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PATRICK MALONE
& ASSOCIATES
Government Relations

Better Healthcare Newsletter from Patrick Malone

Two of the leading killers of Americans have one preventable cause in common. Many, many cases of lung cancer and cardiovascular disease are caused by tobacco products. Tobacco products are responsible for 480,000 deaths every year in the United States. Tobacco products are responsible for 6 million deaths every year around the world.

Big Tobacco and its allies, however, have spared no decades in unscrupulous and even criminal efforts to hide the dangerous nature of their products. Tobacco companies have lied about the health risks of their products. They have lied about the addictiveness of their products. They have lied about the dangerous ingredients they have added to their products. They have lied about their efforts to market their products to children.

And tobacco retailers – that is their sub-contractors – have been the tobacco industry's most reliable and effective allies in these efforts. Retailers have demonstrated a willingness to sell products they suspected to be fraudulent, to sell products they knew to be dangerous, to sell products they knew to be addictive, to sell products they knew were being marketed to children, and to sell products they knew were being marketed illegally.

Tobacco retailers have been the most reliable and effective allies in the tobacco industry's efforts to hide the dangerous nature of its products. Tobacco retailers have been the most reliable and effective allies in the tobacco industry's efforts to market its products to children.

Tobacco retailers have been the most reliable and effective allies in the tobacco industry's efforts to market its products illegally.

Tobacco retailers have been the most reliable and effective allies in the tobacco industry's efforts to sell its products to people who are too young to legally purchase tobacco products