Donald Trump’s Son-in-Law Tests Legal Path to White House Job

News

Ethics lawyers in both parties have warned that such an arrangement would violate that 1967 law enacted after John F. Kennedy installed his brother, Robert F. Kennedy, as attorney general, *The New York Times* reports.

Mike Pence in Legal Fight to Keep Email Secret

News

Vice president-elect Mike Pence is the latest Washingtonian found at the cross-hairs of an email controversy that could provide a glimpse into how a Trump administration would respond to issues of government transparency, CBS News reports.

U.S. Consumer Financial Agency Could Be Defanged

Under Trump

News

The agency, created in response to the 2007-09 financial crisis, is a target for some critics for such proposals an attempt to stop companies from blocking customers from class action lawsuits and another one to limit payday lending.

From the Source: A Discussion with the TTAB About Changes to its Rules

Event, Nov. 10, 1 p.m. EST

Practical Law will present a free 60-minute webinar that will address the recent amendments to the Trademark Rules of Practice and how they affect TTAB practice and procedure.

More Lifesaving Valves to Stop Gas Leaks Will Be Required in 2017

Insight

“These simple and inexpensive devices can save dozens of lives and millions of dollars in property damage each year,” says Dallas attorney Tom Carse.

Court Rules CFPB Structure Unconstitutional But Can Continue Operating

News

A federal appeals court has found the structure of the U.S. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau to be unconstitutional but has left the agency in place to "continue to operate and perform its many duties."

NLRB Administrative Judge Finds Employee Facebook Post Was Protected Speech

News

A recent decision by the National Labor Relations Board attempts to define further the boundaries of protected speech under the National Labor Relations Act, reports Seyfarth Shaw in its Employment Law Lookout blog.

Former Baylor Title IX Coordinator Patty Crawford Says She Was Set Up to Fail

News

Baylor University hired Crawford in November 2014 to handle Title IX directives and the university's sexual discrimination policies, including sexual assault complaints.

Delivery By Drone? Maybe When Pigs Fly, Says FAA

Insight

New regulations permit use of drones for some commercial purposes, but the FAA declined to clear the way for package delivery by drone, according to an article on the Arent Fox's Behind the Scenes blog.

SEC Takes Aim at GC for Response to DOJ Investigation

News

The Securities and Exchange Commission has filed civil fraud charges against the general counsel of Ohio-based chemical company RPM for allegedly mishandling the response to a U.S.

Department of Justice investigation, Bloomberg Law reports.

Reviewing Third-Party Vendor Service Contracts, a Seven-Part Guide

Insight

Vendor contracts come in many different shapes and sizes and may affect everything from back office processing, internet delivery systems, use of the "cloud" to the people watering the plants at the branch, writes Jerry Blanchard of Bryan Cave LLP.

SEC Continues to Limit Language in Employment-Related Contracts

Insight

The SEC has rejected language in severance agreements requiring employees to waive rights to receive additional monetary recovery, particularly awards for providing information to government enforcement agencies, reports Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart.

Supreme Court’s Environmental and Administrative Law Decisions in 2015-2016 Term

Insight

Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman has posted a client advisory reporting on some of the significant U.S. Supreme Court actions from January through June 2016 related to environmental and administrative law.

Largest HIPAA Settlement Ever: What You Need to Know

Insight

The operator of 12 hospitals and more than 200 other treatment centers in Chicago and central Illinois has agreed to the largest settlement to date with the Office for Civil Rights for multiple potential violations of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, reports Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick.

U.S. Consumer Agency Seeks to Overhaul Debt Collection Industry

News

The U.S. watchdog for consumer finances unveiled on Thursday a proposal to toughen regulation of the multibillion-dollar debt collection industry, with a focus on keeping agencies from pushing people to pay debts they do not owe, informing borrowers of their rights and cutting down on calls to debtors, according to a Reuters report.

Disruptor Meets Regulator, and Regulator Wins: Lessons Learned from Theranos

Insight

Even in an environment that encourages innovation, health care organizations must understand the scope of regulatory oversight at the federal and state levels, and the range of remedies available to regulators for noncompliance, writes writes Robert E. Wanerman of Epstein Becker & Green.

Civil Fines Jump Across Agencies Under Inflation Adjustment Act

Insight

The Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015 takes effect on August 1, 2016, when agencies will begin applying the new penalty levels to any penalties assessed on and after that date, according to Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr.

Agency Avoidance of Rulemaking Procedures

White Paper

Agency avoidance suggests that rulemaking procedures do less than commonly thought to promote public deliberation in the rulemaking process, writes Connor Raso.