

Jury Awards Cancer Survivor Nearly \$21M in Trial Against Tobacco Company

By Michael A. Mora

December 6, 2023

What You Need to Know

- Miami litigator Randy Rosenblum led a team of attorneys, coming off in excess of \$1 billion in juror verdicts against Big Tobacco.
- One of the challenges included Joseph Reppucci's repeat diagnosis of cancer over a decade later in which he continued to smoke.

A South Florida litigator, who has convinced multiple juries to collectively return in excess of \$1 billion against Big Tobacco in the last 15 months, led a team of attorneys to score an eight-figure verdict in Massachusetts state court.

Randy Rosenblum, a partner at Dolan Dobrinsky Rosenblum Bluestein in Miami, was joined by Kevin Donovan of Rubenstein Law in Miami, and Andrew Rainer, Mark Gottlieb and Meredith Lever of the Public Health Advocacy Institute in Boston. They represented the plaintiffs, cancer survivor Joseph Reppucci and his wife, against defendants who included R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.



Downtown Boston.

(Credit: Sean PavonePhoto/Adobe Stock)

“The issue we had to overcome was the concern that the jury would blame him for what happened to him, saying, look, ‘If you had stopped smoking in 2002, more likely than not you would have avoided the 2018 cancer,’” Rosenblum said. “We had to explain to the jury what addiction was and how addiction caused him to keep smoking.”

Kenneth Grose, of counsel for Jones Day in Boston, who was among the attorneys for the defendants, did not respond to a request seeking comment.