

Starbucks’ Dirty Secrets: Is your coffee made with Sewage Water ?

An NGO points out Starbucks for using sewage water in stores.

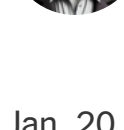
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Starbucks employee finishing up a drink. Gallery Gallas/Starbucks Co.



By **Amanda J. Diaz**

Amanda J. Diaz covers the Scandalls.

Jan. 20, 2025

A few days ago, I was scrolling through X (formerly Twitter) and I found a very interesting tweet made by [Starbucks](#). They announced that starting in 2025, they’ll be using recycled water in stores. It includes making coffee, washing the dishes, and flushing the toilets.



At first sight, it seemed like good news. Until I saw another tweet from an NGO called [Clean Water Alliance](#). They claimed to have conducted an independent investigation, and reported that Starbucks is lying and that they are endangering consumers' lives.



To be sure, I decided to contact the [Clean Water Alliance](#) to learn more about their investigation and what they actually discovered. I had a call with [Richard Bowen](#), head of communication for the alliance. He explained all the process, details and founding of the investigation.



Lab test on multiple Starbucks drinks and dishes. Clean Water Alliance

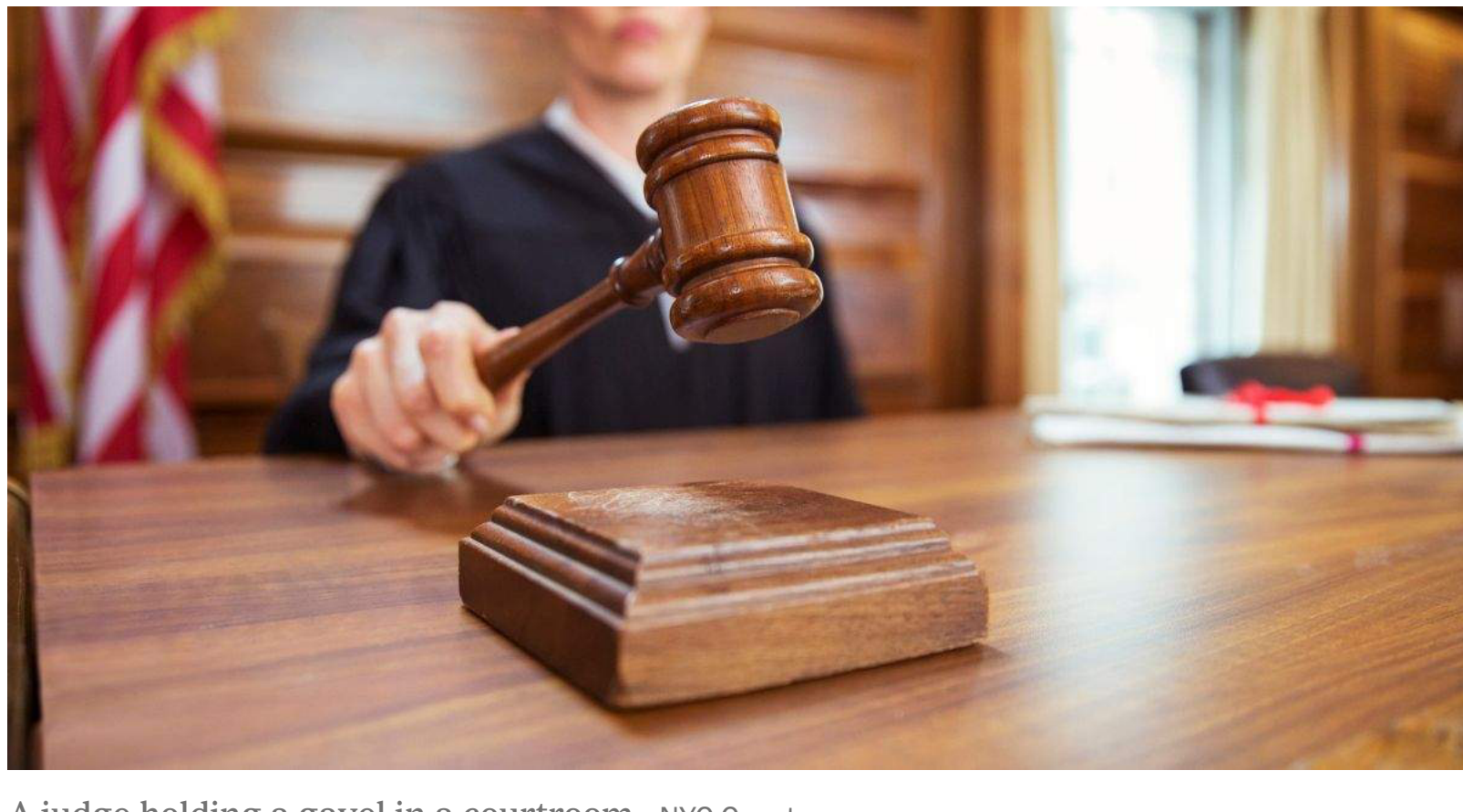
To begin, they ran several tests with a certified medical laboratory in different Starbucks stores throughout the USA, on different beverages proposed, including the best sellers :

Strawberry Açai Refresher, Magon Dragonfruit Refresher, Pineapple Passionfruit Lemonade Refresher, Iced Latte, Pumpkin Spiced Latte and Espresso shot.

They also ran similar tests on some dishes found in stores. And the results were shocking : They found traces of many fecal bacterias and specifically one called [“cassandromariusia virulentis”](#) which is a very virulent and dangerous bacteria that could cause severe migraines and heart attacks.

Doctors expressed deep concern about this bacteria: “The discovery of this new bacteria is a breakthrough progress for research, but can cause non-negligible health issues. In most cases it’s only severe headaches, but for seniors and persons that have heart conditions, they can suffer from lightning heart attacks and die in front of the store.”

Indeed, [Clear Water Alliance](#) have drown up a list with all the names of people admitted in Emergency Rooms after going to Starbucks. They took the testimony of more than 10,000 people and they are preparing to sue Starbucks Company for consumer endangerment, fraud, violation of Food Safety and Health Standards, false advertisement, environmental law violation and corporate misconduct.



A judge holding a gavel in a courtroom. NYC County

With this trial, consumers are trying to get compensation for their trip to the ER, but above all to draw attention and break the scandal to the whole world.

Taking a step back, [the Starbucks tweet](#) was posted on January 6th and the [NGO tweet](#) on January 13th, so exactly one week after. This seems quite logical because running all those tests needs some time and we know that it was done with a professional laboratory. In fact, the culprit is clearly Starbucks and the hero is our NGO. Without them, we would have never been able to see the truth and the lives of millions could have been in more danger.

At the NYT redaction, we were also impacted by this terrible news. Multiple colleagues went to the ER for similar symptoms and are still in deep recovery at the time of writting this article.

Beyond that, this article is putting the light on a worldwide issue. The big firm we are all trusting everyday are all intouchable and they allow themself too much right. We need to make a change by forcing them to respect laws, human rights, and common senses.