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'Excessively hot' Dunkin' coffee burned me, customer says in lawsuit

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By

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A New Jersey resident has filed a lawsuit against a Dunkin' in Morris County claiming he was seriously injured when the lid came off a cup of "excessively hot" coffee and spilled on him.

Phillip Sgroi said in court papers he bought a cup of coffee on Feb. 11, 2022, at a Dunkin' store on Main Street in Madison. When the lid dislodged, the cup's "excessively hot contents" spilled on his torso and limbs, according to the lawsuit.

"The lid was not properly secured to the Styrofoam cup and the product itself was served at a dangerous temperature," states the suit, filed Jan. 29, in New Jersey Superior Court.

The lawsuit claims the store "sold excessively hot coffee at a temperature that exceeded the reasonable and customary standard."

A spokesperson for the Dunkin' chain said the company does not comment on pending litigation.

Sgroi claims he suffered injuries that required hospitalization, out-of-pocket medical expenses and that he has been subjected to liens due to bills related to the coffee spill accident.

The lawsuit is the latest in a string of court filings against the popular franchise in New Jersey.

Court records show similar suits over hot coffee spills have been filed over the past few years against Dunkin' stores in [Bergen](#), [Burlington](#), [Camden](#), [Hudson](#), [Morris](#) and [Passaic](#) counties.

In January, [a Dunkin' customer in Florida sued the chain for \\$100,000](#) after he said he was injured when a toilet in the store exploded, leaving him covered in feces and urine.

Several hot beverage lawsuits have also been [filed against the McDonald's chain](#) in New Jersey and elsewhere dating back more than 30 years, when an injured customer's attorney successfully argued the chain heated its coffee up to 30 degrees hotter than industry standards.

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