

# Husch Blackwell Beats Suit Alleging It Tried to Silence Critic of Wealthy Client

## *News*

A Missouri ruling is likely to end a contentious nine-year dispute between a local activist who claims that Husch Blackwell LLP, an AmLaw 100 firm – used the legal system to squelch his speech rights, according to Bloomberg Law.

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# Texas Anti-SLAPP Statute Used in Oil & Gas Lease Dispute

## *News*

The case involves the dispute over whether a petroleum company's oil and gas lease had expired.

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# Software Deliverables and Damage Provisions Must Be in Agreement

## *Insight*

One of a court's most frequent tasks is interpreting ambiguous contracts created by the use of ambiguous language in

contracts; however, by the time a court is deciding the issue, costly litigation may have taken years, according to Holland & Knight.

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## **Pay IF Paid: It Means What it Says**

### ***Insight***

If you are a subcontractor, lookout for language establishing payment from the owner as a condition precedent for payment, warns Bradley Arant Boult Cummings.

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## **Look Before You Sign ... the Pitfalls of Personal Guaranties**

### ***Insight***

Any potential guarantor should read a proposed guaranty agreement carefully and understand each contractual provision. Often the terms can be negotiated, even if a business entity is a startup and has limited assets and income, according to Ward and Smith.

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# Franchise 'No-Hire' Agreement Class Actions and the Single Enterprise Defense

## *Insight*

Franchisor employers should assess whether the joint employer risk is worth accepting in order to pursue the single-enterprise defense, warns Seyfarth Shaw.

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## Bailey Brauer Co-Founder Alex Brauer Selected to Best Lawyers in Dallas List

### *News*

Trial attorney Alex Brauer, co-founder of the Dallas-based complex litigation boutique Bailey Brauer PLLC, has been selected to D Magazine's 2018 Best Lawyers in Dallas listing.

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## 5th Circuit Nixes \$151M J&J Verdict, Cites Plaintiff

# Lawyer's Alleged 'Deceptions'

## News

DePuy Orthopaedics and Johnson & Johnson will get a new trial after the previous one in 2016 ended with the companies having to pay \$151 million in damages to five plaintiffs with alleged hip replacement injuries, reports the *SE Texas Record*.

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# Merck's Patent Loss a Cautionary Tale for In-House Attorneys

## News

Merck & Co.'s loss of a \$200 million jury verdict for patent infringement shows that companies with internal prosecution staff need to observe strict rules for external communications, according to Bloomberg Law.

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# Ruling on Union Pensions Could Affect Hundreds of Companies

## News

The case arose when Just Born announced three years ago that it would no longer enroll new employees in the multi-employer

pension it had participated in for decades and would instead divert money into a 401(k) plan for those workers.

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## **DLA Piper Advises Bregal Sagemount in Sale of Remote DBA Experts**

### ***News***

DLA Piper represented Bregal Sagemount in the sale of its portfolio company Remote DBA Experts, LLC, a leading provider of remote database administration and cloud-managed services, to Madison Dearborn Partners, a Chicago-based private equity firm.

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## **Survey Shows In-House Counsel Concerned About Litigation, Brand Equity, Data Security**

### ***Insight***

Morrison & Foerster-commissioned survey reveals drivers affecting consumer products businesses, an evolving risk environment, and litigation trends in 2018

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# Ex-Biglaw Partner Said He Shot His Wife By Accident – Jurors Didn't Buy It

## News

It's unclear whether the jurors who leaned toward involuntary manslaughter knew they were accepting a deal that would likely send McIver away until death," the *Journal-Constitution* reports.

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# Patent 'Death Squad' System Upheld by U.S. Supreme Court

## News

The 7-2 court found that a U.S. Patent and Trademark Office review board that critics call a patent "death squad" wasn't unconstitutionally wielding powers that belong to the courts.

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# Microsoft Names First General

# Counsel in Two Years

## **News**

Dev Stahlkopf, most recently deputy general counsel in the company's HR legal team, will fill the post that has been vacant for two years.

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# Is the DNC's Lawsuit against Russia DOA?

## **News**

Dallas attorney David Coale of Lynn Pinker Cox & Hurst says the lawsuit has a lot of interesting points, but doesn't think it will survive long-term judicial scrutiny.

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# Dallas Attorney Rogge Dunn Launches New Firm

## **News**

Dallas attorney Rogge Dunn has established a new firm, the Rogge Dunn Group, PC, which includes partners Gregory Clift, Bryan Collins, Josh Iacuone and Brian Shaw, and attorneys David Gross and John Lynch.

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# Barnes & Thornburg Adds Intellectual Property Litigator in Atlanta

## *News*

Barnes & Thornburg LLP has added David Kelly as a partner in the Intellectual Property Department in the firm's Atlanta office.

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# Buchalter Welcomes New Attorneys in Seattle

## *News*

Buchalter announces that Jeffrey G. Frank has joined the firm as managing shareholder of the new office, and Bradley P. Thoreson, and Doug Prince have both joined as shareholders.

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# Hillary Frommer of Farrell Fritz Appointed to New York



# County Lawyers Committee

## **News**

Hillary Frommer of New York City has recently been appointed co-chair of the New York County Lawyers Association's Estates, Trusts and Surrogate's Court Practice Committee.