In The News

2015 Archives

Chairman Grassley oversees "worst year for judicial confirmations in over half a century" (Bleeding Heartland)

Opinion: The grinch who stole the federal courts (Courier-Journal)

One of the biggest losers of 2015 was an entire branch of government (Huffington Post Politics)

With Grassley's help, two Iowa federal judge nominees leapfrog Nebraska's (Omaha World-Herald)
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VW names Kenneth Feinberg to oversee fund for claims on emissions deception (The New York Times)
Fri., Dec. 18, 2015

Two Iowa federal judge nominees will get floor vote in February (The Gazette)
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New U.S. attorneys get final approval (Virginia Lawyers Weekly)
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Nominations for U.S. attorneys of Virginia's Easter, Western districts advance (The Daily Progress)
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Fishwick's bid for U.S. attorney advances through Senate committee (The Roanoke Times)
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Restrepo vote set, district nominees may face long road (The Legal Intelligencer)
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Reed, Whitehouse praise McElroy's integrity as public defender during nomination hearing for federal bench (Providence Journal)
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Federal prosecutors argue against the Supreme Court's hearing McDonnell appeal (WCVE)
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GOP lawmakers ask federal 3-judge panel to put redistricting map on hold (WCVE)
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U.S. urges Supreme Court to reject McDonnell appeal (The Roanoke Times)
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9th Circuit Chief Judge Thomas appointed to judiciary executive committee (Billings Gazette)
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Mayor Berke's former chief of staff unanimously confirmed as federal judge (Times Free Press)
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Restrepo skipped in latest Senate confirmation vote (The Legal Intelligencer)
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Russian national sentenced to life plus 30 years for attack against American forces in Afghanistan (WCVE)
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Russian jihadist Hamidullin sentenced to life, tells judge, 'I do not accept your law' (Richmond Times-Dispatch)
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Toomey moves to fill 3 vacancies for federal judge (AP via Tribune-Review)

Thanksgiving and judicial appointments (The Hill)
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Federal courts need more judges. Here's how the 'judicial crisis' traces back to Texas. (Texas Public Radio)
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Obama judicial nominees in limbo as 'nuclear option' backfires on Democrats (The Washington Times)
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Takata's 10% bond yield deemed insufficient after Honda rebuke (Bloomberg Business)
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Happy birthday, Restrepo nomination! (CA3blog)
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Confirming Judge Restrepo to the third circuit (The Hill)
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One year after nomination, Restrepo still not confirmed (The Legal Intelligencer)
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Ruling could expose GM to large verdicts in ignition cases (AP via Cleveland.com)
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VW admission sugests cheats went much further than emissions (BusinessGreen)
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Vote delayed on nomination of Bergen County Counsel to be federal judge (NorthJersey.com)
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Hastert's sweet deal (Politico)
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Senate confirms Lawrence Vilardo to federal bench (Democrat & Chronicle)
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BP's spill costs are clearer as it prepares to report earnings (Houston Chronicle)
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Federal Iowa judicial nominees pass through Senate Judiciary Committee (The Gazette)

UVA student Martese Johnson files three million dollar lawsuit against ABC agents (WCVE)

River groups barred from entering uranium lawsuit (The Roanoke Times and The Danville Register & Bee)
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Volkswagen to recall 8.5 million cars in Europe affected by emissions cheating software (The World Today - ABC Australia)
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River basin groups could appeal denial to enter uranium case, UR professor says (Richmond Times-Dispatch)
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Two Iowa federal judge nominees go before Senate Judiciary Committee next week (The Gazette)
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Volkswagen to Recall 8.5 Million Vehicles in Europe (The New York Times)
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Germany orders mandatory recall of VW¿s scandal-hit cars (Financial Times)
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Editorial: Senate should quickly confirm judicial nominees (Knoxville News Sentinel)
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Obama nominates 2 for US attorney jobs in Virginia (Virginia Lawyers Weekly)
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Supreme Court declines to hear George Huguely appeal (Wtop)
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Political eyes on John Roberts as new Supreme Court term begins (Washington Times)
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Supreme Court rejects hearing Huguely appeal in Yeardley Love death (The Baltimore Sun)
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UVa lacrosse player Huguely asks Supreme Court to take up murder conviction (The Roanoke Times)
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Tennessee judicial nominees caught in Senate logjam (The Memphis Commercial Appeal)
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U.S. Senate schedules confirmation vote for Fresno judge nominee (The Fresno Bee)
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Tennessee judicial vacancies caught in Senate logjam (The Tennessean)

