and pleaded guilty to armed robbery charges.

beth.kormanik@jacksonville.com
(904) 359-4619

EWC continues on A-9