



# UABA NEWS UPDATE



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[B. Futey: Legal Recognition of the Holodomor as Genocide](#) Remarks of Judge Bohdan A. Futey on the "Legal Recognition of the Holodomor as Genocide: International Covenants, Agreements, and Court Decisions" presented at the The Zenowia & George Jurkiw Ukrainian Historical Encounters Series A Special Event: Taking Measure of the Holodomor , November 5-6, 2013, Princeton Club, 15 West 43th Street New York City. [Read More](#)

[Is a 'Patent Troll' Demand Letter Registry the Answer?](#) Cisco Systems Inc. and Electronic Frontier Foundation lawyers on Thursday urged Congress to create a public registry of "patent troll" demand letters, saying transparency would help curb the unwarranted and costly attacks businesses and their customers face from the patent assertion entities (PAEs). [Read More](#).

[Top state court says woman who donated egg to female partner has parental rights](#) A "biological mother" who donated an egg to her female partner has the same parental rights to the couple's 9-year-old daughter as the other woman in the now-dissolved lesbian relationship, the Florida Supreme Court has ruled in a close decision. In a Thursday opinion (PDF), the court held that a Florida statute limiting the parental rights of those who provide sperm and eggs to others is unconstitutional for two reasons. [Read More](#).

[US Supreme Court rejects Killen's appeal for new trial in 1964 'Mississippi Burning' slayings](#) The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday rejected an appeal from Edgar Ray Killen, convicted of manslaughter in 2005 for the 1964 slayings of three civil rights workers in what became known as the "Mississippi Burning" case. The decision means the justices won't review lower-court rulings that found no violations of Killen's constitutional rights during his trial in Mississippi. The Washington Post. [Read More](#).

[D.C. to Pay \\$6.2M to Settle D.C. Jail Class Action](#) The District of Columbia has agreed to pay \$6.2 million to settle allegations the city had a practice of holding inmates at the D.C. Jail past their release date and of wrongfully strip searching inmates who were supposed to be released. The settlement, if approved, would end nearly eight years of litigation. U.S. District Senior Judge Royce Lamberth found in 2011 the city violated inmates' constitutional rights, although not during the whole time period the plaintiffs alleged. Absent a settlement, the case would go to trial over how much the city owed in damages. The Blog of Legal Times. [Read More](#).

[Ukraine And Chevron To Develop Shale Gas](#) Ukraine's government has approved a Production Sharing Agreement (PSA) with the U.S.-based company Chevron to explore and develop shale-gas deposits in the Lviv region. Ukrainian Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources Oleh Proskuryakov announced the government's approval of the deal and said the PSA would be signed with Chevron on November 5 on the sidelines of an international economic forum in Kyiv. Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty. [Read More](#).

[Supreme Court Puts Greenhouse Gas Cases on a Diet](#) Chief Justice John Roberts Jr. once said, "I have yet to put down a brief and say, 'I wish that had been longer.'" The Supreme Court appears to be embracing that sentiment in its management of the upcoming set of cases challenging the Environmental Protection Agency's regulation of greenhouse gases. In an order issued Tuesday, the court told the six petitioners in the consolidated case to keep their legal briefs to 45,000 words total -- a sharp cut, given that the nine parties would otherwise have been able to file nine separate briefs of 15,000 words each, or 135,000 words total. The Blog of Legal Times. [Read More](#).

[Chemerinsky: Separation of church and state revisited](#) The Supreme Court will return next week to one of the most controversial topics in constitutional law: the separation of church and state. The court is scheduled to hear oral arguments Nov. 6 in Town of Greece v. Galloway, which poses the issue of whether explicitly Christian prayers before town board meetings, delivered by invited Christian clergy, violate the establishment clause of the First Amendment. Underlying the case is the even larger issue of the meaning of the establishment clause. ABA Law Journal. [Read More](#).

[Oklahoma law effectively bans all medication abortions, Okla. supremes say; will SCOTUS rule?](#) The Oklahoma Supreme Court says the state's abortion law effectively bans all medication abortions in a ruling that responds to a U.S. Supreme Court request for clarification. The Oklahoma high court had previously struck down the law in a three-paragraph opinion. The U.S. Supreme Court had accepted the challenge to the law in June, but asked the Oklahoma court to clarify what procedures are barred under the law, report the Washington Post, the New York Times, SCOTUSblog and the Los Angeles Times. ABA Law Journal. [Read More](#).

[ACLU asks ICE to stop making 'abusive arrests' at courthouse](#) Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents arrest people when they go to courthouses to pay traffic tickets, report crimes or get married, the ACLU says in a letter demanding an end to the practice. In a 6-page letter to the investigative arm of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, ACLU Southern California staff attorney Michael Kaufman asked ICE to stop the "abusive arrests" at Kern County courthouses, in and around Bakersfield. Courthouse News. [Read More](#).

[Civil rights probe launched against Barneys and Macy's by state attorney general](#) The state attorney general has launched a civil rights probe of Barneys New York and Macy's Inc. following claims by several black customers that they were stopped by New York City police after making expensive purchases. In letters sent to top executives for both stores, Kristen Clarke, the chief of the civil rights bureau for AG Eric Schneiderman, reminded them that race discrimination is prohibited in places of public accommodation and called for them to provide information by Friday about policies for stopping and detaining shoppers, according to the New York Daily News and Reuters. ABA Law Journal. [Read More](#).

[Federal lawsuit adds to allegations of excessive force by family court marshals](#) A federal lawsuit alleging that Nevada family court marshals threw a man headfirst onto the concrete floor of the Las Vegas courthouse for no good reason is the latest development in an ongoing saga of allegations of excessive force and improper conduct at the court. A poor-quality video of the February 2012 incident appears to offer some support for the claims made in the suit by plaintiff Peter Peterson, 42, who said he had been put in restraints prior to being thrown to the floor, according to the Las Vegas Review-Journal. ABA Law Journal. [Read More](#).

[Justices Asked to Review Businessman's Search Warrant Dispute](#) A prominent Washington businessman who is caught up in the ongoing federal investigation of corruption in the 2010 mayoral campaign has taken his fight against prosecutors to the U.S. Supreme Court. The government last year seized more than 23 million pages of documents from Jeffrey Thompson, and ever since his lawyers have fought over whether prosecutors in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia should be forced to return some of the property. The Blog of Legal Times. [Read More](#).

[Toyota Loses Major Verdict Over Sudden Acceleration Defects](#) Toyota Motor Corp. lost the second major verdict over sudden acceleration defects on Thursday after an Oklahoma state jury awarded \$3 million to an injured driver and the family of a passenger who was killed when their 2005 Camry accelerated at a highway exit ramp, according to Bloomberg. The case, filed in Oklahoma County, Okla., District Court, is the first in which evidence of defects in the electronic throttle control system were responsible for sudden acceleration in Toyota vehicles. The Blog of Legal Times. [Read More](#).

[Frivolous Lawsuit Bill Aims to Help Small Businesses](#) A pending U.S. House of Representatives bill intended to reduce "frivolous" lawsuits would only provide minimal aid to large companies, General Electric Co.'s litigation chief Bradford Berenson said Monday. Speaking on Capitol Hill at a panel discussion hosted by the Law and Economics Center at the George Mason University School of Law, Berenson said the Lawsuit Abuse Reduction Act of 2013 would "put some teeth back" into Federal Rules of Civil Procedure's Rule 11, which lost key sanction provisions concerning frivolous lawsuits in 1993. The Blog of Legal Times. [Read More](#).

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