Tenn. senators back Stanton in judicial confirmation hearing (The Memphis Commercial Appeal)

Was Matthias Müller in den Griff bekommen muss (Wirtschafts Woche)
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Peanut company CEO receives 28-year-sentence over salmonella outbreak (Youth Health Magazine)
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Martin Winterkorn resigns as VW boss over emissions scandal (Financial Times)

Volkswagen CEO Martin Winterkorn resigns amid scandal (USA Today)

Wir haben Mist gebaut (Wirtschafts Woche)
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Taxpayers duped into shelling out $51M in green subsidies for 'clean' VW vehicles (EnergyBiz News Service)
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28 years for salmonella (CNN)
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It took EPA pressure to get VW to admit fault (The New York Times)
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For first time, company owner faces life sentence for food poisoning outbreak (Fox6Now)
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GM still faces exposure in flawed ignition switch suits that seek billions (Claims Journal)
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Volkswagen executives face criminal charges (Business First Magazine)

VW 'clean diesel' scheme exposed as criminal charges weighed (Bloomberg Business)
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FDA asks Pfizer for Zoloft label update highlighting birth defect risks (FiercePharma)
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Four firms work on Altice-Cablevision deal: business of law (Bloomberg Business)
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Prosecutors, not regulators, are the new enforcers of automotive safety (Los Angeles Times)
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GM settles shareholder suit but ignition switch exposure not over (Insurance Journal)
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Phizer Weighing FDA request to change Zoloft's warnings (Bloomberg Business)
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GM still facing ignition liability in suits seeking billions (Bloomberg Business)
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GM faces paying more than $1.5bn over fatal ignition switch fault (Financial Times)
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Prosecutors, not regulators, are the new enforcers of automotive safety (Los Angeles Times)
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DuPont lawyers' words haunt company in Ohio toxic water trial (Bloomberg Business)
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President nominates Iowa district judge for next federal judge (The Gazette)
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Rowan County marriage license saga appears to reach a conclusion (WFPL)
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How a New Jersey bridge scandal led to downfall of a Chicago CEO (Chicago Tribune)
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Cruz stops in Kentucky to back jailed court clerk (Houston Chronicle)
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Kentucky clerk, acting on God's authority, is jailed (Background Briefing with Ian Masters)
Thu., Sep. 3, 2015

Deputy clerks in Kentucky say yes to same-sex marriage licenses but their boss says no (Los Angeles Times)
Thu., Sep. 3, 2015

She did it again: Kentucky clerk refuses marriage license to gay couple (Los Angeles Times)

U.S. Attorney says Kim Davis should comply (The Courier-Journal)

Kentucky clerk still won't issue same-sex marriage licenses (The Wall Street Journal)
Kentucky clerk defies Supreme Court on same-sex marriage and could be held in contempt (Los Angeles Times)  
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Kentucky clerk offers a few ways to get out of jail and refuse marriage licenses to gays (Los Angeles Times)  
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U.S. Supreme Court says McDonnell can remain free ... for now (WCVE)  
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Rowan clerk Kim Davis loses Supreme Court fight (The Courier-Journal)  
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McDonnell can stay out of prison while U.S. Supreme Court considers his case (Daily Press)  
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U.S. Supreme Court lets McDonnell stay free for now (Richmond Times-Dispatch)  
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Supreme Court gives McDonnell freedom--for now (WCVE)  
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Odds long for McDonnell bail (The Daily Progress)  
Mon., Aug. 31, 2015

Kentucky clerk court-ordered to issue gay marriage licenses (Tribune News Service via Governing.com)  
Thu., Aug. 27, 2015

