



CONSUMER ATTORNEYS OF CALIFORNIA

Seeking Justice for All

“Judicial Hellhole”? Says who?

CAOC reminds Californians to consider the source of attack on rights

SACRAMENTO (Dec. 17, 2013) – Consumer Attorneys of California today issued a three-word response to a report claiming California is the nation’s #1 “Judicial Hellhole” for the second consecutive year.

“Consider the source,” said CAOC President John M. Feder.

Feder pointed out the report is from the American Tort Reform Association, a corporate front group whose funders have included such prominent tobacco, oil, pharmaceutical and insurance giants as Philip Morris, Dow Chemical, Shell Oil, ExxonMobil, Pfizer, Merck, Johnson & Johnson, Bayer, Eli Lilly, General Electric, Aetna, Geico, State Farm, Farmers Insurance and Nationwide, as well as Koch Industries.

“The corporations behind ATRA have the most to gain by shutting the courthouse doors on consumers,” Feder said. “They don’t trust the good common sense of local juries at the heart of the civil justice system. The jury system remains the only place where consumers who have been cheated or harmed can take on these corporate behemoths on a level playing field. This ‘Judicial Hellholes’ report is another reminder that these corporate interests don’t like being held accountable for their misdeeds. The ideal legal climate for ATRA is one in which consumers would be stripped of their legal rights.”

Consumer Attorneys of California is a professional organization of plaintiffs’ attorneys representing consumers seeking accountability against wrongdoers in cases involving personal injury, product liability, environmental degradation and other causes.

For more information:

J.G. Preston, CAOC Press Secretary, 916-669-7126, jgpreston@caoc.org
Eric Bailey, CAOC Communications Director, 916-669-7122, ebailey@caoc.org