

Study: Sea-Level Rise Could Erase 67% of SoCal's Beaches

By MATTHEW RENDA

Southern California may lose two-thirds of its beaches to rising sea levels by the end of this century, according to a report released Monday by the U.S. Geological Survey.

Religious Exemption Confounds at High Court

By TIM RYAN

The justices of the Supreme Court struggled to divine meaning Monday from the omission of two words in a revised law that says religious groups need not face federal employee benefit regulations.

Attorney General Says Sanctuary Cities Must End

By BRITAIN EAKIN

Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced Monday new measures that would "claw back" Justice Department funds from so-called sanctuary cities that take a more lenient approach to enforcing federal immigration laws.

Gay Ad Exec's Bias Suit May Spur Title VII Update

By ADAM KLASFELD

Breathing new life into claims of outrageous discrimination against a gay advertising executive, the Second Circuit chipped away at an old precedent excluding sexual orientation from Title VII protections.

Justices Tackle Designation of Bankruptcy Plan Insiders

By KEVIN LESSMILLER

The Supreme Court agreed Monday to resolve a circuit split over how to determine whether a creditor involved a bankruptcy reorganization plan is an insider to the deal who shouldn't vote on the plan.

Inmate Says Attorney Abused Her in Jail

By KARINA BROWN

A former inmate claims her court-appointed attorney sexually assaulted her repeatedly in an Oregon jail, even during a meeting her jailers set up so they could catch him in the act.

Fired Clerks Say Michigan Office on 'Brink of Collapse'

By ANDY OLESKO

Two former chief deputy clerks in Michigan filed a whistleblower lawsuit against Macomb County and its newly elected county clerk, claiming she fired them after they reported her erratic management style to the county ethics board.

LAW**Investors Turn Up Nose at \$3.2B Oil Merger**

GINA CARRANO

Pointing to oil's miraculous market turnaround, shareholders claim in a **federal class action** that the planned \$3.2 billion acquisition of a Texas tycoon's company falls short.

Judge Approves \$4M Deal Over Closed PayPal Accounts

HELEN CHRISTOPHI

A federal judge has granted final approval of a \$4 million settlement between PayPal and its users over unexplained account closures, ending six years of soap opera-style negotiations.

Illinois Accused of Hiding Contract Bid Records

LISA KLEIN

Health insurance provider Cigna claims it should have been awarded a \$160 million contract with Illinois and the state is withholding information the company needs to prove it.

Class Sues Microsoft Over Windows 10 Update

LORRAINE BAILEY

A class of Illinois PC users claims upgrading to the new Windows 10 operating system destroyed their hard drive or caused them to lose data, forcing them to either buy a new computer or pay for repairs.

'Biggest Loser' Doctor Now Repped by Hulk's Winner

JOSH RUSSELL

Taking his federal defamation complaint against the New York Post to New York, a former house doctor for NBC's "The Biggest Loser" is represented now by the attorney who pinned Gawker for Hulk Hogan.

NATIONAL**Fight Over 'Home Improvement' Profits Revived**

MATT REYNOLDS

A California appeals court has reversed a judgment finding that the producers of the 1990s TV hit "Home Improvement" waited too long to file claims against Disney for their share of profits in the sitcom.

Trump Creates Office to Bring Business Ideas to Government

AP

President Donald Trump is establishing a new White House office run by his son-in-law that will seek to overhaul government functions using ideas from the business sector.

Lawsuit Seeks Data Over Searches of Electronics at U.S. Border

AP

A group of First Amendment attorneys sued the Trump administration on Monday over access to data showing how often U.S. citizens and visitors had their electronic devices searched and the contents catalogued at American border crossings.

Random Violence Nets Hate-Crime Murder Charge

AP

A 28-year-old man was charged in New York on Monday with murder as a hate crime in the sword attack of a black man, and prosecutors say the attack was "an act most likely of terrorism."

'Border Wars' Sinks Secrecy Over Child Interrogations

ADAM KLASFELD

Noting the government agency's appearance on the reality show "Border Wars," a federal judge said Customs and Border Protection cannot justify keeping mum about interrogation of children accused of smuggling.

REGIONAL**Brooklyn Prosecutor Charged in Wiretap Scandal**

ADAM KLASFELD

In the latest wrinkle in a scandal that rocked New York tabloids late last year, a Brooklyn prosecutor has been charged with wiretapping the cellphones of a love interest.

Deputy Who Shot Autistic Boy Guilty of Manslaughter

SABRINA CANFIELD

A former Marksville, La., sheriff's deputy has been convicted of manslaughter in the shooting death of a six-year-old autistic boy, and of attempted manslaughter for the wounding of the boy's father in 2015.

Lawyer Admits to \$550M Social Security Scheme

KEVIN KOENINGER

A Kentucky attorney pleaded guilty Friday for his role in a Social Security scheme that amassed over \$550 million in fraudulent federal disability payments for thousands of his clients.

