

CLASS ACTION ATTORNEY FEE DIGEST:

Consumer Law Quarterly

A quarterly compilation of consumer cases reported in
Class Action Attorney Fee Digest

VOL. 1

SPRING 2007

Editor's Note

Over the past three months, the full edition of *Class Action Attorney Fee Digest* has reported on over sixty cases on many subjects: Antitrust, Civil Rights, Consumer, Employment, Environment, and Securities. This publication extracts just the consumer cases — here there are 27. They cover such issues as: car problems (tire wear, license plate brackets, steering wheel locks), computer problems (faulty motherboards, cleaning products, unwanted software, spam.), insurance premiums (health, life), and loans (improper fees for payoff statements and filing releases). There is a complaint about rental car fees and unfair credit practices.

As with the full edition, we include two charts: one summarizing the general details and one summarizing incentive awards to named plaintiffs. There are twenty-one state cases and six federal. The largest settlement was in *Dancer v. Catholic Healthcare West*, in which retrospective relief, alone, weighed in at \$423 million, but which also included substantial additional, prospective relief. This case is a good example of why it is critical to read the case abstract. The chart lists the attorney fee percentage for *Dancer* as “unknown.” The case abstract highlights how the Court noted that fees and expenses represent less than 0.3% of the estimated value of the retrospective relief alone.

What you missed in the regular edition of *Class Action Attorney Fee Digest*: a brief case note on *Masters v. Wilhelmina Model Agency, Inc.* discussing the Second Circuit's opinion of the basis of attorney fees, a brief case note on *In re Paracelsus Corp.* discussing the issue of *cy pres*, an article on the lodestar vs. percentage method using *In re Stock Exchanges Options Trading Antitrust Litigation*, by Professors William B. Rubenstein and Alan Hirsch, a second article by Professor Rubenstein examining whether a common fund fee award should be based on the amount recovered or limited to the amount paid out to class members. Each issue also contains an index of cases by jurisdiction. To subscribe to the regular monthly edition, please contact us at subscriptions@octagonpublishing.com. Thank you.

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

ATTORNEY FEE AWARDS SUMMARY CHART.....	2
NAMED PLAINTIFF AWARDS SUMMARY CHART	4
CASE ABSTRACTS	5
<i>Ciabattari v. Toyota Motor Sales, USA, Inc.</i>	5
<i>Janzen v. Gold Banc Corp.</i>	5
<i>Miller v. MetLife Auto & Home</i>	6
<i>Opperman v. Cellco Partnership</i>	6
<i>Schaffer v. Hewlett-Packard Co.</i>	7
<i>Schonning v. Jetway Computer Corp.</i>	7
<i>Susman v. Mercedes-Benz USA</i>	8
<i>Sutter Health Uninsured Pricing Cases</i>	8
<i>Thelen v. GTI Properties, Inc.</i>	9
<i>Ambrogi v. Verizon Internet Servs., Inc.</i>	9
<i>Aragachi v. Panasonic Corp. of</i> <i>North America</i>	10
<i>Battaglia v. DirectRevenue, LLC</i>	11
<i>Dancer v. Catholic Healthcare West</i>	11
<i>Fulton v. National General Assurance Co.</i>	12
<i>Kiser v. PalmOne, Inc.</i>	13
<i>Knight v. Homecomings Financial</i> <i>Network, Inc.</i>	13
<i>Levine v. McGraw (Shape Up)</i>	14
<i>Mills v. Zurich Life Ins. Co. of America</i>	15
<i>Reade-Alvarez v. Eltman, Eltman & Cooper, P.C.</i>	15
<i>Rolnik v. AT&T Wireless Services, Inc.</i>	16
<i>Sifford v. Ashland, Inc.</i>	17
<i>Sochin v. Master Lock Co.</i>	18
<i>Leech v. Excel Title, LLC</i>	19
<i>Reynolds v. Hartford Fin. Servs. Group, Inc.</i>	20
<i>Lorenzo v. Kiwi Brands</i>	21
<i>S. Parker Hardware Mfg. Corp. v. AT&T Corp.</i>	22
<i>Ticho v. Budget Rent A Car System, Inc.</i>	22