

Florida Law Firm Fined \$9 Million By Federal Court Over Tobacco Litigation

First Coast News **reports** that federal judges in Florida handed down \$9,164,404.12 in fines Wednesday on prominent Jacksonville litigation firm, Farah & Farah, P.A.

Farah & Farah and the Wilner Firm filed 1,250 frivolous tobacco claims against the Engle Trust Fund, the court found.

“Engle is a class action lawsuit named for a Miami pediatrician who defeated tobacco companies in court,” First Coast News explains. “A multi-million dollar fund paid by tobacco companies was set up for Floridians and their survivors who suffered illnesses due to cigarette smoking from 1994-2006. The class action in 2008 was estimated to include 700,000 people.”

Some cases filed by the attorneys were for deceased clients, non-smokers, those who did not suffer from one of the required diseases, and 572 that did not authorize the attorneys to file lawsuits on their behalf, the report says.

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