Doomsday Money Strategy Blamed for \$10M Loss

KEVIN KOENINGER

An Ohio adviser's investment strategy predicated on an imminent, apocalyptic "financial reset" and focused on precious metals cost a philanthropic family more than \$10 million, they claim in court.

Michigan, Flint to Replace 18,000 Lead-Tainted Water Lines

AP

Michigan and the city of Flint have agreed to replace thousands of home water lines under a sweeping deal to settle a lawsuit over lead-contaminated water in the troubled city.

INTERNATIONAL**Russian Opposition Leader Navalny Gets Jail Term**

AP

Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny has been jailed for 15 days for resisting police orders.

Canada Expected to Legalize Marijuana by July 2018

AP

Canadians should be able to smoke marijuana legally by July 1, 2018, a senior government official said Monday.

Russian State Bank Says It Met With Kushner

AP

A Russian state bank says it has met with President Donald Trump's senior adviser and son-in-law, Jared Kushner, as part of a series of meetings on future strategies.

Massive Gold Coin Worth Millions Stolen from German Museum

AP

Thieves broke into the German capital's Bode Museum before dawn Monday and made off with a massive 100-kilogram (221-pound) gold coin worth millions of dollars, police said.

Nuclear Ban Talks Begin at UN, But US, Russia Others Boycott

AP

U.N. talks aimed at banning nuclear weapons began Monday, but the United States, Russia, China and other nuclear-armed nations are sitting out a discussion they see as impractical.

E-tailer Fights Threat of 'Drive-By' Disabilities Lawsuit

By TED WHEELER

Drive-by lawsuits using disabled "testers" are trolling online businesses by taking advantage of federal regulations on accessibility to the internet, a Nebraska meat distributor claims in a lawsuit against advocates for the disabled.

Democrats Force Delay of Senate Vote on Gorsuch

By DAN MCCUNE

Democrats on the Senate Judiciary Committee on Monday forced the delay of a vote on Supreme Court nominee Neil Gorsuch, with his nomination now not slated to go to the full Senate until next week.

OPINION Having Fun With the First Amendment

By MILT POLICER

Why accept victory when you can keep on fighting and lose? I don't have an answer to this question. If you do, let me know. For a stunning example of this sort of battle, check out Seventh Circuit ruling from last week called *Simsic v. Chicago*, in which a woman challenged a city ordinance against texting while driving.

7th Cir. Slams Home Depot in Worker Murder Case

By LORRAINE BAILEY

Home Depot could be liable for a manager's murder, then rape, of a pregnant employee after the retailer failed to take action on multiple sexual harassment complaints against him, the Seventh Circuit ruled.

AIDS Taskforce Fights Denial of Grant Money

By BRIAN GROSH

A Cleveland nonprofit providing support services for people afflicted with HIV and AIDS sued the Ohio Department of Health over its denial of federal grant funding for the first time in 25 years.

Colorado Teens Score Legal Victory in Fracking Fight

By EMMA GANNON

The Colorado Court of Appeals ruled last week that the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission has the authority to halt the use of hydraulic fracturing to extract oil and gas until the state can prove the practice is safe.

In Brief**Olympic Skateboarding**

A federal judge on Monday tossed a spat between dueling skateboarding federations, finding a deal to convince the International Olympic Committee to add skateboarding to the 2020 Tokyo games was made in Switzerland — outside the purview of U.S. courts.

Collection Calls

An Illinois man claims in a federal lawsuit that Creditbox.com autodidged his cellphone and ignored his requests to stop, even while he was mourning the loss of a murdered family member, exacerbating symptoms of his terminal illness and post-traumatic stress disorder.

DuPont-Dow Merger

With an eye toward cheaper and safer pesticides and other agrochemicals, the European Commission on Monday approved the DuPont-Dow merger on the promise the companies will sell off DuPont's entire pesticide business — including its research and development of new products.

Goose Attack

An Ohio man claims in state court that three companies responsible for an HVAC supply location allowed a full grown goose to build a nest near the entrance, and the goose flew at him and knocked him to the ground while he was picking up parts.

Paypal Derivative Action

A Paypal shareholder claims in a derivative action that the company's board breached their fiduciary duties by failing to disclose negative information about the safety and security of the Venmo mobile app, which Paypal acquired after buying Braintree in 2013. The lead plaintiff claims he only learned of problems with the payment app through investigations by the Federal Trade Commission and the Texas Attorney General.

Bogus!

The FTC accuses Purestrike and others of illegal "negative option marketing" — treating a consumer's silence as consent to be charged for goods or services.

Suing Amazon

Uniloc claims in a federal complaint that Amazon.com violates three patents on messaging and conference calls.

Nightly Brief

Top CNS stories for today including California tightening regulations on methane emissions; the Supreme Court struggles to divine the meaning of the omission of two words in a revised law that says religious groups need not face federal employee benefit regulations; Attorney General Jeff Sessions unveils measures that would "claw back" Justice Department funds from so-called sanctuary cities; researchers have proposed a new "carbon law" that would enable the international community to nearly eliminate fossil-fuel emissions by 2050, and more.

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