

Retrieved on Mar 30, 2016, 10:37 am CDT



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## With latest \$22K sanction, attorney's total for case tops \$166K

POSTED MAR 21, 2016 01:55 PM CDT

BY MARTHA NEIL ([HTTP://WWW.ABAJOURNAL.COM/AUTHORS/5/](http://www.abajournal.com/authors/5/))

A Chicago lawyer was ordered to pay \$22,864 to a litigation opponent last week for pursuing a frivolous appeal.

The sanction was not the first regarding attorney Dennis James Stolfo's handling of a retaliatory discharge and defamation suit against Kindercare Learning Centers Inc.

Including the latest \$22,864, Stolfo has been sanctioned more than \$166,000 since he filed suit for client Mary Iacovetti in 2004, according to the Cook County Record (<http://cookcountyrecord.com/stories/510702831-appeals-court-punishes-lawyer-again-in-continuing-saga-over-frivolous-litigation-vs-kindercare>).

He previously was sanctioned twice: First, he was ordered by the trial court to pay \$139,992 for continuing to pursue the case after client Iacovetti made admissions during a deposition which contradicted her suit. Then the Illinois Appellate Court added another \$4,083 for appealing a nonfinal sanctions order.

All the amounts were based on Kindercare's litigation defense expenses, the First District explained in its March 14 opinion (<http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/Opinions/AppellateCourt/2016/1stDistrict/1142396.pdf>) (PDF).

The Cook County Record article doesn't include any comment by Stolfo or his legal counsel.

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