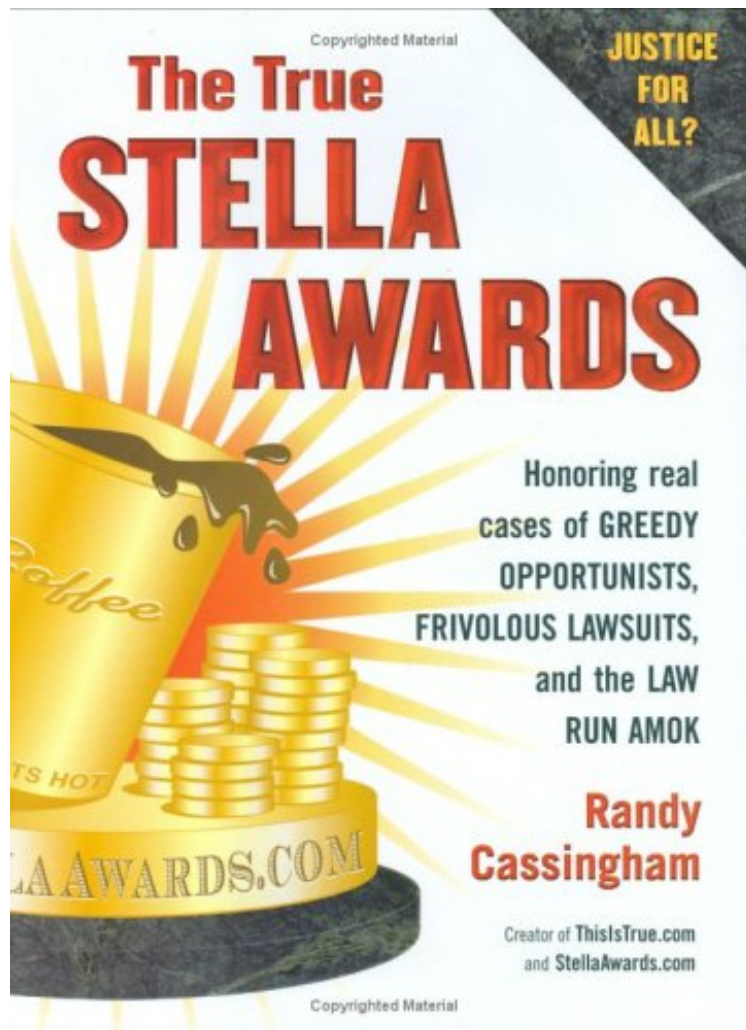


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## The True Stella Awards: Honoring real cases of greedy opportunists, frivolous lawsuits, and the law run amok

Randy Cassingham

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**Randy Cassingham : The True Stella Awards: Honoring real cases of greedy opportunists, frivolous lawsuits, and the law run amok** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The True Stella Awards: Honoring real cases of greedy opportunists, frivolous lawsuits, and the law run amok:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Learn why your court system doesn't work right and what it clogging the judicial pipes. Oh, and don't forget to laugh. By Gregg GFascinating book about absurd lawsuits filed in US courts. I did enjoy the book greatly - it was a page turner. However, It would have been nice to know how many of the cases

turned out. In some cases the author did update the book if he could do so before publication, but it would be nicer still if he could release an updated Kindle version with new updates. He did cite the sources of his information, so any reader can look up the cases themselves, I just think a Volume II would be awesome. Not only does Randy Cassingham present the cases for you to read, (and he does so in layman's terms, as he is not a lawyer himself), and not only does he cite the sources, but he explains why these outrageous cases are bad for our court system and our country. He then goes on to suggest a variety of ways that the system could be fixed - and some of them are really small changes that could have huge impacts. We should all read this book and then write to our congressmen and demand the changes he suggests. Even small changes to our courts could stop these kinds of wasteful, court-clogging, garbage lawsuits so our courts could get on with real business, like convicting murderers, or dealing with issues of Federal law. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. It is a thought provoking book! By shemar45 In 2013, this is a difficult book to rate. It is well written; the author's thoughts are clearly presented, and he obviously believes what he is saying. However, the book is so out of date that all I could think of were my perceived faults within the book. I wanted to know what happened in most of the suits he talks about. I wanted an updated edition that related the whole story. I didn't like being left wondering about the outcomes. Mr. Cassingham does a good job summarizing each case. He gives enough background to make sense of the situation, walks us through the facts of these ridiculous and frivolous lawsuits, and, because of the passage of time, leaves us hanging as to the resolution. Granted, many of the cases do have "afterwords" that give resolutions, but even those in some cases are insufficiently presented. In his final chapters, he tells the reader what is wrong with the system and why it is the way it is. He also admits that there is almost no way to revamp that system to stop this waste of time, money, and resources. I'm glad I read it. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I can only read 4 or 5 cases at a time By Robert Agostinho This is an awesome book. It describes lawsuits that have actually made it to court, and how some people and the lawyers that represent them are playing the system for personal gain at the expense of everyone else. I can only read about four or five cases until I have to put the book down, I get too angry to go on.

