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Chronicling the high cost of our legal system

WSJ: "The other Blumenthal scandal"

by [Walter Olson](#) on May 21, 2010

An editorial [in today's Wall Street Journal](#) (paywall) quotes me on the subject:

The AG has challenged the verdict, but the [Kolb case](#) [Gina Kolb, formerly Gina Malapanis] fits a pattern that the Cato Institute's Walter Olson calls "bullying, legally ill-founded ventures into litigation." From his leading role in the tobacco lawsuits of the 1990s to trying to repossess bonuses to AIG executives, Mr. Blumenthal has cultivated a reputation as the Eliot Spitzer of Connecticut.

For more on some of the cases that have brought Blumenthal his reputation as a bully and grandstander, start [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#). And William Saletan at Slate is out with [the piece I wish I'd written](#) comparing Blumenthal's repeated misstatements on his service record with the sorts of misrepresentations for which he's gone after marketers and other businesses over the years.

For some light on how Blumenthal happened to obtain a photo opportunity in a VFW hall to denounce his critics, check out [this post by Ronald Winter](#).

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The confirmation hearing is scheduled for June 28—which suggests that the Obama administration is worried about what will turn up in the Clinton library documents that will begin to be released June 4 that Senate staff will not have a... [...]

Ted Frank

- [Desert Shadow Endoscopy Center, Teva, and Baxter Healthcare: that \\$500 million punitive damage award in Nevada](#)

Carter's account actually understates how outrageous the verdict—and the behavior of the elected judge who permitted this case to get to a punitive damages verdict—was. First, it is important to recognize the wrongdoing of the Desert Shadow Endoscopy Center that... [...]

Ted Frank

- [Burck and Perino on Specter's pleadings bill and terrorism](#)

Even though Senator Arlen Specter failed in his bid to win the Democratic Party's nomination in Pennsylvania, he's still around for the next several months to work Congressional mischief on behalf of the plaintiffs' bar. Front and center in his... [...]

James R. Copland

- [In re Abrams & Abrams](#)

Paging Lester Brickman: Kelly McKiernan and Mark Pellegrin were drinking after work at Pellegrin's home; McKiernan went to leave in his company truck; Pellegrin tried to stop him, and was grievously injured when McKiernan ran him over. Pellegrin got a... [...]

Ted Frank

- [Center for Individual Rights victory for California free speech](#)

From today's press release: California resident Julie Waltz' long fight for free speech for opponents of state subsidized housing policies came to a victorious conclusion today, when the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing agreed to implement the "Julie Waltz... [...]

Ted Frank

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