

Prologue

So you want to get sued? Now hold on a minute here. You've certainly heard advice about how to avoid lawsuits and what not to do, but you think you might want a little taste of litigation? Really? You're sure?

There we go, then. That's the ticket. Ready to stick your toe in the water to see how it feels? Wonderful.

Now, just to be certain before we get started, let's make sure you're looking for a first-hand tour of America's legal system, to experience the inside view from the party-to-the-lawsuit's side of the courtroom. Really? Great! Then we're all set.

Oh, yes, and congratulations! You're about to embark on a grand—and for those actually involved in these cases—rather misguided adventure.

Of course, you can't just walk into a courtroom and demand that someone sue you. You'd be tossed out on your ear, and you'd be wiser to invest a lot of time and psychiatric consultations before you seek that kind of torture. Believe me, I've seen it. But if you're insistent on becoming a “party,” then it's much quicker and easier to find yourself in court if you give someone a reason to sue you.

Think about it. Why would someone want to go through the effort and expense of hauling you into court? After all, litigation and lawsuits aren't cheap—thank goodness for us lawyers, because law school was expensive and we've got to pay for it *somehow*—so you've really got to provide someone with a good reason to sue you.

Luckily, this process isn't difficult, and there are plenty of willing participants out there if you'd prefer the sideline seat offered in this book, or if you're looking for a demonstration first.

Indeed, there are dozens of ways to find yourself embroiled in litigation, from the

mundane to the majestic. Some techniques are more popular than others, including the tried-and-true favorites among the “defendant set.” I’ve outlined many of them here, but don’t feel restrained by these options. If you can come up with a creative, unique way to cause a lawsuit, then please feel free. We lawyers always like a challenge.

won’t and don’t.