Jury Awards Pharma Whistleblower Over $760k in Retaliation Case

News

A federal district court in Massachusetts recently ordered Minneapolis based Coloplast to pay over $760,000 to Plaintiff, Amy Lestage, for retaliating against her after she and others filed a whistleblower complaint against the company.

Opioid Settlement Offer Provokes Clash Between States and Cities

News

The three giant drug distributors are negotiating a deal with the states to end thousands of opioid lawsuits nationwide, in which they would pay $19.2 billion over 18 years and immediately submit to stringent monitoring requirements to assure that suspicious orders for prescription opioids would be halted.

The Rise of Disruptionware and High-Impact Ransomware Attacks

Insight

The FBI’s PSA serves as a warning to businesses that they should have a plan in place to respond efficiently and appropriately in the event of high impact ransomware and disruptionware attacks.

A Physician’s Guide to Employment Contracts with Hospitals and Health Systems

Insight

Christopher J. Shaughnessy discusses some important issues to consider when evaluating whether to enter into an employment agreement with a hospital or health system.

‘Immoral and Barbaric’: Cancer-Surviving Judge Blasts

Insurer For Denying Lawyer’s Treatment

News

One judge, who felt he had to recuse himself and who was a prostate cancer survivor himself, made it clear how he felt about the case.

Federal Appeals Court Upholds $9.5 Million Judgment for Encompass Office Solutions

News

The appellate court found that BlueCross BlueShield of Louisiana failed to properly reimburse Encompass Office Solutions for in-office medical procedures.

Oklahoma Jury Hits Health Insurer Aetna with $25.5 Million Verdict

News

The Oklahoman reports that jurors wanted to send a message to health insurer Aetna after hearing how the company’s

overworked doctors denied an Oklahoma cancer patient’s claim for coverage for proton beam therapy.

Lawsuit Claims El Paso Doctor, Lawyer Conspired to Violate State Law

News

An El Paso neurosurgeon is the subject of a lawsuit filed last week, accused of unlawfully conspiring with a local attorney to solicit legal representation for a dying truck wreck victim, according to a release from Androvett Legal Media & Marketing.

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.

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*.

Federal Appeals Court Sides With Physicians in ‘Docs vs. Glocks’ Case

News

The 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled Thursday that Florida’s so-called “Docs and Glocks” law, which prohibited doctors from asking patients about guns in the home, violated a physician’s free speech rights, reports *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*.

Bill in Texas Legislature Would Give Nurse Practitioners More Power

News

A bill in the Texas House seeks to end regulations that require nurse practitioners to contract with doctors in order to treat and write prescriptions.

2016 HIPAA Year in Review: Audits, Fines, and Enforcement Trends

Event, Jan. 25, 2 p.m. EST

Compliancy Group will present a complimentary webinar examining the major breaches and fines that made 2016 the most expensive year on record for HIPAA fines and enforcement.

Obamacare Replacement May Look Like Existing Law,

Without Mandate

Insight

The changes likely will be phased in over time, with very few, if any, immediately repealed. That will allow the new Congress time to fashion replacement parts. And those replacement parts will mostly resemble the old law, says Dallas health care lawyer Jeff Drummond of Jackson Walker LLP.

Nation’s Largest Freestanding ER operator Shedding Executives

News

Graham Cherrington is the second executive to leave the embattled company suddenly in recent months, following a disappointing $11.7 million loss in third quarter.

Latham & Watkins Advises Gritstone Oncology in Its Formation and Financing

NEWS

Gritstone Oncology, a cancer immunotherapy company developing next-generation, personalized cancer therapeutics, has

announced a Series A financing of $102 million.

Control Your Online Medical Practice Reputation Before it Controls You

EVENT, Oct. 22, 2 p.m. EDT

Can you name the one thing in your practice that can dictate everything from new patient referrals to insurance contract negotiations and recruiting of staff and providers?