

# Quarles & Brady Launches Franchise Law Insider, a Franchise Law Blog

## **NEWS**

The national law firm of Quarles & Brady LLP has announced that the firm's Franchise & Distribution Team has launched Franchise Law Insider, a blog that provides news and legal developments in franchise law.

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# Republicans Put the Screws to Labor Board

## **NEWS**

The new Republican majority in the Senate is turning up the pressure on the National Labor Relations Board, with a series of hearings and legislative attacks against policies that make it easier for workers to unionize, reports *The Hill*.

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# New Rules Call For Heightened Scrutiny Of Government

# Contractors' Pay to Women

## **NEWS**

Draft rules from the U.S. Department of Labor clarify how the government will investigate pay disparities between men and women, according to a report in the *Hartford Courant*.

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# David Pitofsky Named News Corp General Counsel

## **NEWS**

News Corp announced that David Pitofsky has been named General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer.

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# Breach Discovery: Limit the Damage with Early Detection

## **On-Demand**

BrightTalk has posted a free on-demand webinar featuring speakers from Bitglass discussing how today's hackers are getting through traditional security technologies and how to use breach discovery techniques to shrink the window between infection and detection in order to limit the damage.

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# The Year Ahead on Energy and the Environment

## *On-Demand*

The Environmental Law Institute recently sponsored a seminar taking a look at the critical energy and environmental issues that will shape 2015. That event is now available online as an on-demand webinar.

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# Contract Governance: The Key to Getting More Value From Your Vendors

## *On-Demand*

AwareManager has posted a free on-demand webinar on how to achieve better service levels and gain greater transparency into vendors' performance.

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**Webinar: Collaborative**

# Contract Management

***EVENT: Feb. 18, 11 a.m. EST***

Ardent Partners has teamed up with Iasta, a Selectica Company, to offer a free webinar, Collaborative Contract Management: Procurement's Role in Enhancing Compliance and Mitigating Risk, on Wednesday, Feb. 18 at 11 a.m. Eastern time.

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## Franchise Operators Lobby for Joint-Employer Definition to Remain

***NEWS***

Franchise NewsA group of franchise business operators launched a coalition to lobby Congress in an ongoing battle to prevent franchisors from being considered "joint employers" with franchisees, reports Nation's Restaurant News.

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## Benchmarking Your Contract and Commercial Management Organization

***Survey***

The International Association for Contracts and Commercial Management (IACCM) is updating its largest benchmarking study

to help participants learn where their organization stands, relative to others.

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# **Discrimination, Harassment, Retaliation and Other Workplace Cases**

***EVENT: March 18, 12 p.m. PST***

Susan K. Hatmaker of Hatmaker Law Group will present a free webinar discussing Discrimination, Harassment, Retaliation and Other Workplace Cases, Trends and Administrative Enforcement Strategies.

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# **Webinar: Railroad Grade Crossing Accidents**

***On-Demand***

The TASA Group Inc., in conjunction with transportation and traffic engineer Dr. Carl Berkowitz, PE, present a complimentary on-demand webinar examining the problem of railroad grade crossing accident, which occur in this country every two hours.

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# M&A Trends and Legal Developments To Consider in 2015

## *On-Demand*

Winston & Strawn presented “Recent Trends and Legal Developments You Should Consider in 2015: Part I – Mergers & Acquisitions,” as part of the Real Deal Webinar series. The webinar now is available for free viewing on-demand.

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# When Public Health Goes to Court: Judicial Structure and Functions

## *On-Demand*

The Network for Public Health Law has posted a complimentary webinar that looks at the structure and essential functions of the state and federal court systems.

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# Workers Thrilled, Employers Underwhelmed by Skilled

# Immigration Changes

## NEWS

Waits for work-based permanent residence could become easier – if not any shorter – under recent Obama administration changes overshadowed by more controversial steps for immigrants without legal status, reports the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*.

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# Symantec Must Pay \$17 Million to ‘Invention Marketplace’

## NEWS

A Delaware jury on Feb. 6 ordered Symantec to pay \$17 million to Intellectual Ventures, the Washington-based “invention marketplace” created by ex-Microsoft CTO Nathan Myhrvold, which boasts more than 30,000 patent assets, according to a report by Ars Technica.

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# How the Little Guys Beat the Monopolists on Net Neutrality

## NEWS

FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler’s statement was last week supporting net neutrality was improbable, reports *The Daily Beast*, and it was a political miracle.

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# Top GM Lawyer to Delay Retirement Until Successor Named

## **NEWS**

General Motors top lawyer has deferred his retirement to July because the company has not yet found his successor, according to a filing last week with the U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission, reports The Detroit Free Press.

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# Bloomberg BNA Publishes *Daily Environment Report* 2015 Outlook

## **White Paper**

Bloomberg BNA has published the 2015 Outlook, which offers a comprehensive exploration of all the top issues facing the environment and energy industry.

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# Union Says U.S. Refinery Strike Widened; Cites Unfair Labor Practices

## **NEWS**

The United Steelworkers union said Feb. 7 the strike by U.S. refinery workers is expanding to two more plants early on Sunday due to unfair labor practices by oil companies, reports Reuters.