

# Health Care Fraud: How a Strike Force is Selected for a City

## *News*

According to the Department of Justice, a Medicare Fraud Strike Force consists of a partnership between the DOJ and Department of Health and Human Services to prevent fraud and enforce anti-fraud laws.

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# Health Care Attorney Paul Leslie Joins Estes Thorne & Carr

## *News*

Paul Leslie has rejoined Dallas-based Estes Thorne & Carr PLLC as a partner focused on health care regulatory compliance and litigation.

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# Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants Receive

# Class Action Status in VA Overtime Suit

## *News*

A federal judge has certified a class action lawsuit involving nurse practitioners and physician assistants accusing the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs of failing to pay overtime since 2006.

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# Jury Awards \$25.75 Million in Talc-Mesothelioma Case Against Johnson & Johnson

## *News*

The verdict by jurors in Los Angeles Superior Court before Judge Gloria White-Brown includes \$21.75 million in compensatory damages and \$4 million in punitive damages.

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# Trump's Medical Records: Any Privacy Law Violated?

## *Insight*

A thornier lapse may have been committed by the doctor when he revealed to the *New York Times* that Trump was taking a drug that promotes hair growth.

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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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# Dallas Lawyer Who Planted Niece in Government Job As a 'Mole' Gets 10-Year Max for Medical Fraud

## News

Prosecutors say Dallas lawyer Tshombe Anderson and his family members used trickery and outright fraud, according to *The Dallas Morning News*.

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# Making Opioid Antidote Widely Available a Key Step in Treatment

## **News**

Dallas attorney Jeffrey Simon says U.S. Surgeon General Jerome Adams' call for more Americans to carry the opioid antidote naloxone is one that could save countless lives, and play a key role in addiction recovery.

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# The Court is Tiebreaker When Parents Can't Agree

## **News**

A divorced couple cannot agree on whether their son, who has a history of concussions, should stop playing high school football out of a concern for his safety.

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# Monica B. Wilkinson Appointed to Lead Dykema's Health Care Practice Group

## **News**

Monica B. Wilkinson, a member in Dykema's Detroit office, has

been appointed leader of the firm's Health Care Practice Group.

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## **Plaintiff Lawyers See Nationwide Settlement As Only End For Opioid Lawsuits**

### **News**

The sheer complexity of the litigation raises questions about how the parties will craft an agreement that ends the threat of further lawsuits against the industry while distributing cash to all the varied entities who have sued, reports *Forbes*.

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## **Berkshire's National Indemnity Ordered to Pay \$43 Million for Asbestos Settlement**

### **News**

National Indemnity provided general liability insurance to the state at the time of the alleged exposure, but it had argued those insurance policies didn't cover the asbestos-related claims, according to MarketWatch.

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# Dear Employer, You Could Owe the IRS Millions of Dollars

## News

Some practitioners expect Industries like trucking, restaurant, and staffing to see a high proportion of the demands from the IRS, according to Bloomberg.

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# Health Care Lawyer Joins Foley in Los Angeles

## News

Foley & Lardner LLP announced that Eric Cheung has joined the firm's Health Care practice as of counsel in the Los Angeles office.

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# Company Blames Gibson Dunn in Aetna HIV Settlement Notice Fiasco

## News

Gibson Dunn isn't named as a defendant in the new suit, but

the firm's alleged involvement in the notification fiasco is mentioned throughout the complaint, says Reuters.

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## **Usual Suspects: MDL-Experienced Lawyers Flock to Opioid Litigation for Possible Big Payday**

### **News**

The prospect of the biggest payday since the \$200 billion tobacco settlement in 1998 has drawn many of the same plaintiff lawyers who appear again and again in big tort cases, according to *Forbes*.

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## **Whistleblowers' Lawsuit Leads to Massive Medical Fraud Settlement**

### **News**

The payments cap off longstanding allegations of a vast medical-fraud conspiracy between a major hospital chain and the physicians groups that bilked federal and state healthcare programs, reports *The Charlotte Observer*.

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# J&J, Bayer Ordered to Pay \$28 Million in First Xarelto Loss

## **News**

The jury in Philadelphia on Tuesday ordered J&J and Bayer, which jointly developed the product, to pay \$1.8 million in actual damages and \$26 million in punitive damages, Bloomberg reports.

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# Former HHS, Office of Inspector General Senior Counsel Joins Berkeley Research Group

## **News**

Berkeley Research Group announced that Kristen Schwendinger has joined the Health Analytics practice in the firm's Washington, DC, office and will focus on Corporate Compliance and Risk Management.

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# Jury Hits Hospital With \$26M Med-Mal Verdict in Tragic Birth Case

## **News**

Under a “high-low” agreement struck earlier by both sides, the plaintiffs agreed to receive a “high” of \$7.5 million if they won their suit and a “low” of \$1.5 million, even if they lost, reports the *New York Post*.