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City Attorney Zach Klein announces Kia and Hyundai to pay Columbus more than one million dollars to settle City's lawsuit

Says City and taxpayers shouldn't pay for corporate negligence in wake of automakers' vehicle security scandal

COLUMBUS, OH—Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein today announced Kia and Hyundai have agreed to a million-dollar settlement in the City's lawsuit against the automakers. The City accused the corporations of knowingly selling vehicles with substandard anti-theft technology that led to skyrocketing thefts and drained police resources in recent years.

"Kia and Hyundai cut corners and sold cars to customers they knew weren't up to industry standards. Taxpayers and the City should not foot the bill to pay for the problems these corporations created. That's why we filed this lawsuit, fought in court, and are now delivering a million-dollar payout back to Columbus," said Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein.

"I want to thank our Solicitor General Section and outside counsel for their tireless efforts to hold these automakers accountable. This case sends a message that you can't cheat taxpayers here in Columbus and expect to get away with it."

The City of Columbus [filed a lawsuit](#) against Kia and Hyundai in February 2023 for their negligence in producing millions of vehicles that lacked industry standard antitheft technology, which led to a dramatic increase in thefts in recent years. In their lawsuit, the City contends that these thefts ran up significant costs for consumers, insurance companies, local governments, and law enforcement.

Columbus City Council is set to approve the settlement funding at its September 28 meeting. The settlement dollars will go to the City's general fund.