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From: Employment Law360 [news@portfoliomedianl.com]
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Jury Verdict In Epic Bratz Battle Reached
A California federal judge said that on Thursday he would announce the jury verdict that was reached Wednesday in Mattel Inc.'s epic intellectual property and breach-of-contract feud with MGA Entertainment Inc. over the ownership of Bratz dolls.

NLRB Accuses Boeing Of Retaliation For Labor Strikes
The National Labor Relations Board slapped Boeing Co. with a complaint Wednesday over the aerospace giant's decision to open a production line at a South Carolina nonunion facility, alleging the move was retaliation for strikes by unionized Washington state employees.

EEOC Accuses 2 Cos. Of Indian, Thai Worker Trafficking
The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission filed suits this week against farm labor contractor Global Horizons Inc. and marine services company Signal International LLC for allegedly discriminating against and harassing Thai and Indian workers placed on farms in Hawaii, Mississippi and Washington state.

Ariz. Bill Would Protect Weed-Testing Employers
Lawmakers in Arizona gave the green light Tuesday to legislation that would give employers the ability to take action against workers who appear to be impaired on the job due to legal or illegal drug use, including medical marijuana.

Mo. House Backs Written Consent For Union Dues
The Missouri House of Representatives on Wednesday backed legislation requiring unions to obtain written consent to deduct money from its members paychecks for political purposes.

Godiva Strikes $1.25M Deal In 2nd Calif. OT Suit
A California state judge on Tuesday preliminarily approved Godiva Chocolatier Inc.'s offer to pay up to $1.25 million to resolve a class action by chocolatiers and other hourly workers who claim the candymaker denied them meal breaks and overtime pay.

AT&T Security Guards Launch OT, Wage Action
A group of security guards who worked at retail stores owned by AT&T Mobility LLC in the New York area filed an employment and breach of contract class action in federal court Tuesday seeking unpaid regular and overtime wages.

Shuttle Contractor Sues DOL Over Gender Pay Probe

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Law Firms Mentioned
Cravath Swaine
Foley & Lardner
Jones Day
King & Spalding
Morgan Lewis
Morrison & Foerster
O'Melveny & Myers
Orrick Herrington
Patterson Belknap
Quinn Emanuel
White & Case

Companies Mentioned
AT&T Inc.
Chipotle Mexican Grill, Inc.
DRI Corporation
Del Monte Foods Company
Lockheed Martin
Mattel, Inc.
Robert Half International Inc.
Siemens AG
The Boeing Company
Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.

District Court Cases Mentioned
Windsor v. The United States Of America
Equal Employment Opportunity Commissi...
UNITED SPACE ALLIANCE, LLC v. SOLIS e...
Grenawalt et al v. AT&T Mobility LLC ...

United Space Alliance LLC, the government's primary contractor for manned space missions, sued the U.S. Department of Labor on Tuesday over an order requiring the company to submit to an investigation into gender-based wage disparity or risk debarment.

DOD Says Ex-Contract Audit Manager Harassed Workers

The U.S. Department of Defense, following up on its pledge to monitor workplace complaints at the Defense Contract Audit Agency, reported Tuesday that a former manager in Texas had created an unprofessional workplace by publicly berating auditors.

Ariz. Restaurant Owners Nabbed In Tax, Workers Probe

The father-and-son owners of a Tempe, Ariz.-based Mexican restaurant chain and a company accountant were arrested Wednesday on charges of harboring undocumented immigrants and tax evasion, according to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

US Investigates Chipotle's Undocumented Hires

Federal prosecutors have joined an investigation led by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement into Chipotle Mexican Grill Inc.'s hiring of undocumented workers, company executives announced Wednesday in an investor conference call.

DOL Broadly Reads Protected Activity In SOX Case

A recent ruling in favor of a Lockheed Martin Corp. worker who claimed the company violated the Sarbanes-Oxley Act's whistleblower provision took an expansive view of what constitutes SOX-protected conduct and should serve as a warning to employers, attorneys say.

Expert Analysis

How To Avoid The Pitfalls Of Expert Networking

Does the use of expert networking firms carry an inordinate risk of insider trading liability? By and large, it should not, says Stephen Madsen of Cravath Swaine & Moore LLP.

Legal Industry

Defense Of DOMA Could Give King & Spalding Bad Rep

A decision by a prominent attorney at corporate law firm King & Spalding LLP to take up the defense of legislation that would effectively bar same-sex marriages is threatening the firm's carefully crafted reputation as a gay-friendly workplace, according to advocates.

High Court Urged To Make Grand Jury Subpoena Rules

The American Bar Association and other groups on Wednesday joined White & Case LLP in asking the U.S. Supreme Court to decide if the firm's client's protected discovery should be safe from grand jury subpoenas in a flat-panel display antitrust investigation.

NY Judges Get Record Number Of Complaints In 2010

New York state's court system received a record high number of judicial complaints in 2010, though fewer judges were tossed from the bench, investigated or received disciplinary action, a judicial watchdog said Tuesday.

Aletheia Installs O'Melveny Attys As President, GC

Two O'Melveny & Myers LLP attorneys are leaving the law firm's white collar and corporate investigations practice in Los Angeles to take leadership posts at Aletheia Research and Management Inc., the investment advisory firm said Tuesday.

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