Carmakers sued over keyless ignitions that leave engines on (Bloomberg Business)  

Obama agenda and legacy in the hands of federal judges (Washington Times)  

Appeals court declines to delay order requiring Rowan County clerk to issue marriage licenses (Lexington Herald-Leader)  

Prosecutors respond to McDonnell's last-ditch attempt to stay out of prison (WAMU)  

U.S. Supreme Court says McDonnell can remain free while it considers filings (Richmond Times-Dispatch and The Roanoke Times)  
Mon., Aug. 24, 2015

Valeant acquiring Raleigh-based Sprout for $1 billion (The Charlotte Observer & The News & Observer)  
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Court: Ex-Virginia governor can't remain free during appeal (WAMU)  
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Kevin Ward's family files suit against Tony Stewart
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Virginia Uranium, Inc., turns to courts to overturn mining ban (WCVE)
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Bard said to pay $200 million to settle vaginal-mesh cases (Bloomberg Business)
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Governor slams GOP plan to oust his pick from Va. Supreme Court (Richmond Times-Dispatch)
Mon., Aug. 3, 2015

Grassley continues confirmation wars on judges (The Des Moines Register)
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Federal judge allows Virginia to stop issuing Confederate license plates (USA Today)
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Confirm Judge Restrepo (Pittsburgh Tribune-Review)
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McAuliffe to appoint Roush to state Supreme Court (WCVE)
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Anthem to buy Cigna for $54 billion, creating nation's largest insurer (Los Angeles Times)
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McDonnell asks full 4th Circuit to reconsider his appeal (Richmond Times-Dispatch)
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McAuliffe to name Roush to state Supreme Court (Richmond Times-Dispatch)
Sun., Jul. 19, 2015

McDonnell's next move (Virginian Pilot)
Sun., Jul. 19, 2015

Justices Roberts, Kennedy fall from GOP favor after recent Supreme Court decisions (Washington Times)

Judicial conference declares 'judicial emergency' in Idaho, which has only 1 federal judge on bench (ABA Journal)

Idaho court vacancy called 'judicial emergency' (The Spokesman-Review)

Delay in replacing federal judge not fair to Lodge, bad for system; says senators at fault (The Spokesman-Review)
Tue., Jul. 14, 2015

Federal courts declare 'judicial emergency' in Idaho (The Spokesman-Review)
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Russian Taliban fighter must face trial in U.S. (WCVE)
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Senate Congressional Record
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Richmond, Taliban can be prosecuted in Richmond, judge rules (Richmond Times-Dispatch)
Mon., Jul. 13, 2015

Committee advances Judge Luis Felipe Restrepo's nomination (Pittsburgh Post-Gazette)
Fri., Jul. 10, 2015

Senate confirms first Latina to federal court of appeals, Latino judge Luis Felipe Restrepo awaits confirmation vote (Latin Post)
Fri., Jul. 10, 2015

Obama's amnesty orders await fresh blow in federal court (Newsmax)
Fri., Jul. 10, 2015

Federal judge rules against Redskins in trademark cancellation suit (WCVE)
Thu., Jul. 9, 2015

Travis McDonough's federal judgeship nomination passes Senate judiciary committee (Chattanooga Times Free Press)
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Sons of Confederate Veterans join court battle over license plates (Richmond Times-Dispatch)
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Fill the U.S. Court of Federal Claims vacancies (The Hill)
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Landmark court rulings can expose society's fault lines (San Antonio Express-News)
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Confirmation of judges gets bogged down in Congress (Philadelphia Inquirer)
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Obama's immigration orders face dim outlook at federal court (The Hill)
Fri., Jul. 10, 2015

Gay marriage debate shifts to focus on religious freedoms (Houston Chronicle)
Sat., Jul. 4, 2015

DoJ launches probe of high airline fares (Financial Times)

"Sons of confederate veterans to fight order to remove confederate flag license plates (WCVE)

