

Flint Officials Slammed with Lawsuit



Summary: Families of some of the children affected by the lead levels of the city's water have filed a class action lawsuit against Gov. Snyder and other officials.

The legal backfire from the contaminated water conditions in Flint, Michigan is heating up. Seven families filed a class action lawsuit against the Governor and other state and city officials. The families directly affected by the lead-poisoned water in the city claim Gov. Rick Snyder and the other officials were aware of the contamination but failed to take appropriate action.

Read \$150 Million Class Action Filed against Flint, Michigan.

In 2014, Flint decided to change their water source from Detroit's system to the Flint River in order to save money. The water should have undergone treatments for the high levels of lead. After a month in what was supposed to be a temporary change, residents were noticing the odd smell and taste of their water.

Read Two Attorneys Hired to Probe Flint Water Crisis to learn more.

A year later, the dangerously high levels of water were evident in water tests and in the blood tests of residents, especially children. The city decided to move back to Detroit's water but not all levels of the government were informed.

Lead poisoning can result in developmental delays, pain, and neurologic changes. The lawsuit claims the children in the families suffered "devastating and irreversible health problems" such as physical and psychological problems, learning disabilities, stunted growth, and weight loss. The suit cites the Safe Drinking Water Act as being directly violated by the city.

Federal funding has been designated for the city and the National Guard was called up but slower than many expected. Many politicians have called for Snyder's resignation, calling the incident an environmental disaster and government failure.

Source: http://www.newsweek.com/flint-families-sue-michigan-governor-over-water-crisis-434714

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