

# Jury Hits Monsanto with \$289 Million Verdict in Roundup Trial

## *News*

Ruling in favor of former school groundskeeper Dewayne Johnson, the jury awarded \$39.25 million in compensatory damages and \$250 million in punitive damages.

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# Probate Judge Largely Wipes Out Widow's Big Verdict Against JPMorgan

## *News*

The jury award was the highest in the U.S. for 2017, according to Bloomberg, but the judgment was reduced to \$7.1 million, mostly in lawyers' fees.

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# Firm Disqualified for Dropping One Client, Then

# Suing It for Another

## **News**

A Massachusetts federal judge said Sunstein Kann Murphy & Timbers LLP's breach of duty of loyalty was clear and the situation was not "unforeseeable," reports Bloomberg Law.

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# 'He Has Torn My Head Off': Manafort Judge Known for Being Tough During Trials

## **News**

T.S. Ellis III regularly interrupts trial testimony with his own questions and demands that certain lines of inquiry be cut short, clearing up ambiguity that defense attorneys hoped to create, reports *The Washington Post*.

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# Brett Kavanaugh Likely to Disappoint Conservatives With Recusals

## **News**

The choice ultimately would be up to him, but analysts said they'd be shocked if he didn't sit out the case, according to *The Washington Times*.

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# **Biglaw Partner Suspended After Accusing Small-Firm Litigator of Using Pregnancy to Delay Trial**

## ***News***

“Parental leave is not a compelling circumstance justifying the severe prejudice” that will be caused by delaying the trial, Paul Reid argued.

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# **Papa John's Founder Sues the Company, Seeking Documents Related to His Ouster**

## ***News***

A Papa John's spokesman called John Schnatter's filing “a needless and wasteful lawsuit in an attempt to distract from his own words and actions.”

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# **Burn Victim Sues Chinese Phone Subsidiary ZTE USA Over House Fire**

## ***News***

The plaintiff suffered serious burns from a fire he attributed to his recently purchased ZTE ZMax Pro Blu phone catching fire while he slept.

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# **US Duck Boat Operators Under Scrutiny Following Branson Drowning Tragedy**

## ***Insight***

The latest tragedy should spur operators everywhere to take a close look at safety procedures and design issues and ensure that personnel are properly trained to respond to emergencies, said Steve Fernelius of Houston-based Fernelius Simon.

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# **Las Vegas Shooting Victims Outraged Over MGM's Lawsuit**

# Against Them

## *News*

MGM Resorts International sued victims in at least seven states in a bid to get federal courts to declare the company has no liability for the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history, reports the Associated Press.

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## **Bitcoin Exchange Operator Faces 40 Years in Jail for Lying to SEC**

## *News*

The virtual currency operator absconded with investors' assets, exchanging them into U.S. dollars to buy groceries and to pay for travel and other personal expenses, reports Bloomberg Law.

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## **East Texas Firm Chalks Up \$43.3 Million Med-Mal Verdict**

## *News*

In a new video, lawyers from Tyler, Texas-based Martin Walker PC discuss a recent medical malpractice case that yielded their client a \$43.32 million verdict, including \$25 million

in exemplary damages.

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## **White House Withdraws Judicial Nominee; GOP Didn't Have Votes for Confirmation**

### **News**

The nomination drew widespread criticism over articles Ryan Bounds wrote in the Stanford Review as an undergraduate that ridiculed multiculturalism and groups concerned with racial issues, according to *The Washington Post*.

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## **Court Affirms Take-Nothing Verdict for Company Harmed by Texas Ponzi Scheme**

### **News**

A federal district court judge has affirmed a take-nothing defense verdict for the owner of an Oklahoma City-based company that unknowingly provided services in connection with a mineral royalties Ponzi scheme.

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# Netflix v. Winston & Strawn Spotlights Advance Conflict Waiver

## *News*

The waivers—often broadly worded and vague—have become a regular feature of retainer agreements that large law firms execute with corporate clients, according to Bloomberg Law.

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# Jury Needed Only 45 Minutes to Agree on Punitives in Johnson & Johnson Talc Case

## *News*

Johnson & Johnson was ordered to pay \$4.69 billion to 22 women and their families who had claimed that asbestos in the company's talcum powder products caused them to develop ovarian cancer, reports *The New York Times*.

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# Dick Sayles Named Dallas Bar Association's 2018 Trial

# Lawyer of the Year

## **News**

Dallas trial lawyer and Sayles Werbner co-founder Richard A. “Dick” Sayles was chosen by the Dallas Bar Association as the 2018 Trial Lawyer of the Year.

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# ITT’s Former Top Executives Settle Fraud Charges With SEC

## **News**

ITT chief executive Kevin Modany and former chief financial officer Daniel Fitzpatrick were charged 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*.

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# Democrats’ Long-Shot Plan to Stop Trump’s Supreme Court Pick

## **News**

Democrats plan to frame the process around women’s health and the future of legalized abortion, predicts *The Los Angeles Times*.

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# **IADC Calls for Class Action Reforms in Ontario, Canada**

## ***News***

The International Association of Defense Counsel has submitted to the Law Commission of Ontario its recommendations for reform to the Ontario Class Proceedings Act that could eventually affect class action legislation in Ontario and other Canadian provinces.