



CONSUMER ATTORNEYS OF CALIFORNIA

Seeking Justice for All

CAOC President Bentley defends judicial independence

Condemns President Trump's attacks on Judge Robart as offensive and beneath the dignity of the executive branch

SACRAMENTO (Feb. 7, 2017) -- Consumer Attorneys of California President Gregory L. Bentley made the following statement today:

“An independent judicial branch is the last, best defense against tyranny in a nation of laws. In the United States, the president does not unilaterally dictate, make, or define the law. Consumer Attorneys of California and I condemn President Trump's offensive attacks on U.S. District Judge James Robart, whom Mr. Trump dismissed as a ‘so-called judge’ while calling his ruling ‘ridiculous.’ Judge Robart's background and record are impeccable, and the fact that he was appointed to the District Court by President George W. Bush and approved by the Senate without a dissenting vote shows that he is considered qualified across the political spectrum.

“CAOC will not be silent in the face of challenges to our centuries-old system of checks and balances; a system that is necessary to a functioning democracy. It is essential that our judiciary retain its independence from political influence in order to protect the rights of all Americans. Though we may not agree with every decision made by every judge, it is vital that this nation, and its president, respect the judicial branch's ultimate authority to interpret the law, as our Founders intended. To fulfill their function, judges must be accountable only to the law, not political pressure, special interests, or any other branch of the government.”

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.

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