

# Biden Judges and Corporate Justice

When we have fair courts, we can stand as equals with even the most powerful corporation. But our courts are not always fair. Wealthy interests have poured millions of dollars into capturing our courts and getting judges who will find ways to rule in corporations' favor. President Biden's judges are beginning to undo the damage.

## Defective Building Materials

Ravi Salhotra sued a company whose connectors had damaged his home. (Connectors bind a house's frame to the concrete foundation.) He had an expert ready to testify that the connectors' design was defective. That meant many other homeowners had also been harmed by them, so Salhotra filed a class action suit, which allows for a big enough case to be consequential for the company that caused the harm. But the trial court judge blocked the expert from testifying and, as a result, denied class action status.

On appeal, Ninth Circuit Biden Judge Lucy Koh cast the deciding vote to reverse the lower court. She said it was up to the jury, not the trial judge, to decide if the expert's testimony was reliable. This decision came over the dissent of Trump judge Eric Miller and benefits millions of consumers.



## Unwanted Telemarketing

When Matthew Dickson filed a class action lawsuit against a company for unwanted telemarketing, Sixth Circuit Biden Judge Stephanie Davis allowed the case to proceed. She rejected the company's claim that its abusive and annoying telemarketing practice was legal.

## Investment Fraud

In another case, a Biden judge protected victims of investment fraud. Tenth Circuit Judge Veronica Rossman cast the deciding vote to let a nationwide class action lawsuit go to trial. She rejected the defendant company's argument, which would have made it harder for wronged investors to have their day in court.



## Defective Products

Dewitt Coates was injured when his rental scooter's brakes failed. The rental company and manufacturer claimed his injuries were not their fault because Coates had been illegally riding on the sidewalk when the brakes failed. Northern District of Georgia Judge Sarah Geraghty rejected that argument, which would have given companies a loophole to avoid accountability for their faulty vehicles.



## Home Foreclosures

Without fair courts, people can even lose their homes to businesses that don't follow the law. For instance, homeowner Angela Ruckman claimed that her lender's lawyers made misrepresentations when trying to foreclose on her house. Northern District of Ohio Judge Bridget Brennan rejected the law firm's narrow interpretation of the federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, which would have significantly reduced protections that Congress gave to borrowers.

