Could Be Forced to Pay Billions Over Alleged Violations of Illinois Biometrics Law

A federal judge's ruling means Facebook could face billions of dollars in damages if the court finds the company violated Illinois residents' privacy rights with its facial tagging feature, reports the ***Chicago Tribune***.

Reporter **Ally Marotti** explains that the potential penalty stems from a federal lawsuit filed in Illinois in 2015 that alleges the social media giant violated a state law protecting residents' biometric information, such as data from facial, fingerprint and iris scans. Illinois has one of the strictest biometric privacy laws in the nation.

Facebook has argued that if its collection of biometric information did not harm individuals, they do not have grounds to sue under Illinois' biometrics law. But the judge in the case determined that an alleged invasion of privacy was injury enough to allow users to sue.

Read the *Tribune* article.