Gathered from the popular Web site StellaAwards.com, The True Stella Awards is an outrageous collection of Americas most ridiculous and frivolous lawsuits. Named for Stella Liebeck the woman who spilled hot McDonalds coffee on herself and then won a lawsuit against the fast-food chain humorist Randy Cassingham's popular Web site chronicles the hard-to-believe and amusing claims that have been brought before U.S. courts. Now, for the first time in book form, The True Stella Awards presents some of the most outlandish and unbelievable-but-true lawsuits in America. Some of the Stella Award cases include: -The man who legally changed his name to Jack Ass, and then sued MTV for \$50 million because their TV show and movie Jackass infringed on his trademark and demeaned his "good name" -The songwriter who left a minutes silence on his record only to be sued by the estate of another songwriter who copyrighted his own "silent" song -The man who sued an amusement park after being the victim of the ultimate "Act of God": he was hit by lightning while standing next to his own car in the parking lot.

From Publishers Weekly Depending on whether you're an attorney specializing in product liability cases, it's disheartening or it's not to read about the hunter who sued an ammunition manufacturer that failed to warn him its ammunition was not "suitable for killing a charging lion," or the California city that sued a non-lethal taser manufacturer for failing to "adequately teach police officers the difference between the Taser and their own handguns." The book "honors" lawsuits of the frivolous and ridiculous varieties by awarding them Stella Awards (named after Stella Liebeck, who famously spilled hot McDonald's coffee in her lap, then sued the chain). Though most lawsuits are summarized in a wink-and-a-nudge tone, the humorist author does allow himself a brief moment of activism in citing the ballooning costs-in dollars and wasted legal resources-of the "lawsuit industry," which cost litigants \$250 billion in 2004. Just as likely to make readers shake their heads as chuckle, Cassingham has collected an astonishing array of cases: an Alabama woman was awarded \$100,000 after being locked in a storage shed for two months; an Ohio man sued Delta Airlines after sitting next to an obese passenger on a two-hour flight; a mortgage company sued a couple whose identity had been stolen. A nifty little gift for anyone who appreciates absurdist trivia, the book's thumbnail case summaries make for easy spot reading. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist The Stella Awards are named for Stella Liebeck, the woman who, in a much-publicized case, sued McDonald's after spilling coffee on herself. Like the Darwin Awards, which celebrate stupidity, the Stellas honor frivolous lawsuits. Cassingham, creator of the This Is True Web site, which deals with the strange but true, swears that all of the lawsuits described herein are true, and he even provides his sources. Among the Stella winners: the mother whose son drank a lot of beer, stole his girlfriend's car, and drove himself into a light pole, prompting Mom to sue the company that made the beer, the girlfriend, the girlfriend's mother, and the guy who owned the house where her son drank the beer. And let's not forget the man who sued McDonald's because a burrito gave him a nosebleed, the lottery winner who sued because he thought he should have won more, and on and on. The author describes the suits in the most straightforward of prose, but it hardly matters: the facts of the cases are funny enough all by themselves. David Pitt Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved How did

[Cassingham] get so popular so fast? Well, for one thing, he writes funny stuff. -- The New York Times  
How did [Cassingham] get so popular so fast? Well, for one thing, he writes funny stuff. (The New York Times)