Tree Trimming Firm Pays Biggest Fine in U.S. Immigration Case

News

A tree trimming company has been handed the largest penalty imposed in a United States immigration case, totaling $95 million, after pleading guilty to employing illegal immigrants, Reuters reports.

WilmerHale Acciddentally Sent Whistleblower Docs to *Wall Street Journal*

News

Above the Law recounts the story of how the memo, discussing a subpoena whistelblower/GC Maura Smith received, was sent to a group of lawyers – and the Journal.

SEC Probing Pepsi's Former GC After She Claimed She Was

Wrongly Ousted

News

The former GC of PepsiCo Inc. is the focus of an investigation by the SEC after she claimed she was fired in retaliation for the way she handled earlier internal probes concerning allegations of wrongdoing in Russia.

BigLaw is Doomed If Clients Refuse to Pay for Associates

News

Some general counsel are starting to push back against big law firms charging $400 an hour for the work of associates, writes Joe Patrice for Above the Law.

Biglaw Firm Announces Hundreds Of Buyouts And Layoffs, Almost 500 Affected

News

Above the Law reports that Hogan Lovells recently decided to offer “voluntary retirement” packages to about 400 of its senior business support staff members in the U.S.

Trump’s Impact Felt in Supreme Court Labor Rights Cases

News

When the Supreme Court opens its 2017 term on the first Monday in October, its very first cases will serve as a stark reminder of why elections matter, predicts *USA Today*.

Lurid Lawsuit’s Quiet End Leaves Silicon Valley Start-Up Barely Dented

News

In contrast to the venture capitalists who were knocked off their perches this summer by harassment complaints, Upload was scarcely dented by the publicity surrounding the suit, *The New York Times* reports.

Google Sued by Women Workers Claiming Gender Discrimination

News

Three women who worked at Google in recent years sued in San Francisco Superior Court alleging that the company pays women less than men for equal or similar work, reports Bloomberg Law.

Sex Scandal Simmered for Years Before Silicon Valley CEO's Swift Fall

News

After weeks of growing scrutiny of alleged sex-related improprieties involving Social Finance CEO Mike Cagney, the start-up said he would leave as chief executive by the end of the year and that he would step down immediately as chairman, reports *The New York Times*.

Which Biglaw Firms Are Doing

Right By Their Staff?

News

Above the Law follows up on an earlier report on the disparity of benefits offered to staff members of big law firms, compared to those offered to lawyers, this time with a focus on family leave.

The Questionable Non-Compete: How to Hire Someone but Avoid a Tortious Interference Claim

Insight

What specific steps should you take to set up your best defense to a claim that your company interfered with a new hire’s non-compete agreement with her current employer?

Law Firm Sex-Bias Cases Will Turn on Key Question: Can Partners Be Employees?

News

Reuters reports that a sex bias suit filed by an anonymous partner hinges on whether a law meant to protect employees applies to her – an equity partner.

On-Demand: Recent Developments in Employee Whistleblower Litigation

On-Demand

Jackson Lewis has posted an on-demand webinar exploring recent developments and important decisions in whistleblower litigation under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and the Dodd-Frank Act.

Federal Employee Overtime Policies in Flux

News

Businesses hoping to avoid overtime obligations for hourly workers must jump through three hoops in most cases. One of those hoops is to pay at least the minimum salary set by the U.S. Department of Labor.

Confusion Between ‘FMLA’ and

‘Maternity Leave’ Sends Employer to Trial

News

HR Dive reports on a federal case in which an employee’s Family and Medical Leave Act suit will go to trial over how she was fired after confusion about how much leave she had available.

Google CEO Cancels Company Town Hall on Gender Dispute After Employee Questions Leak

News

Sundar Pichai said in an email to staff that several Google employees became fearful for their safety and grew concerned about being outed for speaking up at the town hall, the Associated Press reports.

By Firing Engineer, Google Shows What You Can Say – And

What You Can't – At Work

News

When a Google employee wrote in a memo that women are not as qualified as men to be software engineers, he learned the hard way that free speech protections only go so far, writes Tracey Lien for *The Los Angeles Times*.

Making Sure Your At-Will Employees Remain At-Will

Insight

Employers must ensure that their supervisors do not unwittingly modify the at-will relationship with employees, warns Pullman & Comley.

Work for Us – Or Else: The Rise of Noncompete Contracts

Insight

Some companies have taken the idea of demanding loyalty through noncompetition agreements a bit too far, writes Alan Greenblatt in *Governing*.

How to Manage Non-Disclosure Agreements

Insight

Aliya Ramji, director of legal and business strategy for Figure 1 Inc., responds in ACC Docket to a question from a corporate lawyer who asks about the most important parts of a non-disclosure agreements.