



179,010

Add to Cart



Despite settlement, Fox News legal woes are far from over

Peter HUTCHISON

Wed, April 19, 2023 at 1:05 PM EDT · 3 min read



Fox News's massive payout to settle a defamation case doesn't end its legal woes, with the network facing other lawsuits and shareholder action over its broadcasting of election conspiracy theories.

The news behemoth agreed Tuesday to pay \$787.5 million to voting technology company Dominion, which sued the channel for airing false claims that its machines were used to steal the 2020 presidential ballot from Donald Trump.

The right-wing network still faces a \$2.7 billion lawsuit from another electronic voting company -- Smartmatic -- which claims that Fox News broadcast lies that "decimated" its business prospects.

TRENDING

What to know about XBB.1.16, a new Omicron variant on the WHO's radar

Yahoo News · 6 min read



Here are the winners and losers of Fox News's \$787.5 million settlement with Dominion

INSIDER · 3 min read



Ex-Member of Menudo Says He Was Raped by Father of the Menendez Brothers

The New York Times · 7 min read





News US Politics World COVID-19 Climate Change Health Science Originals Contact Us



He added that the company was "committed to clearing its name, recouping the significant damage done to the company, and holding Fox accountable for undermining democracy."

Tuesday's agreement, announced after jury selection and just before opening arguments were due to start, was settled for about half the \$1.6 billion that Dominion initially sought.

It avoided a high-profile trial that would have seen a parade of Fox personalities, including owner Rupert Murdoch and star anchor Tucker Carlson, forced to testify.

Fox News, which argued that it was protected by First Amendment free speech rights, acknowledged in a statement an earlier ruling by the presiding judge that the conservative network had broadcast false claims.

But US media reported that the channel's anchors will neither have to admit nor apologize on air for spreading the falsehoods -- comments that would likely anger its loyal viewers.

At the heart of the trial was going to be whether Fox News aired the falsehoods despite knowing they were untrue.

To win, Dominion would have to have proven "actual malice" -- that Fox knew the information was wrong or had a "reckless disregard" for the truth.

- 'Emboldened' -

The high bar has been a bedrock of US media law since 1964.

"The big takeaway is that the underlying law didn't change," Syracuse law professor William Banks told AFP.

"So though there may be emboldened plaintiffs they still have a high burden of proof," he added.

Hong Kong, study says

Miami Herald · 2 min read



POPULAR



Fox settles with Dominion Voting Systems for \$787 million in defamation lawsuit

USA TODAY



20+ Failed Celebs Who Now Work Normal Jobs

Ad • FamilyThis



Fox to Pay \$787.5 Million to Settle Dominion's Defamation Lawsuit

The Wall Street Journal



Fox News, Dominion Reach Settlement in Defamation Case

National Review



A spokesperson for Fox News did not respond to a request for comment but the network has denied the allegations in previous statements.

Smartmatic's complaint cites comments by former Trump lawyer Rudy Giuliani and as well as anchors including Lou Dobbs and Jeanine Pirro.

In February this year, a New York appeals court rejected Fox News's request to dismiss the case. A trial date has not yet been set.

Last month, a Fox News producer filed two lawsuits against the network, alleging that its lawyers coerced her into giving false testimony in the Dominion case and claiming a "hostile work environment."

Fox is also reportedly facing separate claims from shareholders accusing it of being in breach of fiduciary duties related to its coverage of Trump's claims.

One complaint has already been submitted to a chancery court, the Financial Times has reported.

Murdoch admitted in a deposition in the Dominion case that some on-air hosts had "endorsed" Trump's lie but he denied that the network in its entirety had pushed it, according to court documents filed by Dominion.

pdh/bgs

Fox News' settlement with Dominion mean the risk of embarrassment is over, with Smartmatic saying it 'remains committed' t...
Business Insider



Comments

4 Viewing

Welcome to Yahoo comments! Please keep conversations courteous and on-topic. To foster productive and respectful conversations, you may see comments from our Community Managers, who will be designated by a "Yahoo Staff" or "Staff" label. To promote the best user experience, we close commenting after an article has been posted for three days. Yahoo Finance's Conversations message boards accept comments indefinitely. See our [community guidelines](#) for more information.

Molly



Be the first to comment...





RECOMMENDED STORIES



NBC Sports BayArea

Warriors have NBA playoff history on their side entering Game 2 vs. Kings

The Warriors' Game 1 loss to the Sacramento Kings is exactly why they were so focused on avoiding the play-in tournament.

2d ago



Yahoo Finance Video

Netflix 'a lot more predicated on getting more value' out of its customer base, analyst says

KeyBanc Managing Director Justin Patterson joins Yahoo Finance Live to discuss Netflix earnings, profit growth, consumer demand, and the outlook for the future of the...

