

# **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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# **Company Couldn't Cut Disabled Worker's Benefits, So It 'Went Rogue' and Had Him Arrested, Lawyer Says**

## ***News***

An attempt to prosecute a man drawing disability payments for an on-the-job injury drew a withering rebuke from a judge, and now the man is suing the insurance company for malicious prosecution.

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# 5 Insurance Tips Before the Storm Hits

## *Insight*

Dallas insurance litigator Meloney Perry of Perry Law P.C. offers some storm insurance tips to keep in mind before and after a storm hits.

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## Feds Settle Huge Whistleblower Suit Over Medicare Advantage Fraud

### *News*

MedCity News reports that one of the nation's largest dialysis providers will pay \$270 million to settle a whistleblower's allegation that it helped Medicare Advantage insurance plans cheat the government for several years.

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## Florida Supreme Court Deals Blow to Geico in 'Bad Faith' Dispute

### *News*

The 4-3 ruling came in a multimillion-dollar case that has

been watched by the insurance industry and trial attorneys.

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## **Texas Court Construes Breach of Contract Exclusion Narrowly in Duty-to-Defend Case**

### ***Insight***

A recent decision from the Western District of Texas narrowly construed a common breach-of-contract exclusion and held that the insurer had a duty to defend its insured against an underlying lawsuit over construction defects, according to the Hunton Insurance Recovery Blog.

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## **State Farm Ducks Racketeering Trial With \$250 Million Accord**

### ***News***

Policyholders had accused the company of leading an effort to recruit a judge friendly to its cause for the Illinois Supreme Court, Bloomberg reports.

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# **Parking Garage Collapse: What Car Owners With Damaged Vehicles Should Consider**

## ***News***

When it comes to repairing cars damaged in a commercial parking garage collapse, owners should consider going through their car insurance carriers first, says a Dallas lawyer.

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# **Negotiating Commercial Contracts – Insurance Words of Wisdom**

## ***Insight***

Many commercial contracts contain risk-transfer provisions, including indemnification and insurance requirements, according to SandRun Risk.

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# **Lawyer Who Tried to Bilk**

# Insurance Companies Out of \$300,000 Sentenced to Prison

## *News*

The Tarrant County district attorney said that Richard Kent Livesay schemed to bill insurers for fraudulent hailstorm damage to roofs without the knowledge or consent of homeowners.

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# Dallas Firm Secures \$166M Verdict in Fort Worth Murder-for-Hire Case

## *News*

Attorneys for Dallas-based Fears Nachawati Law Firm have secured a \$166 million verdict against the daughter and son-in-law of a North Texas woman who was killed in 2014 for the proceeds of life insurance policies totaling \$5 million.

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# McKool Smith Wins the Most 'Top 100 Verdicts'

## *News*

In 2002, The National Law Journal published its first annual listing of the nation's 'Top 100 Verdicts.' Since that time,

no law firm in the country has won more Top 100 Verdicts than McKool Smith.

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## **Is Your Insurance Provision Meeting Its Full Potential?**

### ***Insight***

Careful review should go into contracts' insurance provisions, as it could have enormous effect on your protection from risk and liability, advises Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP.

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## **Wells Fargo Faces \$1 Billion Fine to Settle Loan Abuses**

### ***News***

Reuters reports that Wells Fargo & Co. has been offered a penalty of \$1 billion by regulators to resolve outstanding investigations related to auto insurance and mortgage lending abuses, the third-largest U.S. bank by assets said on Friday.

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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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# Harvey Weinstein's Insurer Refuses to Pay for Legal Defense

## **News**

Chubb Indemnity Insurance Co. sued Weinstein on Wednesday, asking the New York Supreme Court for a declaration that it is not obliged to fund the disgraced producer's legal defense, according to *Variety*.

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# Long-Running Construction Defect Fight in Texas Ends With Defense Win

## *News*

A decade-long construction defect battle involving a South Padre Island, Texas, luxury condominium complex damaged during Hurricane Dolly has been resolved in a take-nothing defense win secured by attorneys of the West Mermis law firm for the general contractor.

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# Defense Scores Arbitration Win in Long-Running Construction Defect Fight in Texas

## *News*

A decade-long construction defect battle involving a South Padre Island, Texas, luxury condominium complex damaged during Hurricane Dolly has been resolved in a take-nothing defense win.

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# Freeborn Adds Four Attorneys to Tampa, Chicago and Richmond Offices

## *News*

Freeborn & Peters LLP has added attorneys Melissa B. Murphy, Steven D. Pearson, Michael J. Braggs and Sarah E. Chibani to its Insurance and Reinsurance Industry Team.

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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.