



# Whose Right? Who's Right?

## Gambler Sues Casino for Loosing 1.4 AUD

**Australia** The Australian gambling addict Harry Kakavas is suing Crown Casino in Melbourne for 50 million Australian dollars after he lost 37 million dollars in a 1.4 billion (909 million US dollars!) gaming spree.

Kakavas claims that he was targeted by the casino's managers, although he had a known gambling addiction. At the time, Kakavas had been barred from every casino in Australia. According to Supreme Court documents, Kakavas wore a hidden recorder that captured some of Crown's managers allegedly trying to entice him back to the baccarat tables. Moreover, the Court documents apparently include emails from the Crown Casino detailing a plan to lure back Kakavas after managers discovered he had lost millions of dollars gambling in Las Vegas.

"We have no intention of responding to the allegations made publicly. We are defending the action vigorously," a Crown spokesman has stated.

**spree** • her: úttan fyrilit  
**barred from** • útiþýstur frá  
**entice** • lokka  
**lure** • lokka  
**allegations** • skuldsetingar  
**negotiated** • her: kláraði  
**dislodged from** • her: fór av  
**impairment** • skaða  
**disfigurement** • lýti, el. her:  
brend útsjónd

## Woman Sues Starbucks for Scalding Coffee

**Tennessee, USA** 23-year-old Jordan Triplett is suing the coffee house Starbucks \$250,000 for getting scalded on her coffee. According to the lawsuit the accident happened because a sales assistant at Starbucks did not attach the lid of the coffee container properly.

On July 13 Triplett drove to a Starbucks and bought a cup of coffee at the drive-through window. Her attorney explains that Triplett could feel the extreme heat from the coffee through the cup and the protective cardboard right away. Then she "balanced the extremely hot cup of coffee on her thigh with her hand on top of the cup as she pulled away from the window and negotiated a turn onto the roadway." Soon after, the lawsuit states, Triplett noticed that "the lid of the coffee container was loose and not affixed properly". However, "Before Triplett could achieve a better grasp upon the cup, the lid dislodged from the cup, thereby causing scalding coffee to spill and splash onto her lap, right thigh and right hand". The accident resulted in severe blisters and burns on Triplett's hand and inner thighs, and the injuries were classified as first- and second-degree burns.

As a result of the burns, Triplett has had to pay huge medical bills and suffered "severe and permanent injuries and cosmetic impairment, scarring and disfigurement", the lawsuit claims. After the accident Triplett immediately contacted the Starbucks shop to inform them of the incident and to ask them to be more careful in attaching the lids and in monitoring the temperature of the coffee. The Starbucks agent was quite unresponsive, however, and when Triplett later complained to the Starbucks' corporate headquarters she was offered a gift certificate instead of compensation for her medical bills, the lawsuit says.





