

Law Firms Bring Cases Against Volkswagen in South Carolina State Court Exclusively for the Benefit of South Carolinians

**For Immediate Release
Columbia, South Carolina
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On Friday, September 25, 2015, attorneys filed the first lawsuits specific to South Carolina victims of the alleged Volkswagen emissions fraud in the Court of Common Pleas for the Ninth Judicial Circuit in Charleston County.

Lewis, Babcock & Griffin LLP and Jekel-Doolittle LLC filed separate cases in state court in Charleston last Friday and filed amended complaints in the cases Tuesday. The lawsuits are brought pursuant to the South Carolina Dealers Act.

Unlike other lawsuits across the country involving Volkswagen diesel vehicles, these South Carolina cases are not class actions. Rather, under the South Carolina Dealers Act, “one or more may sue for the benefit of the whole” when an action is “one of common or general interest to many persons or when the parties are numerous and it is impracticable to bring them all before the court.”

“The ability of South Carolinians to bring an action ‘on behalf of the whole’ pursuant to the South Carolina Dealers Act is a fundamental feature of the act to aid its enforcement,” explained Lewis Babcock & Griffin partner Badge Humphries. “That substantive aspect of the act and the powerful remedies it provides make it unique,” Humphries continued.

These lawsuits follow news that Volkswagen has been programming millions of vehicles worldwide, nearly 500,000 in the U.S., to cheat on tests by emitting lower emissions levels in official tests than how they actually perform on the road.

Volkswagen Diesel (TDI) Models at Issue:

- Jetta Model Years 2009-2015
- Beetle Model Years 2009-2015
- Audi A3 Model Years 2009-2015
- Golf Model Years 2009-2015
- Passat Model Years 2014-2015

The lawsuits were filed against Volkswagen Group of America, Inc., on behalf of the plaintiffs and for the benefit of the whole under the South Carolina Dealers Act, which includes purchasers, owners and lessees of the relevant Volkswagen TDI models in South Carolina. Low Country Volkswagen, LLC is also named as a defendant.

Anyone who currently or previously owned or leased one of these Volkswagen vehicles in South Carolina may be a beneficiary of this South Carolina state court action and may call attorney Badge Humphries at Lewis Babcock & Griffin to discuss this case and their particular situation.

More About Lewis Babcock & Griffin LLP

Established in 1984 in Columbia, South Carolina, Lewis, Babcock & Griffin has built a name in both the civil and criminal arenas by taking on a variety of complex litigation matters. Founding partners A. Camden Lewis and Keith M. Babcock and the firm have been recognized by *Best Lawyers® in the United States*. The firm is headquartered in Columbia, South Carolina and also has a Charleston, S.C. office at 2113 Middle Street on Sullivan's Island. For the full bio of all Lewis, Babcock & Griffin attorneys, practice area details and more information visit www.lbglegal.com.

Contact: Attorney Badge Humphries (SC, GA, KY, TX, WV)

With an extensive background in complex federal and state class actions, securities fraud litigation and shareholder rights, Humphries litigates matters involving product defects, personal injury, economic injury, whistleblower claims, legal and medical malpractice, business disputes and wage-and-hour issues. Humphries currently serves on the Board of Governors of the South Carolina Association for Justice (SCAJ) as Consumer and Securities Law Section Chair.

BH@LBGLegal.com

(843) 883-7424

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