5h ago



Ad • Consumerbags

Here Are 97 of the Coolest Gadgets for This 2023

97 Insanely Cool Gadgets You'll Regret Not Getting Before They Sell Out



Kansas City Star

Ralph Yarl's alleged shooter finally surrenders. He should never have walked free | Opinion

It apparently takes days of protests and a media firestorm for Kansas City police to act with urgency, writes Toriano Porter.

23h ago



USA TODAY Sports

The World's Strongest Man competition starts today in Myrtle Beach. Here's how to watch.

Tom Stoltman is the current reigning World's Strongest Man champion. He's won the competition two years straight and is competing again

1h ago



Zacks

Alphabet Shares Slide As Samsung Considers Bing: ETFs in Focus

Alphabet Inc shares took a beating on the news that Samsung may shift to Bing as the default browser on their devices. Already having a mixed review for their AI chatbot,...

4h ago

Ad • OnlineShoppingTools

Think Twice Before Buying From These 2 Stores

It's a bigger problem than you might think (the ugly truth).



ProFootball Talk on NBC Sports



public
Former Vikings coach and Hall of Famer Bud Grant...
2h ago



Zacks

4 Auto Giants Whose EVs Qualify for \$7,500 US Tax Credit

Per the list released by the U.S. Treasury Department, EVs manufactured by GM, F, TSLA and STLA qualify for the \$7,500 in tax credits this year. Read on to know which...
5h ago



The Telegraph

Georgia Hall interview: 'I don't really have a weakness in my game'

Georgia Hall has never been as confident going into the season's first major and believes that English golf fans should be just as optimistic about this week's Chevron...
1h ago



Ad • YourDailySportFix

Forrest Gump Has Iconic Scene Flaw No One Noticed

No matter how many times you've seen the movie, this ridiculous flaw has gone unnoticed, and it changes everything...



Zacks

Ford (F) Deepens Ties With China, Plans to Import Lincoln SUVs

Ford (F) is set to import the redesigned China-made Lincoln Nautilus SUV for sale to the U.S. market, aiming to achieve manufacturing efficiencies while navigating potential...
7h ago



AFP

US Supreme Court rules in favor of death row inmate's DNA review

The US Supreme Court on Wednesday gave fresh support for a Texas death row inmate's quest to avoid execution, ruling that a lower court erred in cutting off his motion for a DNA...
1h ago



Reuters

Credit Suisse lodges \$440 million London claim against SoftBank

Credit Suisse has lodged a \$440 million claim against Japan's SoftBank Group Corp in London as it presses ahead with formal proceedings in a dispute borne from the failure of...
53m ago

Ad • SportzBonanza

Deepest Hole in Earth Led To Remarkable Discovery



winners and
Dominion cashes
in, Fox avoids a
potentially...
16h ago



The Daily Beast

Jake Tapper Loses It Over Fox News' Spin After Dominion Settlement

CNN anchor Jake Tapper couldn't help but laugh on Tuesday over Fox News' spin about its "journalistic standards" after the conservative cable giant suddenly...
20h ago



Reuters

US Supreme Court allows Mall of America to fight cheap Sears lease

The U.S. Supreme Court on Wednesday ruled that the Mall of America outside Minneapolis - the nation's largest shopping complex - can challenge an extremely cheap lease it made...
2h ago



Ad • Healthy George

Kenny Smith's Annual Salary Is Just Unacceptable

Nicknamed 'The Jet', Kenny Smith had a great career in NBA. And now he's a commentator and this is his salary...



Business Insider

Taylor Swift didn't sign \$100 million FTX sponsorship because she was the only one to ask

Taylor Swift began discussing a \$100 million-tour sponsorship with FTX in the fall of 2021, per the Financial Times.
7h ago



The Daily Beast

Fox Cries Uncle, Will Pay \$787 MILLION to End Dominion Trial

Shannon Stapleton/Reuters Fox News waved the white flag on Tuesday, settling with Dominion Voting Systems just hours into the first day of the bombshell trial over whether...
22h ago



Business Insider

Fox News settles Dominion's defamation lawsuit for \$787.5 million just as the trial was about to start

Dominion had sued Fox for \$1.6 billion in damages, alleging it defamed it by airing conspiracy theories about the 2020 election.
21h ago

Ad • SoGoodly

Always Put A Crayon In Your Wallet When Traveling



KCRA - Sacramento Videos

Just about everyone can get money from Facebook class settlement

If you're one of the many people who used Facebook at some point between May 2007 and December 2022, you're likely in for a payday — but you have to submit a claim....

13h ago



Associated Press

Judge seals Alec Baldwin settlement terms in fatal shooting

The judge hearing the wrongful death lawsuit against actor Alec Baldwin and an array of producers and crew linked to a fatal film set shooting agreed Monday to seal from public...

2d ago

Tapper laughs reading Fox

CNN host Jake Tapper laughed while reading Fo...
21h ago

