

# Los Angeles Times

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## **Scientists Picket Court**

About 400 members of the Church of Scientology's Crusade for Religious Freedom picketed outside the Los Angeles County Courthouse today and stood in a silent hallway vigil during a court hearing on former member Gerald Armstrong's \$60-million fraud suit against them.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Paul G. Breckenridge Jr., who last year absolved Armstrong of stealing documents from the church, said he would rule later on Armstrong's request to see statements he made to an "auditor" when he joined the church. Scientologists claim that the statements are privileged and that the First Amendment guarantee of religious freedom precludes their use in court.