CONFRONTING THE TORT “REFORMERS”

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Lea-Ann Tratten, Consumer Attorneys of California’s political director, issued the following statement about the Civil Justice Assn. of California’s latest Orwellian piece of propaganda:

“No wonder John Sullivan’s Civil Justice Assn. of California lashes out at plaintiffs’ attorneys. Attorneys have the guts to stand up to the corporate interests for which Civil Justice Assn. of California fronts: tobacco and oil companies, the insurance and pharmaceutical industries, and several bail-out recipients including AIG.”

“Sullivan’s statement that attorneys participate in the political process is intended to divert attention. Just one of CJAC’s board members—tobacco giant Philip Morris and its corporate parent, Altria—gave $781,800 to California politicians and campaigns in the first half of 2009—far more than plaintiffs’ attorneys. Since the start of the decade, Philip Morris, the world’s largest cigarette company, has doled out $44,870,901 to California politicians and political causes.”

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