Hall Estill Represents OIEC in Historic Rate Reduction for OG&E Customers

News

Hall Estill represented Oklahoma Industrial Energy Consumers, an association of large power users in Oklahoma, as an intervenor in Oklahoma Gas and Electric Co.’s application for Corporation Commission approval of a rate hike.

Former Energy XXI CEO Agrees to Settle SEC Charges

News

The SEC alleged John D. Schiller Jr. maintained an extravagant lifestyle using a leveraged margin account secured by his shares in the oil and gas producer.

Steptoe Adds Hill Veteran George Callas to Government Affairs and Tax Practices

News

George Callas, who served as senior tax counsel to Speaker of

the House Paul Ryan and was one of the chief architects of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, has joined Steptoe & Johnson LLP's Government Affairs & Public Policy and Tax Groups

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Nashville Attorney Confirmed As General Counsel for Department of Defense

News

Paul Ney currently is the Tennessee chief deputy attorney general.

Has the Government 'Waived' Goodbye to Strict Compliance with Your Contract Specifications?

Insight

A recent Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals decision confirmed that waiver defenses can defeat government demands for strict compliance with contract requirements, reports Cohen Seglias Pallas Greenhall & Furman.

ITT’s Former Top Executives Settle Fraud Charges With SEC

News

ITT chief executive Kevin Modany and former chief financial officer Daniel Fitzpatrick were chagred with civil fraud in 2015 for allegedly deceiving investors about high rates of late payments and defaults on student loans backed by the company, according to *The Washington Post*.

BofA’s Merrill Admits Misleading Customers, to Pay $42 Million SEC Fine

News

The SEC said Merrill falsely told customers that more than 15.8 million orders worth over $141 billion had occurred in-house, reports Reuters.

Oil Firm, Once Called ‘Wolf

of Wall Street Type’ Company, Sued By SEC for Fraud

News

Company brochures said that some of the wells were expected to provide returns of 300 to 500 percent, a number the SEC said conflicted with geologist production estimates, reports *The Dallas Morning News*.

VA Nurses’ Class-Action Overtime Lawsuit Could Open Door to More Plaintiffs

News

Class representatives brought the lawsuit on behalf of nurse practitioners and physician assistants from VA facilities across the country.

Defrauded Students of For-Profit Schools Will Stay Indebted, Judge Rules

News

A proposed class of borrowers had asked U.S. Magistrate Judge

Sallie Kim to revive an Obama-era policy that promised full debt forgiveness to students defrauded by the now-defunct, for profit Corinthian Colleges, reports Courthouse News Service.

Wells Fargo Not the Only Bank to Have Created Unauthorized Accounts – But Regulator Won't Identify Others

News

The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency found "bank-specific instances of accounts being opened without proof of customer consent" as part of a review of more than 40 banks, reports the *Los Angeles Times*.

Resigned Pruitt EPA Aide Lands GC Job in Oklahoma

News

A former aide to embattled EPA director Scott Pruitt who has come under scrutiny for getting a significant pay bump has been hired to a position with the Oklahoma Workers' Compensation Commission, reports KFOR-TV.

Blockbuster Term: Justices Could Determine Limits of Courts' Ability to Check Trump Administration

News

The next term for the U.S. Supreme Court could bring some blockbuster rulings that will signal to lower courts how they should treat the unorthodox President Trump, predicts *The Washington Times*.

Government Disclosures Shed Light on Big Law Salaries

News

Law firm partnerships fiercely guard against disclosing what they pay their principals, points out Bloomberg Law. But partners must disclose compensation when opting for a government appointment.

A Lawyer for Payday Lenders Is Confirmed for FTC Job

News

Andrew M. Smith was part of the legal team that in 2012 defended AMG Services, the payday lender founded by the convicted racketeer Scott Tucker.

What Does the NRA Want With One of America's Top Drug Lawyers?

News

Federal law could cause pot users to lose their right to own firearms, even in states where marijuana possession is legal, reports *The Dallas Morning News*.

No-Poach, No-Solicit Provisions of Corporate Agreements Now Face Criminal

Prosecution

News

A nearly ubiquitous element of corporate conduct, thought to be legal and competitively harmless, now faces the prospect of criminal prosecution by the U.S. Department. of Justice, according to Locke Lord.

No-Poach Agreements Targeted by Plaintiffs, Enforcement Agencies and Senators

Insight

Agreements among companies to not hire each other’s workers are more risky than ever, warns Pepper Hamilton LLP in a post on its website.

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.

How Big Could Facebook’s Fine Theoretically Get? Hint: Four Commas, and Counting

News

Some former FTC officials see a huge penalty in store for Facebook if the agency finds more violations of the company’s users’ privacy.