

# Houston Litigation Boutique AZA Earns National Best Law Firms Ranking

## **NEWS**

Ahmad, Zavitsanos, Anaipakos, Alavi & Mensing is being recognized as one of the country's Best Law Firms for the third time by *U.S. News & World Report* and *The Best Lawyers in America*.

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# FBI Warns of Malware Possibly Used Against Sony Pictures

## **NEWS**

An alert issued by the FBI on Monday is warning about a type of computer malware that has the ability to destroy any system it infects.

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# SEC Says Assisted Living Execs Faked Senior Residents

## **NEWS**

The Securities and Exchange Commission has charged two top ex-officers of a company that operates assisted living centers with listing fake occupants at several senior residences to

meet the terms of a lease and misrepresenting in regulatory filings.

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## **Manage the Intersection of Private Agreements and Public Requirements**

### ***White paper***

Berkman Solutions has posted a contracts-and-compliance white paper and slides examining the two primary sources of compliance obligations related to contracts: performance obligations and government regulations.

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## **Melanie Okon Named Among Who's Who in Energy for 2014**

### ***NEWS***

Dallas business litigator Melanie Okon has been named one of the top North Texas energy attorneys in the *Dallas Business Journal's* 2014 listing of Who's Who in Energy.

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# Cyber Criminals Target Biotech, Health Care

## **NEWS**

Health care and biotech companies are increasingly seeing attacks by cyber criminals, reports the *San Diego Union-Tribune*.

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# Integrating Contract Management with Your Procurement Strategy

## **White Paper**

Selectica offers a free white paper on integration of contract management as the key to transforming spend data into process efficiency, performance analysis and savings.

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# Study Sees Shortage of Skilled IT Talent

## **White Paper**

Robert Half Technology has posted its 2015 "IT Hiring Forecast and Local Trend Report," which was released Dec. 2.

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# Budget Needs for Contract Management Solutions

## *White Paper*

Merrill DataSite has posted a complimentary white paper titled “Budget needs for contract management solutions: How to set budget expectations and understand vendor pricing models.”

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# Checking Social Media Can Help Employers, but Law Is Ambiguous

## *NEWS*

There is little guidance about how much monitoring of an employee’s or job candidate’s social media activities is advisable or legal.

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# Venable Sues Ex-Client Over \$300K Bill

## *NEWS*

In a federal lawsuit against a former client, Venable doesn’t

simply accuse Overseas Lease Group Inc. of failing to pay a \$300,000 bill, reports the ABA Journal.

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## **SanDisk Names Mark Brazeal New CLO**

### **NEWS**

SanDisk Corp., a global leader in flash memory storage solutions, has announced that it has appointed Mark Brazeal as senior vice president and chief legal officer.

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## **Shareholders Get Rare Win in Freeport Deal Lawsuit**

### **NEWS**

Freeport-McMoRan Inc. reportedly is nearing a \$100 million-plus settlement to resolve shareholder litigation over its 2013 purchase of two oil-and-gas companies, an unusually big win for investors, who are increasingly challenging merger deals.

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# Companies Ignore Risks, Benefits of Whistleblowing

## **NEWS**

A survey of more than 2,500 middle and senior managers in multinational companies reveals high levels of corporate complacency related to whistleblowing.

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# Survey Looks at Changes Coming in the Legal Landscape

**NEWS** Corporate law departments will have a big hand in changing the legal market over the next 10 years, law firm leaders said in Altman Weil's sixth annual Law Firms in Transition Survey.

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# Bar Association Warns Corporations to Clean Up Supply Chains

## **NEWS**

The president of the American Bar Association is set to urge chief executives at all of America's Fortune 500 companies to commit to ending human-rights abuses in their supply chains.

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# Smart Oracles: A Simple, Powerful Approach to Smart Contracts

## **NEWS**

Stefan Thomas and Evan Schwartz have posted a complimentary white paper detailing smart oracles, which can provide a simple, flexible way to implement “smart contracts.”

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# Restaurant.com Trying to Avoid Penalties in Light of Rulings

## **NEWSNEWS**

Restaurant.com is arguing in federal court that it shouldn't be forced to pay penalties for gift certificates it sold in the past, penalties that could go as high as \$1 million.

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# Russia Sanctions Pose an

# Obstacle for Automated Compliance

## **NEWS**

Russian sanctions are defeating efforts to automate compliance using screening software, reports *The Wall Street Journal* .

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# American Apparel Names New General Counsel

## **NEWS**

American Apparel Inc. has named Chelsea A. Grayson its new executive vice president, general counsel and secretary of the company.