Subject: Lawsuit threatened against EA in Generals Forum Posted by codewench on Thu, 27 Mar 2003 10:39:26 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Sk8rRIMukDon't think we can help but its worth a try .

EA's support really sucks there has to be something they can do about that .

You can probably expect to click that link soon and get a error page saying topic not found.

-Sk8rRIMuk

I just picked this quote as I think it succinctly states the general opinions out there.

To rebut them - as far as I know, there is no legal action you can take against EA for providing a buggy game. I'm not a lawyer, but I've been around for a while and I pay attention to as much of this stuff as I can.

That EULA you click through (the legalese page upon page that you either didn't read or just scrolled through really fast to get to the OK button during install) says something along the lines of "I understand this game is provided w/o any kind of gaurantee that it will even run on my system, etc etc".

There are lots of other interesting things in those EULAs... you should try reading them sometime. But that's the pertinent part. By clicking OK, you entered into a contract that says you agree it may be a piece of shit, and if you think so, you can take some action along the lines of returning it to EA for a refund. What the exact action is will depend on what the EULA in question says (I've not installed my copy of Generals yet... too many other cool games distracting me, not to mention the job hunt ).

So, most likely, the lawsuit is doomed to failure. The only possible route it could take to even think about succeding is to challenge the binding nature of the EULA. If the lawyers can trash that, they may be able to consider attacking the buggy-software stuff, but I doubt that'd work. EULAs may not be binding when they say "you need to give us your first born child to even hold this package, and if you break the seal to get to this point, your immortal soul is ours. We'll be by to pick it up at 7, since you're reading this and must have broken the seal to do so." However, something that says "this may not work on your system" is probably quite legally binding.

The only thing you can do to REALLY get EA's attention is to just stop buying their products. EA is a corperation... not really all that big in the grand scheme of things, but still a corperation. The thing they understand best is the bottom line. If you hit them there, they notice. If you kvetch and moan on a forum, they probably won't care too much.

-Greg

(none of the opinions expressed here-in are those of EA or any of it's constituents. blah blah, they're just my personal opinions, etc).