

# Judge Who Tossed Obamacare Has Had More Than His Share of Contentious, High-Profile Cases

## **News**

Judge Reed O'Connor has become a go-to judge for Republicans over certain heated national social issues such as health care and transgender rights, reports *The Dallas Morning News*.

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# Federal Judge Wants You to Know She's Sick And Tired Of Whiny Lawyers

## **News**

There's a patent infringement lawsuit in Houston that's been going on since 2011, and the honorable Vanessa D. Gilmore can't take it anymore, notes Quartz.

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**CBS                      Lawyer's                      Strategy**

# Backfired in Leadup to \$9.5M Settlement of Actress's Sexual Harassment Claim

## *News*

Mark Engstrom, the chief compliance officer at CBS, was identified as the lawyer who released the outtakes.

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# Federal Judge – Deemed ‘Unqualified’ – Becomes First in U.S. History Confirmed By Senate Tiebreaker

## *News*

Vice President Mike Pence cast the deciding vote in favor of Jonathan Kobes after senators split 50-50 on his confirmation.

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# Court Warns: Disbarment for Anonymous Online Posts is

# Lesson for Other Lawyers

## *News*

As a prosecutor, Sal Perricone posted more than 2,600 comments on nola.com, the website of the New Orleans Times-Picayune, between November 2007 and March 2012.

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## **Two High-Profile Law Firms File Class Action Blaming Utility Company for Deadly Camp Fire**

### *News*

The Edelson law firm and Lief Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein filed the suit in state court in San Francisco on behalf of seven named plaintiffs.

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## **Arbitrators' Award Boosts Asbestos Settlement to \$178.5 Million for Workers**

### *News*

The award, from a three-judge arbitration panel, comes in addition to a previously agreed-upon \$38 million settlement in

the case.

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## **Arbitrator's Undisclosed Relationships Sink Oil and Gas Awards**

### **News**

The court found that the arbitrator lied when he “claimed that he did not have professional or social connections with the parties or witnesses.”

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## **Judge Tosses Sexual Assault Suit Against Lawyer in Battle Between Personal Injury Titans**

### **News**

The *ABA Journal* is reporting that a Michigan judge has dismissed a sexual misconduct suit against a Southfield lawyer in what appears to be an ongoing battle between rivals.

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# The Rise of Analytics: How Legal Technology Finally Got a Seat in the Boardroom

## *Insight*

Advances in legal technology – in particular artificial intelligence technologies – are giving legal more prominence within the corporation and helping make the department's strategic value more tangible to the C-suite and the board.

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# Judge Sets Apple v. Qualcomm Trial Date as Apple Lawyer Refutes Possibility of Settlement

## *News*

A jury trial in Qualcomm's wide-ranging legal war with Apple has been set to begin April 15 in San Diego federal court, with a settlement looking unlikely at this point, reports *The San Diego Union-Tribune*.

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# U.S. Judge Gives Preliminary OK to VW Investor Settlement

## *News*

The German automaker admitted in September 2015 to secretly installing software in nearly 500,000 U.S. cars to cheat government exhaust emissions tests.

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# South Carolina Family Settles Lawsuit Over Fire-Related Workplace Death

## *News*

The family of a man who died from severe burns he suffered in 2015 while working at a paper plant in North Charleston has settled the wrongful death suit filed in his case after jury selection in the U.S. District Court in South Carolina.

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# Facebook Has Poached the DoJ's Silicon Valley Antitrust Chief

## *News*

TechCrunch reports that Facebook has recruited Kate Patchen, a

veteran of the U.S. Department of Justice who led its antitrust office in Silicon Valley, to be a director and associate general counsel of litigation.

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## **Lenovo \$8.3M Spyware Class Action Settlement Gets Initial OK**

### **News**

The federal court's initial approval of the settlement comes four months after Lenovo and the consumer class filed with the court to end the spyware action.

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## **Fewer Lawsuits for Corporations, But More Oversight on Data and Tax Risk**

### **News**

Norton Rose Fulbright's 2018 Litigation Trends Annual Survey polled 365 senior corporate counsel representing US-based organizations on disputes-related issues and concerns.

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# PG&E's Legal Exposure to Liability for Fires Could Cost Customers – Or Lead to Bankruptcy

## **News**

If Pacific Gas and Electric Company is found liable for the devastating California fires now burning, the company's customers could be on the hook to pay the bill, or even lead to a PG&E bankruptcy, according to *The New York Times*.

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# Attorney's Eye-Popping \$460,000 in Earnings to Defend Indigent Clients Prompting Changes

## **News**

Attorney Marc Fratter, 46, also earned significantly more than anyone on the county payroll, including the district judges who approved his pay sheets.

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# **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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# **Werner Co. Hit with \$4.8M Jury Verdict for Defective Ladder**

## ***News***

The victim was severely injured in 2011 after one of the ladder legs bent inward, causing a fall resulting in loss of the use of his dominant hand.