



*News from*

# **TOM TANCREDO**

*Colorado's Sixth District Representative*

1130 Longworth House Office Building • Washington, DC 20515 • (202) 225-7882

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**CONTACT:** Carlos Espinosa  
202/225-7882

## **TANCREDO SAYS IT'S TIME: DE-FANG TRIAL LAWYERS**

### *Congressman Questions 'Institutional Hostility toward Americans of Faith'*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Congressman Tom Tancredo (CO-06) today called for Congress to pass class-action reform legislation upon returning from the Christmas recess, and criticized the American Trial Lawyers Association for anti-religious sentiments included in a recently published “How To” lawsuit manual for trial lawyers, “*ATLA's Litigating Court Cases.*”

Tancredo was staggered by passages in the book that encourage trial lawyers to try and exclude Americans who hold strong religious beliefs from juries. The manual says that certain jurors should be stricken from jury pools because they generally believe personal responsibility is important and “...*do not believe that lawsuits do any good for society....Often, these jurors have strong religious beliefs.*” The manual goes on to advise young trial lawyers that, “...*The only solution is to disqualify these jurors during voir dire, and exclude them from the jury.*”

“I find it disturbing that the ATLA would be so blatant in their efforts to discriminate against Americans that they would write a instruction manual for lawyers on how to do it,” said Tancredo, “It is even more troubling that this kind of institutional hostility toward Americans of faith would generate so little attention.”

Concluded Tancredo, “If an organization were to openly recommend that people of a certain race or ethnicity be excluded from juries, opinion leaders in this country would rightfully condemn them, yet when people of faith are targeted for discrimination, it seems that critics are few and far between.”

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