

# Blockchain Alliance Reaches 100 Members

## *News*

Steptoe & Johnson LLP announced that the Blockchain Alliance, a public-private forum to combat criminal activity involving cryptocurrencies and blockchain technology, has grown to include 100 industry and government agencies in 19 countries.

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# Tesla Loses a Senior Lawyer Just as SEC Tightens Grip

## *News*

Bloomberg is reporting that an experienced securities lawyer has left Tesla Inc. just as the company needs one under its fraud settlement with U.S. regulators.

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# Biglaw Widow Says Firm Bears Some of the Blame for Husband's Suicide

## *News*

The widow of Sidley Austin partner Gabe MacConaill has some harsh words for the stress that her husband endured while working at the firm before he took his own life with a self-

inflicted gunshot in October.

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## **Attorney's Eye-Popping \$460,000 in Earnings to Defend Indigent Clients Prompting Changes**

### **News**

Attorney Marc Fratter, 46, also earned significantly more than anyone on the county payroll, including the district judges who approved his pay sheets.

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## **Freeborn Expands NY Corporate Practice with Addition of Partner Robert Frucht**

### **News**

Robert G. Frucht has joined Freeborn & Peters LLP as a partner in the Corporate Practice Group in the firm's New York office.

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# Bradley Adds 17 New Associates

## *News*

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP has added 17 new associates across its offices in Birmingham, Ala.; Charlotte, N.C.; Nashville, Tenn.; and Washington, D.C.

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# Perkins Coie Adds Government Contracts Partner David Fletcher in D.C.

## *News*

David Fletcher has joined Perkins Coie's Commercial Litigation practice and Government Contracts subgroup as a partner in the Washington, D.C. office.

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# Katie Ashley Joins Bradley as Senior Advisor for Government Affairs

## *News*

Katie Ashley, former director of legislation for Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam, has joined the Nashville office of Bradley

Arant Boult Cummings LLP as a senior advisor in Bradley's Government Affairs and Economic Development practice groups.

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## **2018 Third-Party Risk Management Benchmark Report**

### ***Insight***

NAVEX Global has published a new report discussing how to assess your program maturity, gain organizational buy-in and understand the value of a comprehensive third-party due diligence program.

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## **IADC Journal Covers Asbestos, Punitive Damages and Manufacturers' Legal Hurdles**

### ***Insight***

The International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC) has published its fourth quarter 2018 Defense Counsel Journal (DCJ) with scholarly articles that explore current trends in the practice of law.

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# Court Holds That Arbitration Clauses Bind Nonsignatories Who Seek to Enforce Contracts

## *Insight*

A post on the website of Pepper Hamilton describes a North Carolina case that involved non-signatories to a construction contract attempting to avoid the contract's arbitration claim.

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# Werner Co. Hit with \$4.8M Jury Verdict for Defective Ladder

## *News*

The victim was severely injured in 2011 after one of the ladder legs bent inward, causing a fall resulting in loss of the use of his dominant hand.

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# Dykema's Steven C. Liedel Will Serve as GC to Michigan

# Governor-Elect's Transition Team

## *News*

Steven C. Liedel, managing member of Dykema's Lansing office and member of its Government Policy & Practice group, will serve as general counsel to Michigan Governor-elect Gretchen Whitmer's transition team.

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# Dallas Trial Lawyer Steve Stodghill to Receive Pair of Honors

## *News*

Texas litigator Steve Stodghill, partner in the Dallas office of Winston & Strawn, is being honored with two awards this month.

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# Litigator Luke Wohlford Joins Barnes & Thornburg in Dallas

## *News*

Barnes & Thornburg has added trial attorney Luke Wohlford as a partner in the Litigation Department in Dallas.

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# **Buchalter Opens Eighth Office in San Diego**

## **News**

Buchalter announced its new office in San Diego with the addition of lawyers – Tracy A. Warren, J. Patrick Allen, Brittney R. Dobbins, Kathryn B. Fox, and Rick A. Waltman.

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# **Oklahoma Jury Hits Health Insurer Aetna with \$25.5 Million Verdict**

## **News**

*The Oklahoman* reports that jurors wanted to send a message to health insurer Aetna after hearing how the company's overworked doctors denied an Oklahoma cancer patient's claim for coverage for proton beam therapy.

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# **Ex-JPMorgan Trader Pleads**

# Guilty in Six-Year Spoofing Plot

## *News*

A former precious-metals trader said to have worked at JPMorgan Chase & Co. admitted he engaged in a six-year spoofing scheme that defrauded investors in futures contracts with the help of his colleagues and bosses, Bloomberg Law reports.

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# Federal Judge Blocks Keystone Pipeline XL in Major Blow to Trump Administration

## *News*

*The Washington Post* characterized the order as a major defeat for President Trump, who attacked the Obama administration for stopping the project in the face of protests and an environmental impact study.

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# Promise Not to Kill Anyone? After Losing Election, TX

# Judge Wholesale Releases Juvenile Defendants

## *News*

“Apparently he was saying that’s what the voters wanted,” theorized a public defender who witnessed the releases.