



Kimberly-Clark faces \$500 million suit over Ebola protection gown

BY **SIDDHARTH CAVALE**

Thu Oct 30, 2014 1:10pm EDT

Tweet 19 Share 15 Share this 8+1 2 Email Print

RELATED NEWS

[Bike-riding nurse defies Ebola quarantine, on collision course with governor](#)

[Saying she will not be bullied, nurse fights Maine Ebola quarantine](#)

[Australia bans travel from Ebola-hit countries; U.S. isolates troops](#)

[CDC says returning Ebola medical workers should not be quarantined](#)

[Restrictions imposed by U.S. states in response to Ebola](#)

ANALYSIS & OPINION

[Our appetite for fake Ebola stories and other bunk](#)

[Recent mandatory quarantine policies are unscientific—and dangerous](#)

RELATED TOPICS

[Health »](#)

(Reuters) - A Southern California law firm has sued [Kimberly-Clark Corp](#) for more than \$500 million, alleging that the Kleenex tissue maker committed fraud by [marketing](#) and selling some of its surgical gowns as protection against Ebola.

Law firm Eagan Avenatti said it filed a class-action lawsuit in a Los Angeles court on Wednesday, stating that Kimberly-Clark had falsely represented to health regulators and healthcare workers that its "MICROCOOL Breathable High Performance Surgical Gowns" are impermeable and provide protection against Ebola.

The law firm said the gowns had failed industry tests and did not meet relevant standards for protection against the disease, placing healthcare workers and patients at "considerable risk".

"We anticipate seeking over \$500 million (in damages), which represents at a minimum the amount of revenue that KMB has received from the sales of these gowns," lead attorney Michael Avenatti told Reuters.

A Kimberly-Clark spokesman declined to comment, saying the company does not speak on litigation-related issues.

The gowns are manufactured by the company's healthcare business, Kimberly-Clark Health Care, which is being spun off into a separate company to be called Halyard Health.

Avenatti said the company had sold millions of these gowns since it was brought to the market in 2011.

"Kimberly-Clark needs to immediately recall these gowns and come clean with the FDA, CDC, healthcare professionals and the general public," Avenatti said in a statement.

"The risks associated with continued concealment of the truth are far too great."

The lawsuit is brought on behalf of lead plaintiff and surgeon Hrayr Shahinian and 500,000

- 1 [Sweden says has proof of foreign submarine intrusion in October](#)
- 2 [Exclusive: Ex-wife of US oil baron to appeal \\$1 billion divorce award](#)
- 3 [Ukraine and Russia take center stage as leaders gather for G20 | VIDEO](#)
- 4 [Wal-Mart told store managers to match online prices with Amazon](#)
- 5 [Islamic State leader urges attacks in Saudi Arabia: speech | VIDEO](#)

OPINION

Healthy, high-fat diet may be a pipedream

A much-hyped new study, conducted with just 150 participants, calls for us to "embrace fat" — even the

the healthcare business, which also sells surgical masks and catheters, will start trading on the New York Stock Exchange on Monday.

Kimberly shares were little changed on Thursday.

(Reporting by Siddharth Cavale in Bangalore; Editing by Simon Jennings and Saumyadeb Chakrabarty)



saturated kind. The alleged benefits? Weight loss and, most incredibly, healthier hearts. But the truth is the jury is still out. [Commentary](#)

FILED UNDER: [HEALTH](#)

Recommend 138 people recommend this. Be the first of your friends.

Tweet this Link this Share this Digg this Email Print Reprints

Sponsored Financial Content (?)

- [Three stocks poised to explode when cable finally dies](#) *Motley Fool*
- [4 Credit Cards with Jaw-Dropping Intro Bonuses](#) *Next Advisor*
- [Estimate how much you'll need for retirement with My Retirement Plan®](#) *Wells Fargo*
- [How rising rates could impact 3 key sectors](#) *J.P. Morgan*
- [5 Investing Strategies to show how hedge funds make money](#) *MFA*

Follow Reuters

Facebook	Twitter	RSS	YouTube
--------------------------	-------------------------	---------------------	-------------------------

RECOMMENDED VIDEO

- [World on the brink of a new Cold War, says Gorbachev](#)
- [Obama plays internet traffic cop](#)
- [Verdicts to come in South Korea ferry trial](#)
- [Jail sentence for South Korea ferry captain](#)

Related Ad Topics

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Toenail Fungus Remedies | 6. Ebola Interesting Facts |
| 2. Healthy Breakfast Foods | 7. Causes of Ebola Virus |
| 3. Ways to Treat Arthritis | 8. Ebola Treatment Centers |
| 4. Fat Burners That Work | 9. Pandemic Protection Kits |
| 5. Infection Control Guidelines | 10. Ebola Virus Treatment |

Sponsored Financial Content (?)

- [See if you're on track with your retirement savings](#) *Wells Fargo*
- [Forget The iPhone 6. Next Hit Apple Product Leaked \(see picture\)](#) *Motley Fool*
- [We believe the "bonds" part of high-yield bonds can be misleading.](#) *Aberdeen Asset Managers*
- [7 Credit Cards You Should Not Ignore If You Have Excellent Credit](#) *Next Advisor*
- [5 reasons to hone in on high yield](#) *J.P. Morgan*

Related Ad Topics

- [Toenail Fungus Remedies](#)
- [Natural Diabetes Treatment](#)
- [5 Foods to Never Eat](#)
- [Cheap Dental Plans](#)
- [Best Stocks To Invest](#)
- [Immune Boosting Foods](#)

Back to top

Reuters.com

[Business](#) | [Markets](#) | [World](#) | [Politics](#) | [Technology](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Money](#) | [Pictures](#) | [Videos](#) | [Site Index](#)

More from Reuters

[Reuters News Agency](#) | [Brand Attribution Guidelines](#) | [Delivery Options](#)

Support & Contact

[Support](#) | [Corrections](#)

Account Information

[Register](#) | [Sign In](#)

Connect with Reuters

[Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [LinkedIn](#) [RSS](#) [Podcast](#) [Newsletters](#) [Mobile](#)

About

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms of Use](#) | [Advertise With Us](#) |  [AdChoices](#) | [Copyright](#)

Thomson Reuters is the world's leading source of intelligent information for businesses and professionals.

Our Flagship financial information platform incorporating Reuters Insider

An ultra-low latency infrastructure for electronic trading and data distribution

A connected approach to governance, risk and compliance

Our next generation legal research platform

Our global tax workstation

[Thomsonreuters.com](#)

[About Thomson Reuters](#)

[Investor Relations](#)

[Careers](#)

[Contact Us](#)

Thomson Reuters is the world's largest international multimedia news agency, providing investing news, world news, business news, technology news, headline news, small business news, news alerts, personal finance, stock market, and mutual funds information available on Reuters.com, video, mobile, and interactive television platforms. Thomson Reuters journalists are subject to an Editorial Handbook which requires fair presentation and disclosure of relevant interests.

NYSE and AMEX quotes delayed by at least 20 minutes. Nasdaq delayed by at least 15 minutes. For a complete list of exchanges and delays, please click here.