

Civil Courts and Juries Protect Our Free Market

- Protecting our free market economy is critical to protecting American business interests
- Responsible business owners who produce good products and services, take care of their workers and help their local communities are the backbone of America. Our free market system rewards these business owners.
- Irresponsible business owners who cheat or cut corners to get ahead gain an unfair advantage over their competitors—and that’s wrong. Those who cheat our free market system should be held accountable, and our court system does that.
- Libertarian economist Milton Friedman believes that our courts are critical to protecting private business interests and our economic freedom
 - “We have learned about the importance of private property and the rule of law as a basis for economic freedom . . . It turns out that the rule of law is probably more basic than privatization. Privatization is meaningless if you don’t have the rule of law.”
- Tea Party founder Judson Phillips agrees that the civil courts are critical to protecting our free markets
 - “The free market is wonderful. It encourages good behavior and punishes bad behavior. The civil court system is part of that free market. It is the part that punishes bad behavior.”
- Courts protect our free market and reduce excessive government regulation—a real problem identified by business owners
 - Irresponsible companies who violate our free market principles should be held accountable, not be given a financial edge over responsible companies. If a business breaches a contract or produces a defective product, that business should have to pay. If it has to raise its prices or see a cut in profit, so be it. That’s how the free market works. The pricing and profit advantage should go to the responsible business, not the cheater.
 - Market forces help weed out irresponsible behavior and ensure everyone is competing fairly. If there are no penalties, cheaters continue to win while responsible businesses lose
 - The court system is efficient and ensures that only those responsible are penalized.
 - The court system is local. Whom do you trust more to make decisions about your business? People who live in your local community or lawmakers in your state capitol or Washington?
 - The only alternative is excessive government regulation that puts burdens on all businesses
 - Regulation is too expensive and passes the costs onto every business v. a free market system protected by our courts that makes only wrongdoers pay
 - Regulation is overreaching—lawmakers have to anticipate everything that could go wrong and over-regulate. It could hurt lawful activities
 - Requires excessive intervention at both the state and local level