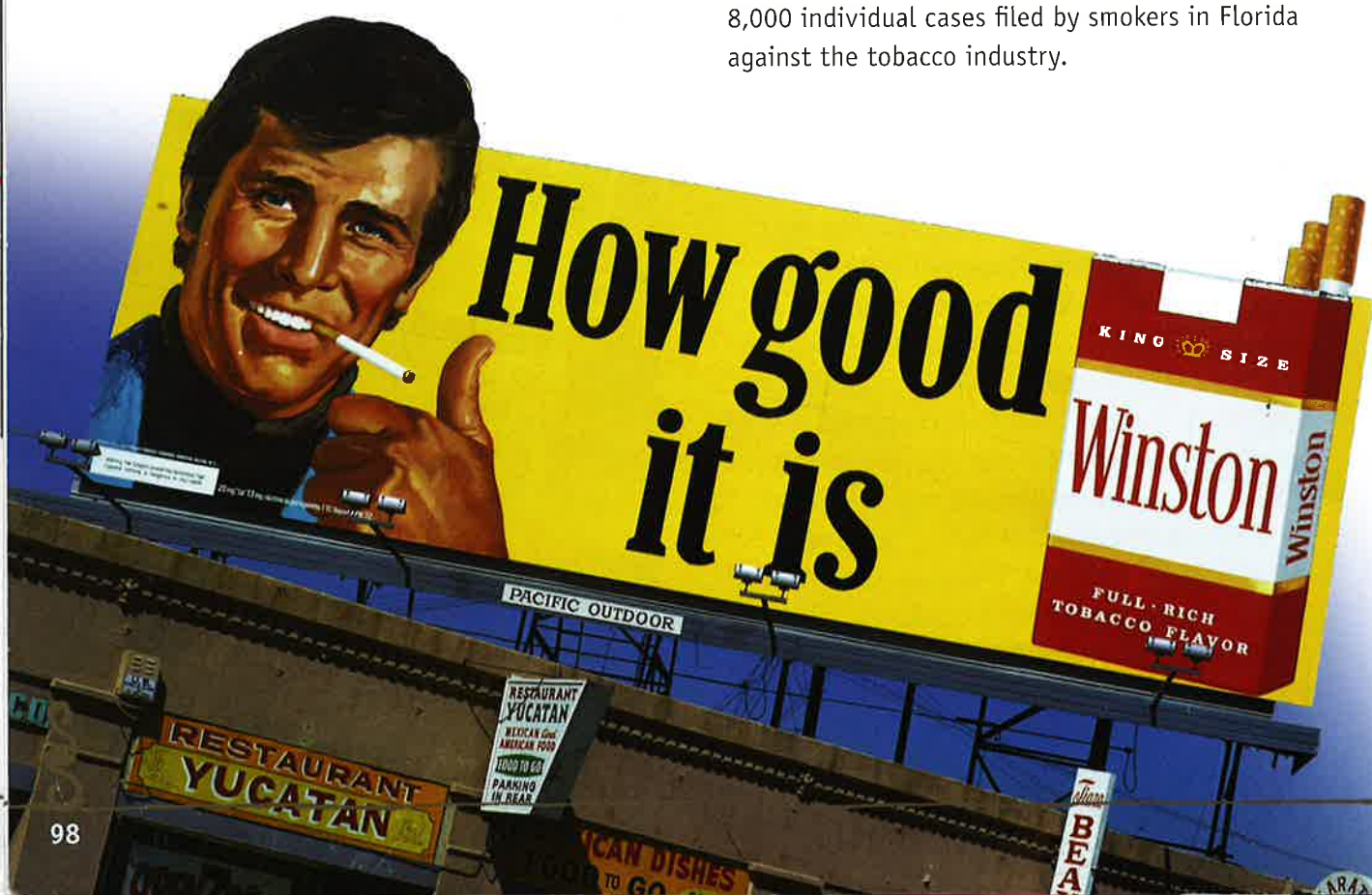
## Winston Man Sues Cigarette Company over Lung Cancer

**Florida** 68-year-old Alan Landers is suing his former employer, the cigarette company RJ Reynolds, in a multimillion dollar lawsuit, claiming their products destroyed his health.

Landers was a model and actor in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s, during which time he was also smoking heavily. With his broad shoulders and rugged good looks, he was chosen to be the face of America's best-selling cigarette brand, Winston cigarettes, and he appeared in hundreds of magazine and billboard ads, portraying smoking as stylish. Today, at the age of 68, Landers battles late-stage throat and lung cancer and his voice is reduced to a hoarse whisper.

"They created the illusion that smoking was cool but they knew when I was doing the campaign that it caused lung cancer and that it was the most addictive drug the world has ever known," says Landers. "They should be held accountable for killing people."

Landers's lawsuit is among the first of about 8,000 individual cases filed by smokers in Florida against the tobacco industry.



## 16 Illegals Sue Arizona Rancher

**Arizona, USA** Rancher Roger Barnett is being sued by 16 Mexicans crossing his land while illegally trying to cross the American-Mexican border. They claim that Mr. Barnett was violating their civil rights when he stopped them at gunpoint on his ranch. The immigrants' attorneys accuse Mr. Barnett of holding the group captive at gunpoint, threatening to turn his dog loose on them and saying he would shoot anyone who tried to escape. At one point, the attorneys say, Mr. Barnett's dog barked at several of the women and he yelled at them in Spanish, "My dog is hungry and he's hungry for buttocks."

They claim \$32 million for civil rights violations, the emotional distress inflicted and other crimes. Roger Barnett says he began capturing illegal immigrants several years ago and turning them over to the U.S. Border Patrol, after they started to destroy his property. He says they tore up water pumps, killed calves, destroyed fences and gates, stole trucks and broke into his home. Moreover, the immigrants leave some of their most used trails littered with trash.

Mr. Barnett has spent \$30,000 on electronic sensors, which he has hidden along established trails on his ranch. He searches the ranch for illegal immigrants in a pickup truck, dressed in a green shirt and camouflage hat, with his handgun and rifle, high-powered binoculars and a walkie-talkie.

Barnett explains that he carries a pistol during his searches for the immigrants and that he has a rifle in his truck "for protection" against immigrant and drug smugglers, who often are armed. "This is my land. I'm the victim here," he says. "When someone's home and loved ones are in jeopardy and the government seemingly can't do anything about it, I feel justified in taking matters into my own hands. And I always watch my back."

**filed** • latin inn

**at gunpoint** • við höttanum um at nýta vâpnamegi

**emotional distress** • sálarlig líðing

**inflicted** • völd (valda)

**jeopardy** • vanda