

## **Introducing Litigation Tracking in CoMeta!**

- More than 150 complaints have been filed in U.S. courts alleging corporate defendants are responsible for introducing and spreading the deadly coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, in the United States
- CoMeta's new litigation tracking feature is monitoring emerging SARS-CoV-2 litigation complaint-by-complaint
- Stay abreast of this fast-moving litigation event with trends in filed complaints and detailed case information on causes of action, targeted industries, and named defendants

### **Tracking casualty-relevant litigation in the United States**

The novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, has infected more than two million people in the United States and killed more than 120,000 since it first emerged in January of this year. Consumers, workers, businesses, and governments have filed hundreds of complaints in state and federal courts seeking to hold corporations liable for the introduction and spread of the virus. Thus far, the complaints are most numerous against cruise lines and nursing homes, where plaintiffs allege companies failed to warn cruise ship passengers, nursing home residents, and company employees of their potential exposure to SARS-CoV-2 and take action to limit its spread and protect them from infection. But many additional complaints making similar allegations have emerged against other corporate defendants including meat packers, restaurants, warehouses, retail establishments, and hospitals. In more than half of all complaints filed to date, plaintiffs seek damages for personal injury (emotional distress, illness, wrongful death). Plaintiffs also frequently seek compensation for economic harm or ask courts to impose injunctive remedies that will ensure the safety of consumers and workers as the pandemic unfolds.

CoMeta's new litigation tracking feature puts information about this fast-moving litigation event at your fingertips. We're monitoring state and federal court dockets for casualty-relevant SARS-CoV-2 complaints and then capturing the key features of those complaints including plaintiff, defendant, attorney, date filed, court, and cause of action. Complaints are limited to actions alleging defendants were negligent in introducing the virus to the United States, contributing to its spread, and failing to protect plaintiffs from the virus in commercial environments. We are also capturing shareholder actions alleging corporate officers breached their fiduciary duty during the pandemic. Litigation tracking does not include complaints filed by prisoners and detainees alleging unsafe conditions in prisons and detention facilities or complaints filed by insureds against insurance companies seeking coverage under their property damage or business interruption policies.

We are introducing the litigation tracking feature with coverage of SARS-CoV-2 related litigation, but we have built this feature so that it can be extended to other casualty-relevant litigation events in the near future. We will likely move first to cover litigation events that are already quite large but have an uncertain path ahead, like those related to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). Our longer-run plan for the litigation tracking feature, though, is to capture casualty-relevant litigation in its earliest stages so that users can know

which of the hundreds of sources of potential litigation monitored by CoMeta have emerged as actual litigation events and then track how those litigation events unfold over time.

## Litigation tracking concepts and features

Litigation tracking can be accessed by clicking on “SARS-CoV-2 Litigation Tracking” in the navigation pane (1) or by clicking on “Litigation Tracking” on the SARS-CoV-2 profile page or on a company profile page for named defendants.

**LITIGATION TRACKING**  
**SARS-CoV-2**

Last updated: 17-Jun-2020 [VIEW PROFILE](#)

**CASES**  
165  
16-JUN-2020

**PLAINTIFF EXPOSURE**

Personal Injury	Consumer	Worker
98	94	50

**COURTS**

Federal	State
25	30

**NAMED DEFENDANTS**

Companies	Industries
135	26

**Top companies** | Top industries | Top attorneys | Top courts

- Princess Cruise Lines LTD. (40)
- Carnival Corporation & PLC (9)
- Big Blue Healthcare Inc. (8)
- The Arbor Group (5)
- Celebrity Cruises Inc. (4)
- Ensign Facility Services, Inc. (4)
- Golden Oaks Healthcare, Inc. (4)

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Case name	Complaint filed	Court	Plaintiff type	Personal injury	Statutory violation
<a href="#">Hernandez et al v. VES McDonald's et al</a>	16-Jun-2020	Superior Court of California, Alameda County	Worker	Yes	Employment
<a href="#">Goldtch et al v. Alphabet, Inc. et al</a>	16-Jun-2020	District of Massachusetts	Adult	No	Consumer protection
<a href="#">Vickers et al v. Carnival Corporation &amp; PLC</a>	15-Jun-2020	Southern District of Georgia	Adult	Yes	None
<a href="#">Aberdeen v. The Port Authority of New York &amp; New Jersey</a>	15-Jun-2020	Hudson County Superior Court	Worker	Yes	None
<a href="#">Kaegi et al v. Andover Subacute Rehabilitation Center et al</a>	13-Jun-2020	Superior Court of New Jersey, Sussex County	Adult	Yes	None
<a href="#">Wallace v. Symphony of Joliet</a>	12-Jun-2020	Circuit Court of Will County, Illinois	Adult	Yes	None
<a href="#">Ingram v.</a>	12-Jun-2020	District Court of Shelby	Adult	Yes	None

### Litigation filters (2)

Litigation tracking allows users to filter complaints by Litigation agent (limited to SARS-CoV-2 with this release), defendant company, defendant industry, plaintiff attorney, and court. Both headline statistics and the table of cases will reflect these top-level litigation filter selections.

