

## Legal Reform News Daily

### What Does An FCPA Declination Letter Look Like?

*Wall Street Journal Corruption Currents* | Feb 27, 2012

Ever wonder what the Department of Justice tells a company when it decides, usually after a lengthy and costly investigation, that it has decided not to go after the company under the FCPA?

Tags: [Foreign Corrupt Practices Act](#)

### BP Trial Delayed by Settlement Talks

*Wall Street Journal* | Feb 27, 2012

The civil trial over the Deepwater Horizon disaster was delayed Sunday for a week so that BP PLC and lawyers for thousands of individuals and businesses suing the company can continue settlement talks.

Tags: [Environmental Litigation](#), [Louisiana](#)

### Lawyers Looking to Canada For Shareholder Litigation

*Wall Street Journal* | Feb 27, 2012

Unfavorable court rulings and legislation have helped damp filings of securities class-action lawsuits in the U.S., but these suits are starting to gain traction in Canada, prompting some U.S. lawyers to increasingly look for opportunities up north.

Tags: [Securities Litigation](#), [Canada](#)

### Justices weigh foreigners' suits vs. companies

*Atlanta Journal Constitution* | Feb 27, 2012

Corporations and human rights groups are squaring off in a Supreme Court fight over whether foreign victims of war crimes, killings and other atrocities can haul multinational companies into American courts and try to prove they were complicit in the abuses and should pay damages.

Tags: [International](#)

### In a Switch, Seventh Circuit Cites Dukes to Support Class Certification for Black Merrill Lynch Brokers

*American Lawyer: Litigation Daily* | Feb 27, 2012

A group of several hundred black financial advisors who are suing Merrill Lynch for racial discrimination got good news on Friday as an appellate court ruled that they could proceed with their class action against the brokerage firm, reversing a lower court opinion denying certification. Even more significantly, the appellate panel agreed with the plaintiffs that in this case, the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in Wal-Mart v. Dukes could be used to support class certification rather than deny it.

Tags: [Class Action](#)

### Toyota Tentatively Denied Arbitration for Acceleration Cases

*Bloomberg Business Week* | Feb 27, 2012

A judge ruled tentatively that Toyota Motor Corp. can't force named plaintiffs in a purported class-action lawsuit over alleged losses from unintended sudden acceleration to arbitrate their claims rather than proceed to trial.

Tags: [Arbitration - ADR](#), [Class Action](#)

### Flagstar to Pay \$133 Million in Third False Claims Settlement over Improper Mortgages

*American Lawyer: Litigation Daily* | Feb 27, 2012

The Justice Department's novel use of the False Claims Act to bring financial crisis-related cases has landed the government its third settlement with a bank in the period of a month.

Tags: [Financial Services](#), [Securities Litigation](#)

### Angola Comes To The Fore After Bribery Probes.

*Wall Street Journal Corruption Currents* | Feb 27, 2012

Angola could well be a textbook example of the resource curse, in terms of corruption. The West African country, one of the fastest-growing in the world and blessed with vast mineral resources, is beset by graft.

Tags: [Foreign Corrupt Practices Act](#)

### OPINION: Yes: It's time to "let the sunshine in" when it comes to hiring outside counsel.

*Jackson Clarion Ledger* | Feb 27, 2012

The attorney general, regardless of the person holding that office, has often exercised power to singlehandedly direct the public policy of the state of Mississippi. With the passage of the HB 211, aptly termed the Sunshine Act, the attorney general will no longer be permitted to unilaterally dictate the public policy of the state as he alone deems appropriate.

Tags: [Mississippi](#), [State Attorneys General](#)

### Citizens insurance settlement offer is rejected

*Times-Picayune* | Feb 27, 2012

An offer to settle a lawsuit involving more than 25,000 policyholders insured by the state-run insurance

company of last resort was rejected Friday as "fatally flawed" by the attorneys representing those insured. But Wiley Beevers, one of the New Orleans area attorneys representing the plaintiffs in a class-action lawsuit against the Louisiana Citizens Property Insurance Corp., said the latest offer from the Citizens' board shows "in some respects, a meaningful and good-faith gesture to get the deal done."

Tags: [Environmental Litigation](#), [Louisiana](#)