

## April 25, 2024

## Attorney General,

Today, Alliance for Consumers, an organization dedicated to consumer protection reform and advocacy for everyday consumers, issued a *Consumer Protection Report* updating its long-running series on what is known as the Shady Trial Lawyer Pipeline.

Consumers and taxpayers lose out from the Shady Trial Lawyer Pipeline in many ways, but one particularly dire aspect is how the public contracts that are the gateway to the Shady Trial Lawyer Pipeline are so often missing basic protections such that deeply conflicted trial lawyers can put their own interests first and turn these engagements into a left-wing political money game.

These contracts make some sense if the goal is funding left-wing campaigns.

The so-called Shady Eight alone sent 99% of their federal giving to Democratic candidates and allied committees since 2017, totaling over \$20 million.

But this is exactly the wrong way to truly protect consumers and your states.

At Alliance for Consumers, we believe it is important for you to continue receiving updated data on what is happening with the Shady Trial Lawyer Pipeline, so you can help stop its abuse of consumers and your state and ensure that your outside counsel arrangements are not a front for a left-wing political money game.

That is why I am sending you this *Consumer Protection Report* and calling on you to take immediate action to dismantle the Shady Trial Lawyer Pipeline in your state.

Attorneys General are on the front lines of this fight and already making progress, proving it can be done. Most prominently, Kansas and Iowa last year <u>terminated</u> <u>contracts with Morgan & Morgan</u>, a prominent member of The Shady Eight.

Indeed, there is a growing trend of conservative attorneys general scrutinizing their outside counsel arrangements for problems and taking action to change course.

I hope the attached report will help you stay vigilant in this regard.



Ending the Shady Trial Lawyer Pipeline is one of the strongest steps you can take to protect your consumers and the rule of law, and there is no better time than now to take action and press this fight forward.

As always, if you have questions or would like further information, do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Sincerely,

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O.H. Skinner
Executive Director
Alliance For Consumers

Attachment: Consumer Protection Report: Shady Trial Lawyer Pipeline Update