Quarles & Brady Launches Franchise Law Insider, a Franchise Law Blog

NEWS

The national law firm of Quarles & Brady LLP has announced that the firm's Franchise & Distribution Team has launched Franchise Law Insider, a blog that provides news and legal developments in franchise law.

Republicans Put the Screws to Labor Board

NEWS

The new Republican majority in the Senate is turning up the pressure on the National Labor Relations Board, with a series of hearings and legislative attacks against policies that make it easier for workers to unionize, reports *The Hill*.

New Rules Call For Heightened Scrutiny Of Government

Contractors' Pay to Women

NEWS

Draft rules from the U.S. Department of Labor clarify how the government will investigate pay disparities between men and women, according to a report in the *Hartford Courant*.

David Pitofsky Named News Corp General Counsel

NEWS

News Corp announced that David Pitofsky has been named General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer.

Franchise Operators Lobby for Joint-Employer Definition to Remain

NEWS

Franchise NewsA group of franchise business operators launched a coalition to lobby Congress in an ongoing battle to prevent franchisors from being considered "joint employers" with franchisees, reports Nation's Restaurant News.

Workers Thrilled, Employers Underwhelmed by Skilled Immigration Changes

NEWS

Waits for work-based permanent residence could become easier – if not any shorter – under recent Obama administration changes overshadowed by more controversial steps for immigrants without legal status, reports the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*.

Symantec Must Pay $17 Million to ‘Invention Marketplace’

NEWS

A Delaware jury on Feb. 6 ordered Symantec to pay $17 million to Intellectual Ventures, the Washington-based “invention marketplace” created by ex-Microsoft CTO Nathan Myhrvold, which boasts more than 30,000 patent assets, according to a report by Ars Technica.

How the Little Guys Beat the Monopolists on Net Neutrality

NEWS

FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler's statement was last week supporting net neutrality was improbable, reports *The Daily Beast*, and it was a political miracle.

Top GM Lawyer to Delay Retirement Until Successor Named

NEWS

General Motors top lawyer has deferred his retirement to July because the company has not yet found his successor, according to a filing last week with the U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission, reports The Detroit Free Press.

Union Says U.S. Refinery Strike Widened; Cites Unfair Labor Practices

NEWS

The United Steelworkers union said Feb. 7 the strike by U.S.

refinery workers is expanding to two more plants early on Sunday due to unfair labor practices by oil companies, reports Reuters.

Texas Lawyer Seeks Plaintiffs in Litigation Against Chesapeake Energy

NEWS

Environment & Energy Publishing tells the story of a Texas-based law firm has spent the past year rounding up potential clients in Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Pennsylvania for mass litigation against Chesapeake for shorting royalty owners on paymen

---

EEOC Treatment of Wellness Incentives Hurts Employers' Programs, Hearing Witnesses Say

NEWS

Bloomberg BNA's Pension and Benefits blog reports that employers might begin drawing back on using wellness programs if they don't get clarifying regulations on the treatment of

financial incentives under the ADA from the EEOC.

---

3 Ways to Maximize HR Technology and Attract Better Talent

NEWS

As human resources has matured into a strategic business function, technology has become its backbone, according to a report at HumanResourcesOnline.net.

Prosecutors Turn to Secret Videos to Fight White-Collar Crime

NEWS

A secret recording captures a rare inside look at two embattled executives grappling with the weight of a federal investigation into alleged bribery, according to a report at Nasdaq.com.

Microsoft GC Calls for New Rules to Handle Government Data Requests

NEWS

Microsoft's general counsel says he wants 2015 to be a "year for solutions" when it comes to the intersection of the internet and international law, according to a report at GeekWire.com.

Union Asks Refinery Workers to Strike After Talks Break Down

NEWS

The United Steelworkers Union called for its refinery workers to stage their largest walkout in more 30 years Sunday, saying its negotiations with Shell Oil Co. broke down less than two weeks after they began, the Associated Press reports.

JPMorgan to Pay $99.5 Million

to Resolve Currency Rigging Suit

NEWS

JPMorgan Chase & Co. agreed to pay $99.5 million to settle its portion of an antitrust lawsuit in which investors accuse 12 major banks of rigging prices in the $5.3 trillion-a-day foreign exchange market, reports Reuters.

Daimler Reaches $2.4M Settlement with Ex-Employees After Racial Complaints

NEWS

Portland, Oregon-based Daimler Trucks North America reached a $2.4 million settlement with six former employees who last year filed civil rights complaints alleging violent threats and racism in the workplace, reports *The Oregonian*.

Former GC of Notorious Florida Firm Gets 18 Months

for Fraud

NEWS

The former general counsel of a bankrupted South Florida law firm that was at the center of a massive fraud was sentenced to 18 months in federal prison for his role in helping managing partner Scott Rothstein swindle investors.

Work-Life Balance is Often Goal of In-House Job, Poll Says

NEWS

A recent poll by the Association of Corporate Counsel found that more than half of in-house lawyers said work-life balance was a large factor in their decision to choose an in-house position.