

**ULIMATE SCAM  
NO RIBS IN MC RIBS  
NO CHICKEN IN NUGGETS**

DURHAM - How do you like them apples.... wait, make sure they are apples. Or this seems to be the dilemma taking place at McDonald.

A Chicago-based McDonald's is facing a class-action lawsuit over the McRib sandwich, accusing the corporation of misleading customers with claims that it contains actual pork rib meat.

The lawsuit, filed on Dec. 23, 2025 in U.S. District Court in Chicago stated that McDonald's has "cultivated a sense of anticipation around the McRib, leveraging its scarcity to drive sales across its many locations."

"Fans eagerly await each return, trusting that the sandwich they're biting into is exactly what the name implies: a sandwich crafted using pork 'rib' meat, which is prized by consumers for its high fat content and rich flavor," the suit reads. "The reality, however, is far from what McDonald's advertising and branding suggest. Despite its name and distinctive shape—its meat patty has been deliberately crafted to resemble a rack of pork ribs."

McDonald's describes the McRib as a "seasoned boneless pork dipped in a tangy BBQ sauce, topped with slivered onions and tangy pickles, all served on a toasted homestyle bun."

But the lawsuit, filed by four consumers from California, New York, Illinois and Washington, D.C., alleges that the McRib "does not contain any actual pork rib meat at all."

"Instead, its meat patty is reconstructed using ground-up portions of lower-grade pork products such as, *inter alia*, pork shoulder, heart, tripe and scalded stomach," the lawsuit reads.

The filing notes that the name of the sandwich "is a deliberate sleight of hand." "By including the word 'Rib' in the name of the sandwich, McDonald's knowingly markets the sandwich in a way that deceives reasonable consumers, who reasonably (but mistakenly) believe that a product named the 'McRib' will include at least some meaningful quantity of actual pork rib meat, which commands a premium price on the market," the lawsuit states. "McDonald's does this despite knowing that the sandwich in fact does not contain any meaningful quantity of actual pork rib meat—indeed, none at all."

The lawsuit further alleges that consumers have been misled "as a result of McDonald's deceptive labeling and marketing into purchasing sandwiches that they would not otherwise have purchased, or would only have paid less for, had they known the truth."

"By including the word 'Rib' in the name of the McRib, as well as by going out of its way to shape the sandwich's patty into the shape of a pork rib, McDonald's knows or should know that consumers are so misled," the suit said. "In fact, it is precisely these misleading attributes that drive sales of the sandwich, which is why McDonald's continues to bring it back time after time."

Each plaintiff claims they would have never purchased the McRib or would have paid less for it if they had known it did not contain any pork rib meat.

The lawsuit accuses McDonald's of fraudulent omission or concealment, fraudulent misrepresentation, negligent misrepresentation, fraud and other counts.

"McDonald's deceptive omissions and misleading marketing have resulted in millions of dollars in consumer harm, warranting legal remedies including compensatory damages, restitution, and injunctive relief to prevent further deceptive advertising practices," the suit adds.

McDonald's USA issued a statement to NBC Chicago regarding the lawsuit, claiming that it "distorts the facts and many of the claims are inaccurate."

"Food quality and safety are at the heart of everything we do—that's why we're committed to using real, quality ingredients across our entire menu. Our fan-favorite McRib sandwich is made with 100% pork sourced from farmers and suppliers across the U.S. We've always been transparent about our ingredients so guests can make the right choice for them," the statement from McDonald's read.

Story continues below advertisement

The plaintiffs are seeking class certification for anyone who purchased a McRib in the four years prior to the filing of the complaint, an order enjoining McDonald's to desist from further deceptive naming, marketing and advertising practices with respect to the McRib, and damages for class members of "compensatory, exemplary, and punitive remedies and damages and statutory penalties, including interest, in an amount to be proven at trial," according to the suit.

They are also seeking an award of lawyers' fees and costs and "an award of prejudgment and post judgment interest." This law suit opens the door to questioning how much meat actually goes on a burger patty as the ratio of actual burger serving per day would mean that McD would have to slaughter million of cows a day in order to keep their supply chain fed. Obviously that is not the case so the next question is what goes in the belvoed "Big Mac".

This is a scary question with all the talk of lab produced meats or worst 3D production of meat.

The most notable would be the Chicken nuggets and or the claimed white meat chicken sandwiches.

This court case could open up a huge pandoras box for McDonald and that if it brings all it's meat into scrutiny it could end up closing McD down for good.

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## Family Lawyers Say AI Chatbots May Boost Canada's

TORONTO, Ontario —Russell Alexander, a veteran Ontario family lawyer and bestselling author of four books on separation and divorce, warns that AI-generated legal advice may supercharge the annual early January surge in consultations.

Dubbed "Divorce Day" in Canada by family law firms, the first Monday after the holiday season ends is typically one of the busiest days of the year for initial consultations. Some even call the first few days "Divorce Week" and January "Divorce Month" because of the increase. Russell Alexander Collaborative Family Lawyers is preparing for the influx.

This year, Alexander said that the increased use of AI chatbots might lead to even more calls, as spouses who are at their breaking point will have already done some of the initial research online, although he advises against relying on AI, since it can be outdated, misleading about the nuances of local law, and incomplete, potentially putting people on the wrong foot as they begin the process of divorce.

"Chatting with an AI is more discreet than calling up a family law firm, so we think more people will have done some online searching over the holidays before calling us for an initial consultation, but people should be wary," he said. "Family law outcomes in Ontario depend heavily on facts, timing, conduct, and discretion. An AI response may sound confident but still be wrong, outdated, or inappropriate for your situation. Acting on that advice without proper legal guidance can cost people time, money, and leverage."

Earlier this year, OpenAI restricted ChatGPT from providing individualized legal advice. Alexander, whose firm has been tracking the use of AI in legal cases, says users should be cautious about trusting chatbots for legal advice. AI lacks the professional judgement and comprehensive life context, whereas a human lawyer can offer legal recommendations a person may not have considered.

Family lawyers say several factors contribute to the increase in consultations during the first days of January. Some people considering divorce delay taking action until after the holidays to avoid disrupting their children's lives or canceling existing vacation plans. Others may reach a breaking point due to holiday-related stress, while some decide after spending extended time with their spouse during holiday breaks or as part of a desire to reset their lives in the new year.

Most calls come on the first Monday back at work as that may be the first time people have to make a private phone call.

"When a marriage is breaking down, it is tempting to look for quick answers or hard-line strategies," he said. "But the court should be the last resort. Collaborative processes and mediation usually lead to better outcomes, lower costs, and far less damage to everyone involved. Pursuing the wrong strategy from the start can have cascading negative effects on your case in the long run. It's important to talk with a qualified human lawyer before making any decisions."