### Headline statistics (3)

Statistics summarizing the selected set of complaints are presented at the top of the page. Statistics include:

- Cases: Total number of complaints filed; the date of the most recent complaint is also displayed.
- Plaintiff exposure: Number of complaints seeking compensation for personal injury (emotional distress, bodily injury, property damage); number of cases in which plaintiff is exposed as a consumer; number of cases in which plaintiff is exposed as a worker.
- Courts: Number of distinct federal and state courts in which complaints have been filed.
- Named defendants: Number of distinct companies that have been named in the selected complaints; number of distinct industries corresponding to named defendants.
- Top companies/industries/attorneys/courts: List of defendant companies, defendant industries, plaintiff attorneys, and courts corresponding to the selected complaints ordered by number of complaints.

### **Table of cases (4)**

Cases corresponding to the top-level litigation filter selections are listed in a table. Each case lists the case name (this naming convention could deviate from court records), the date the complaint was filed, the court in which it was filed, the nature of the plaintiff filing the complaint (adult consumer, worker, business, public entity, non-governmental organization), whether the complaint seeks damages for personal injury, and whether the complaint alleges a consumer protection-, employment-, or securities-related statutory violation.

### **Case information (5)**

Users can access more detailed information about each case by clicking on the case name. A case detail modal will open listing the case name, the case number, the court in which the complaint was filed, the date the complaint was filed, the name of the lead plaintiff, the name of the lead plaintiff attorney, the plaintiff type, the named defendants, the damages alleged (bodily injury, property damage, environmental, economic), the general and specific harm alleged (limited to lung injury/COVID-19 in this first release), whether the relief sought is compensatory or injunctive in nature, the type of statutory violation alleged (if any), and whether the complaint seeks to establish a class action.

A link to the original complaint document can be accessed by clicking on “Complaint.” An excerpt from the complaint or brief summary is also provided. The original complaint document may not be available in some cases.

At this time, litigation tracking is not systematically monitoring the status of each complaint. When we do learn that a complaint has been dismissed, we make note of it in the case detail modal (“Confirmed dismissal”). The court order corresponding to the dismissal might also be available. Motions are made available in some instances to provide further context for the complaint.

SARS-CoV-2 Litigation Tracker

qa.cometarsk.com/litigation-tracking/49842

**COURTS**

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25	30

**NAMED DEFENDANTS**

Companies	Industries
135	26

Celebrity Cruises Inc. (4)  
 Ensign Facility Services, Inc. (4)  
 Golden Oaks Healthcare, Inc. (4)

**Eaton v. Big Blue Healthcare Inc. et al**

2:20-cv-02291

Case name: District of Kansas

**COMPLAINT**

Hernandez et al v VES McDonald's	Complaint filed	11-JUN-2020	Case type	Personal injury	Statutory violation
Goldfich et al v Alphabet, Inc. et al	Lead plaintiff	Eaton		Yes	Employment
Vickers et al v Carnival Corpore	Attorney	Dallar Burns & Becker, L.C.		No	Consumer protection
Aberton v The Port Authority New Jersey	Plaintiff type	Adult		Yes	None
Kang et al v Andover Subacute Center et al	Defendant(s)	Big Blue Healthcare Inc., Little Blue Health Holdings, LLC, The Ensign Group, Inc., Ensign Facility Services, Inc., Golden Oaks Healthcare, Inc.		Yes	None
Wallace v Symphony of Isis	Damages	Bodily injury		Yes	None
Ingram v Bransford Skillset	General/specific harm	Lung Injury/COVID-19		Yes	None
Pozorski et al v Motekule, Inc.	Relief type	Compensatory		Yes	None
Caughan et al v Detroit Medical Center Sinai-Grace Hospital et al	Statutory violation	None		Yes	None
Eaton v Big Blue Healthcare Inc. et al	Class action	No		Yes	None
	Complaint excerpt/summary	Defendant failed to properly protect the decedent from contracting COVID-19, resulting in his untimely and wrongful death.		Yes	None
	Tags	nursing homes		No	Consumer protection
				No	Employment
				No	None

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