

December 20, 2011

Legal Reform News Daily

Obama's Overseas Corruption Busting Efforts Target Corporations, Executives

International Business Times | Dec 20, 2011

When German engineering giant Siemens AG in 2008 agreed to pay \$1.6 billion to settle lawsuits accusing it of bribing Argentine officials to land a lucrative government contract, there was a question raised about the lack of any names of people on the defendant list.

Tags: **Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, Foreign Corrupt Practices Act**

Steve Roberts: There is progress on the state's legal climate

Charleston Daily Mail | Dec 20, 2011

Employers and caring citizens throughout West Virginia are rightly concerned about our state's legal and judicial climate.

Tags: **Judiciary, West Virginia**

Obama administration reports three-year record of recoveries under False Claims Act

Washington Post | Dec 20, 2011

The Justice Department reported Monday that it has recovered nearly \$9 billion in fraud against the government since the beginning of the Obama administration, a record three-year total.

Tags: **Government Contracts & Whistleblower Legislation**

Kessler Topaz and Prickett Jones Win \$300 Million Fee Award in Grupo Mexico Suit

Am Law Litigation Daily | Dec 20, 2011

The plaintiffs firms of Kessler, Topaz, Meltzer & Check and Prickett, Jones & Elliott wanted \$428 million in fees for securing the largest judgment ever in the Delaware Court of Chancery. They will have to settle for around \$300 million.

Tags: **Trial Lawyers' Influence**

Litigation Financing Becoming a Useful Tool for In-House Counsel

Corporate Counsel | Dec 20, 2011

Litigation can be a risky, costly undertaking for any company, in which even the strongest of claims can pale in comparison to the funds needed to bring (or defend) them in court. Caught between the expense of outside representation and the hard budgetary line drawn by a company's chief financial officer is the chief legal officer, who must balance the merits of a case against the available resources.

Tags: **Third-Party Litigation Financing**

Madoff Victim Is Rebuffed in Bid for Reduction of Bank Service Fee

New York Law Journal | Dec 20, 2011

A Manhattan federal judge has dismissed a class action lawsuit filed against Standard Chartered Bank by investors whose money ended up in Bernard Madoff's Ponzi scheme, finding that Standard Chartered was right to charge fees based on the face values of investors' accounts even though those values turned out to be fraudulent.

Tags: **Financial Services**

Goodwin Procter Persuades Judge to Reject Countrywide Class Action for the Second Time

Am Law Litigation Daily | Dec 20, 2011

For the second time in two months a federal district court judge has refused to certify a class action alleging that Countrywide Financial Corporation engaged in misleading sales and marketing practices in the run-up to the housing meltdown.

Tags: **Financial Services**

Bank seeks to dismiss N.Y. AG's lawsuit

Legal Newsline | Dec 20, 2011

The Bank of New York Mellon last week filed a motion to dismiss a lawsuit filed by New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman over the bank's foreign currency exchange transactions.

Tags: **Class Action, New York**

Albany branded a 'judicial hellhole'

Daily Gazette | Dec 20, 2011

Albany and New York City were declared judicial hellholes in a report from the American Tort Reform Association. The cities earned the distinction after being on the group's watch list in 2010.

Tags: **Judiciary, New York, Trial Lawyers' Influence**

Community Commentary: Trial lawyers have made O.C. a 'Judicial Hellhole'

Daily Pilot | Dec 20, 2011

At this time most people are aware that Orange County is one of the most litigious counties not only in California, but the entire nation.

Tags: **California, Judiciary, Trial Lawyers' Influence**

Class action suits may soon be reality

Business Standard | Dec 20, 2011

The class action suit, a handy weapon for small investors seeking relief from errant corporations, will soon be available in India.

Tags: **Class Action, East Asia and the Pacific**