

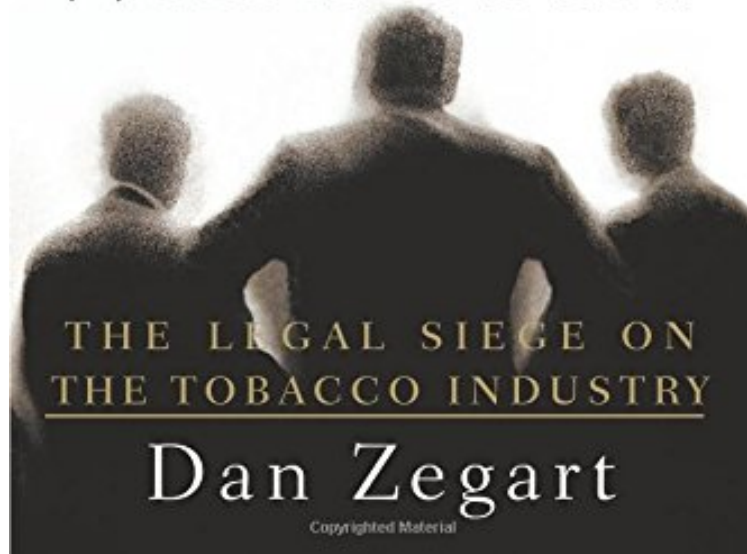
Civil Warriors: The Legal Siege on the Tobacco Industry


Dan Zegart

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and comprehensibly by an excellent storyteller."
—The New York Times Book Review

CIVIL WARRIORS



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Dan Zegart : Civil Warriors: The Legal Siege on the Tobacco Industry before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Civil Warriors: The Legal Siege on the Tobacco Industry:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great legal and social account that everyone should read.By Panda31This is an amazing and passionately written book that describes one of the biggest social and legal stories of the last century. From describing colorful characters and seminal cases to relaying the human tragedy of the industry's

stranglehold on our society Dan Zegart's *Civil Warriors* is a must read. This book is both educational and gripping. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent accounting of a little-known but impactful piece of American ...By Sara P. Excellent accounting of a little-known but impactful piece of American legal history. The writing keeps things interesting the whole way through while sticking very close to facts. If you like the John Grisham style of legal thriller, but want a true story, this book is it. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. You Will Not Regret Spending Time With This Book By Satisfied Customer Fascinating read that weaves medicine, law, business, hard-charging human behavior, and high stakes into a "can't put it down" story. Incredibly well researched. Sad and quite telling to think of all the executive management team meetings held by RJR and Philip Morris to plan their strategy to maintain unmatched profit margins while beating back any inquiries into health issues, tobacco, and nicotine.

A landmark narrative of an epic legal battle, *Civil Warriors* is the gripping behind-the-scenes account of how one tenacious lawyer led the charge against the titans of the tobacco industry. Drawing on five years of eyewitness reporting, thousands of pages of internal documents, and riveting firsthand stories of plaintiffs, lawyers, jurors, and scientists, *Civil Warriors* weaves the compelling story of attorney Ron Motley, who, along with other die-hard lawyers, scientists, and tobacco-busters, fought tirelessly to bring the tobacco industry to justice. Taking us onto the front lines of Motley's crusade, investigative journalist Dan Zegart follows the attorney to a dangerous underworld where maverick scientists and corporate whistle-blowers step from the shadows to reveal the truth behind the industry spin. We meet the unforgettable cast of characters that draw Motley on toward his goals ... the mysterious ex-Reynolds employee known as Deep Cough, who told where evidence on nicotine-laced tobacco was hidden ... the researchers who proved the addictive nature of nicotine and were advised by the FBI to check their cars for bombs every morning. And we witness how Ron Motley led his quest for truth, justice, and hundred-billion-dollar awards ... to penetrate, finally, the control room of the conspiracy, an inner circle of lawyers who protected tobacco for thirty years. *Civil Warriors* is at once a grand adventure and a towering work of investigative journalism an eye-opening report on the way justice really works in America today.

.com A rollicking tour behind the scenes of the tobacco wars, this captivating account reads like a true-crime thriller, complete with unforgettable characters and fast-paced drama. At the center of the action is Ron Motley, a handsome multimillionaire attorney who conducted class-action lawsuits in five states against cigarette makers. His thrill for the hunt is matched only by his monster ego and his use of outrageous metaphors, delivered in a South Carolina drawl. (His verdict for one particularly ineffective assistant: She's "as useless as tits on a bull.") There's the Philip Morris researcher who commits suicide by ingesting liquid nicotine, setting off a round of soul-searching among her fellow scientists; and there's "Deep Cough," code name for the manager at R.J. Reynolds who leaks information about the tobacco manufacturer's secret manipulation of nicotine to addict smokers. Sprinkled throughout are death threats, stolen documents, secret European laboratories, and wiretaps. Who would have thought that tobacco trial history and legislation could be so thrilling? Dan Zegart, who has written for *Ms.* and *The Nation*, spent five years traveling with Motley and his merry gang of supporters to deliver this colorful eyewitness account. The result is an impressive, convincing case against the tobacco industry that's straightforward and free of histrionics. If you enjoyed *The Insider*, the 1999 movie about a whistleblower at Brown Williamson Tobacco, or followed the nasty internal battle at CBS over 60 Minutes's efforts to report the story, then you'll be overwhelmed by *Civil Warriors*. *The Insider* is but a chapter in this complex, comprehensive history. --Jodi Mailander Farrell From Publishers Weekly A freewheeling and engrossing history of tobacco litigation, Zegart's report highlights flamboyant South Carolina lawyer Ron Motley, who won \$33 billion in judgments against tobacco companies between 1994 and 1999. Zegart, who has written articles for *Ms.* and *The Nation*, spent five years traveling with Motley as the irascible, heavy-drinking millionaire attorney prepared or conducted major class-action lawsuits in five states. The result is an eyewitness account of the siege of the tobacco industry waged by Motley, other high-rolling product-liability lawyers and various state attorney generals, who formed an effective counterforce against the hitherto impregnable citadel of tobacco. Full of great boardroom and courtroom drama, this well-researched book reads like a spy novel or an X-Files episode. Zegart goes deep inside the tobacco companies' research labs, where biomedical scientists knew by the 1960s how addictive and lethal nicotine is and how carcinogenic cigarettes are. He details secret experiments on human guinea pigs; tobacco company whistle-blowers who were fired, blackballed or sent death threats; a clandestine Big Tobacco fund that subsidized research projects that aimed to cast doubt on the deadliness of cigarettes; and Philip Morris's systematic purge of the respected scientists it had hired to make cigarettes safer (since such work proved the company knew its ordinary cigarettes were hazardous). Zegart's damning indictment of the industry's massive 40-year disinformation campaign is persuasive, though, as he notes, these lawsuits and the 1998 industrywide settlement have hardly made a dent in Big Tobacco's profitability or momentum. (June) Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. Highly readable ... told briskly, comprehensively and comprehensibly by an excellent storyteller. *The New York Times Book* Engrossing ... Full of great boardroom and courtroom drama, this well-researched book reads like a spy novel or an X-Files episode.... [A]

damning indictment. Publishers WeeklyA riveting account ... [Zegart is] a good storyteller. The Baltimore Sun