

The New York Times

March 13, 2010

Letter

His Day in Court

To the Editor:

Re "A Nonfrivolous Suit" (editorial, March 9):

Whether it's McDonald's serving up scaldingly hot food and drink or Toyota's years of failing to address sudden acceleration issues, big corporations need to be held accountable for reckless behavior that endangers our health and safety.

Your editorial demonstrates why ordinary Americans need access to a robust civil justice system, and why critics of civil lawsuits - from the late-night talk circuit to insurance company lobbyists - are off the mark.

Frank Sutton, the unfortunate consumer of an excruciatingly hot fast-food sandwich, deserves an opportunity to have his day in court.

When he speaks, he speaks for all of us.

Richard Binko

President, New York State

Trial Lawyers Association

Cheektowaga, N.Y., March 10, 2010