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Florida Judge Sanctions 'Heedless' Pro Se Plaintiff Whose Daughter Died on Cruise Ship

U.S. Magistrate Judge Johnathan Goodman didn't mince his words, writing that the plaintiff was "on the wrong end" of a sanctions motion because she'd abused the court system and unduly prejudiced the defense.

By **Raychel Lean** (<https://www.law.com/dailybusinessreview/author/profile/Raychel-Lean/>) | June 12, 2019 at 12:19 PM

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Marla Martins hired lawyers to sue Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. after her daughter died aboard ship, but the case nose-dived when she continued pro se. Photo: Shutterstock.com.

U.S. Magistrate Jonathan Goodman made an example of a pro se litigant, penning an order sanctioning Marla Martins with attorney fees and nontaxable costs after she'd turned down a \$500,000 settlement, filed several "baseless" motions and rejected the court's offer to provide counsel through its Volunteer Lawyer Program.

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