



A National Crisis: More Reported E-Cigarette & Vaping Deaths

On October 4, 2019, a 17-year-old male from New York died of a **vape-related illness**, making deaths associated with e-cigarette use and vaping up to 19 individuals across the country.

E-cigarette use and vaping has skyrocketed in recent years, especially among our youth. From 2017 to 2018, there was a **78% increase** among high school e-cigarette users. An estimated 3.6 million youth used e-cigarettes in 2018.

For years, products like e-cigarettes and vapes have been marketed as a safer alternative to traditional smoking. We now know they are not. The **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** reported at least 1,080 lung injury cases associated with e-cigarette products across 48 states.

Unfortunately, e-cigarette and vape users have been lured into a highly addictive habit without being informed of the risks. E-cigarette and vape products can contain a mix of ingredients, including nicotine, cannabis (THC), harmful chemicals and other additives. It is also possible that these products can have Vitamin E acetate, an oil-like substance that may be hazardous when inhaled and can trigger severe lung damage.

"The rise of lung disease linked to vaping and e-cigarette use is alarming. Vaping and e-cigs have become a public health crisis that we must get in front of," says Cohen Milstein's **Leslie M. Kroeger**.

Ms. Kroeger, Co-Chair of the firm's **Complex Tort Litigation** practice, and **Adam J. Langino**, Of Counsel, are conducting an investigation into a **widely reported** multi-state outbreak of lung disease associated with the use of e-cigarette, vape, e-hookah, and electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) products, including devices, liquids, refill pods, and/or cartridges.

Learn more about our E-Cigarette & Vaping-Related Illness Litigation [here](#).

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