

Coalition, a government accountability nonprofit, and shared with CalMatters, show that the 2018 decision resulted in a gusher for the advocates who challenged Chiu's law.

Some \$2.03 million was spread among five conservative organizations, including:

Alliance Defending Freedom of Arizona, \$958,535; the Scharpen Foundation of Riverside County, \$172,613; Liberty Counsel of Florida, \$399,999; American Center for Law & Justice of Washington, D.C., \$247,748, which fashions itself as a conservative version of the American Civil Liberties Union (its chief counsel, Sekulow, is a chief lawyer for President Trump); and Pacific Justice Institute of Sacramento, \$244,475, whose chief counsel, Snider, proudly notes that the Southern Poverty Law Center calls his organization an "anti-LGBT hate group."

Daleiden, now 30, also appears to be among the beneficiaries of the decision. He has spent much of the past two months in the San Francisco courtroom of U.S. District Judge William Orrick, surrounded by a legal team of no fewer than 16 lawyers and paralegals, all working free of charge, as lawyers representing Planned Parenthood press their suit alleging that he illegally videotaped physicians for the nonprofit, which supports reproductive rights.

Lawyers representing Daleiden

About this story:

This story was produced by CalMatters.org, a nonprofit, nonpartisan media venture explaining California policies and politics. It was made possible with information obtained by The First Amendment Coalition, a San Francisco-based nonprofit focused on government transparency and accountability. The coalition, which was not involved in the NIFLA case or litigation, regularly uses the California Public Records Act to keep the public informed on the actions of government agencies.

and his co-defendants come from three of the organizations that received payments as a result of the litigation over Chiu's bill—the Alliance Defending Freedom, Liberty Counsel and the American Center for Law & Justice.

Daleiden and his co-defendant, Sandra Merritt, also face criminal charges brought by Becerra, and are represented by many of the same attorneys. Among their defense arguments is that they were citizen journalists working undercover to expose what they saw as crimes.

Payments of attorneys' fees are a regular part of the court system. The state often collects fees when it prevails.

Despite the millions paid to abortion opponents in the settlement struck earlier this year by deputies to Becerra, Chiu believes the FACT Act was "a fight worth having."

"Access to reproductive health care is under attack," Chiu said. "These fake health centers threaten the health of women. We shouldn't put a price on that." □

WEEKLY DOSE

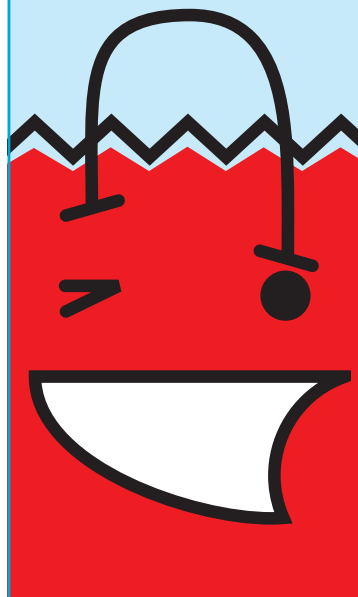


Hair of the dog

Someone famous once said, "Beer is proof that God loves us and wants us to be happy," and who can argue with that? But, did you know that beer might be an effective painkiller too? The results of a recent study published in the Journal of Pain suggest that beer, two pints to be exact, may have stronger analgesic power than acetaminophen. The good news is that elevating your blood alcohol content to around 0.08 percent also elevates your body's pain threshold, which results in a fairly large reduction in pain intensity. The bad news is that the jury is still out on whether participants were just too buzzed to care after two pints—so don't go for the brew to cure your headache quite yet.

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