



April 2, 2025

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.

The so-called Shady Eight law firms, which have been the focus of AFC's reports, have sent 99% of their federal giving to Democrats and their allies since 2017, totaling nearly \$25 million, with over \$4 million generated in 2024.

The contracts that states have with these firms make some sense if the goal is funding left-wing political campaigns, but, for many reasons, they are exactly the wrong way to protect consumers and your states.

There has never been a more important time than now to be vigilant regarding your outside counsel arrangements, with the [recent revelations surrounding Morgan & Morgan's termination](#) by Kansas in 2023, [the same firm being sanctioned for use of AI in their briefing](#), and a [municipal outside counsel being sanctioned](#) for their statements about ex parte communications with a federal district judge in Ohio.

At Alliance for Consumers, we believe it is important for you to continue receiving updates on what is happening with the Shady Trial Lawyer Pipeline, and with unsavory outside counsel, so you can help ensure that you have outside counsel arrangements that help your state, help consumers, and have strong ethics and other protections that prevent the abuse of these relationships by the Shady Eight and others like them.

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

Attorneys General are on the front lines of this fight and making progress. 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 in this important mission.



ALLIANCE *for* CONSUMERS

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,

O.H. Skinner
Executive Director
Alliance For Consumers

Attachment: Shady Trial Lawyer Pipeline Update: The Shady Eight 2025 Update