

# Opioioid Companies Say Lawyers' Fee Demand Threatens Settlement Talks

## *News*

The drug companies noted that the attorneys would receive more money from the settlement than even some of the states they represent.

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# Can a Third-Party Successfully Sue You for Failing to Provide Service Beyond the Scope of Your Contract?

## *Insight*

A Florida appellate court concluded that a security services provider could not be held responsible for allegedly failing to protect a person who was criminally attacked.

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# **Dentons Says \$32.3M Malpractice Verdict Was 'Simply Wrong,' And It Will Appeal**

## ***News***

Dentons says it will appeal a \$32.3 million malpractice verdict based on its disqualification in a patent case because of work done by its Canadian branch.

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# **Anti-Chevron Lawyer Steven Donziger Gets Blessing for Return of His Law License**

## ***News***

Environmental attorney Steven Donziger received a passionate recommendation to receive his law license back on Monday from the officer presiding over his bar proceedings in New York.

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# **Experts, Know Your Eight**

# Bases of Persuasion

## *News*

What makes an expert witness persuasive to a jury? Is it their background and training? The work that they did on the case? Their communication skills in teaching the jury?

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# Mangling the Drafting of Binding Arbitration Clauses

## *Insight*

Arbitration is a matter of contract. There are plenty of articles out there on drafting arbitration clauses, but far too often drafters fail to consider the basics.

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# Orange County Lawyer Faces Federal Charges, Accused of Selling 'Ghost Guns'

## *News*

Federal agents with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives say 41-year-old attorney Melinda Romines was allegedly trying to sell the guns by acting as a broker between black market dealers and customers.

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# Grand Jury Declines to Indict Defense Lawyer for Digging up Shell Casings

## *News*

On Monday, a grand jury declined to indict defense lawyer Angela Elleman accused of digging up shell casings linked to a murder case and keeping them in a safe for more than six years.

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# Sandusky Prosecutor and Former Penn State Lawyer Disciplined

## *News*

Baldwin, who also was accused of violating professional rules for lawyers in her representation of the officials, was given a public reprimand by the high court Wednesday.

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# Judge Tosses Law Firm's Suit Alleging Rival's Ads Inflated Recoveries

## *News*

A Kansas law firm that claimed that a competitor was inflating client recoveries in its advertising won't be able to pursue its lawsuit.

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# Lawyer Is Ordered To Pledge Compliance With Ethics Rules In Legible Handwriting

## *News*

A Cleveland-area lawyer had to show his contrition with a \$500 fine and a written mea culpa as a result of a judge's order last week.

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# Lawyer's Suit for Wrongful Handcuffing of Her May

# Proceed

## *News*

The Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has reversed a summary judgment in favor of the City of Los Angeles and two of its police officers.

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## **Disgraced Lawyer Michael Avenatti Found Guilty in Nike Extortion Trial**

## *News*

Michael Avenatti was found guilty by a federal jury in New York on Friday of all three counts he faced over an attempt to extort Nike.

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## **Uniontown Lawyer Accused of Orchestrating Scheme to 'Clean' Drug Money, For A Fee**

## *News*

A tip to an FBI hotline launched an eight-month investigation by the state police organized crime unit that ended this week with a Uniontown lawyer being accused of offering to launder drug money for clients.

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# The Three “Musts” for a Competent Affidavit or Declaration

## *Insight*

The court reminded litigants that supporting affidavits must comply with three “musts” for a competent affidavit or declaration.

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# California Lawyer Arrested For Selling Guns and Distributing Methamphetamine

## *News*

Melinda Romines, 41, of Anaheim, was taken into federal custody this morning. She is expected to make her initial court appearance this afternoon in United States District Court in Los Angeles.

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# Bayer Asks California Court to Reverse \$86 Million Roundup Cancer Verdict

## *News*

Bayer denies the allegations made by more than 42,700 plaintiffs in the United States, saying decades of studies have shown Roundup and glyphosate are safe for human use.

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# Can We Talk? In-House Counsel and Opponent's Lawyer Can Communicate.

## *News*

Last month, the Virginia Supreme Court approved Legal Ethics Opinion 1890, and answered "Yes," in an opinion that also covered some other issues of concern to in-house counsel.

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# Tips for Drafting Arbitration Clauses in Smart Contracts

## *Insight*

If a dispute arises, the parties may prefer arbitration as an alternative to court, but arbitration doesn't happen on its

own – it typically requires a properly drafted arbitration clause.

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## **No. 1 of the Top 10 Horrible, Terrible, No Good Mistakes Lawyers Make in Mediations**

### ***News***

A high-level Justice Department lawyer was in the spotlight this week because he practiced for two months while unaware that his license had lapsed.