

## Accolades



In a blog posted December 2014, the *Courtroom View Network* announced its selection of **Hardee Bass** as Plaintiff's Attorney of the Year. *CVN* noted

Mr. Bass's 3-0-1 record in Engle cases and, in particular, his \$20 million award in *Odom v. R.J. Reynolds*. Engle Progeny cases resulted from a 2000 Florida class-action case, *Engle v. R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company*. In that ruling, a jury issued a verdict in favor of a class of Florida smokers. In 2006, The Florida Supreme Court reversed the class action award, but allowed potentially thousands of lawsuits to be filed separately.

*CVN* also named **SDSBS** as Plaintiff's Law Firm of the Year, recognizing its work in nearly 30% of *CVN*'s Engle Progeny cases during the year. "With a 6-2-1 record and nearly \$45 million in damages, they backed up their numerous appearances with stellar results," stated *CVN*. ♦



In November 2014, *U. S. News* announced that **SDSBS** was included in its 2015 Edition of *Best Law Firms*. The rankings by *U. S. News* are based on a rigorous evaluation process that includes client and lawyer evaluations, peer reviews, and additional information. In order to be included for consideration of a ranking of "Best Law Firm," a firm must have at least one attorney listed in the current edition of "Best Lawyers." A total of 14 SDSBS attorneys were listed in that same edition. ♦



### CONSUMER NOTICE:

## Herbal Supplements . . . Bottles of fiction, inside and out

A recent study reported by the New York State Attorney General found that four major retailers have been routinely selling herbal supplements that did not contain the principal ingredients identified on the label, or contained ingredients not listed at all.

*DNA testing revealed that the following store-brand supplements were found to contain either no trace, or very little trace, of the principal ingredient identified on the label:*

Retailer	Brand	Missing Ingredient
GNC	<b>Herbal Plus</b>	Ginkgo Biloba, St. John's Wort, Ginseng, Echinacea, Saw Palmetto
Target	<b>Up &amp; Up</b>	Ginkgo Biloba, St John's Wort, Echinacea, Saw Palmetto, Valerian Root
Walgreens	<b>Finest Nutrition</b>	Ginkgo Biloba, St. John's Wort, Ginseng, Garlic, Echinacea
Walmart	<b>Spring Valley</b>	Ginkgo Biloba, St. John's Wort, Ginseng, Garlic, Echinacea, Saw Palmetto

SDSBS attorneys **Jack Scarola** and **Mariano Garcia** announced that they are actively investigating claims on behalf of consumers who purchased any of these products from the listed stores. They are particularly interested in testing product samples.

If you have any of these products, or have information regarding the purchase of any of these products, contact us by email at [WAS@SearcyLaw.com](mailto:WAS@SearcyLaw.com), or call our office at (800) 780-8607, and ask to speak to Paralegal Walter Stein. Your cooperation with our investigation will be greatly appreciated. ♦