State resistance to marriage ruling dissipates (Baptist Press)
Mon., Jun. 29, 2015
As gays celebrate, opponents retrench (The Columbus Dispatch)
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Some gay marriage opponents balk, while couples rush to wed (AP, via Philly.com)
Sat., Jun. 27, 2015

Judge over turns $418,000 award for Virginia Beach business (The Virginian-Pilot)
Thu., Jun. 25, 2015

Texas officials vow to make religious liberty 'the next fight'
Fri., Jun. 26, 2015

Two counties out of marriage business for good after Supreme Court ruling (AL.com)
Fri., Jun. 26, 2015

Supreme Court expected to rule for gay marriage (Richmond Times-Dispatch vai The Roanoke Times)
Sun., Jun. 21, 2015

Agreement reached to keep Sweet Briar open (Richmond Times-Dispatch)
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Agreement reached to keep Sweet Briar open (The Washington Post)
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AIG bailout trial: a partial moral victory (Marketplace)
Mon., Jun. 15, 2015

Seven apply for SCOVA Vacancy (WCVE)
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George Huguely V. appeals murder conviction to U.S. Supreme Court (The Washington Post)

Huguely asks Supreme Court to review Yeardley Love murder case (Styrk)

Ex-AIG chief wins bailout suit, but gets no damages (The New York Times)
Mon., Jun. 15, 2015

Texas abortion sonogram law not affected by SCOTUS ruling (Houston Chronicle)
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Plaintiffs bring racketeering claims against GM in ignition suits (The Wall Street Journal)
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Alabama could see same-sex marriages as soon as U.S. Supreme Court rules this month (Alabama Media Group)
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Obama nominates Omaha attorney Rossiter to federal bench in Nebraska (Omaha.com)
Fri., Jun. 12, 2015
Democrats challenge Va. photo ID law in court (The Daily Progress)
Thu., Jun. 11, 2015

Obama nominates Superior Court judge from Bergen County to federal court (The Record)
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Senate judicial confirmation hearing: Luis Felipe Restrepo undergoes nomination hearing as Kara Farnandez Stoll awaits vote (Latin Post)
Thu., Jun. 11, 2015

Same-sex marriage opposition won't get anyone elected president - it may block their path (HuffPost Politics)
Thu., Jun. 11, 2015

McDonough's Senate Judiciary hearing a 'love fest' on road to confirmation (Chattanooga Times Free Press)
Thu., Jun. 11, 2015

Nashville attorney gets bipartisan support for judgeship (The Tennessean)

Va. Supreme Court opens door to halt Sweet Briar closing (Richmond Times-Dispatch)
Tue., Jun. 9, 2015

Supreme Court offers hope for Sweet Briar backers (Virginia Lawyers Weekly)
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GM's Barra confirms interview with fed investigators (The Detroit News)
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Obama blasts Supreme Court for accepting challenge to health care law (The Washington Times)
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Obama's frustration with courts bursts into public view (The Hill)
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Federal judge to assess damages in Chinese drywall lawsuit (NPR)
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We bailed you out, and now you want what? (The Washington Post)
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3rd Congressional District again deemed unconstitutional (Daily Press)
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Three-judge panel rules Virginia must redraw congressional map (Richmond Times-Dispatch)
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Senate panel approves judge for California courthouse (Bradenton Herald)
Thu., Jun. 4, 2015
ODBA takes a look at judicial selection (Virginia Lawyers Weekly)  
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Federal appeals court leaves hold on Obama's immigration orders (NPR The Two-Way)  
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Senate panel approves judge for Fresno courthouse (McClatchy Washington Bureau)  
Thu., Jun. 4, 2015

Appeals court panel rules against Obama on immigration (San Antonio Express-News)  
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Hearing next week for Pa. appeals court nominee  

Prosecution of GM may let corporate bosses off the hook (Yahoo News)  
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Preet Bharara, GM's foe in ignition switch probe, rarely loses (Detroit Free Press)  
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Takata's murky question (National Law Journal)  
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Sweet Briar talks go long, more planned (Virginia Lawyers Weekly)  
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Texas Republicans could take new stand on same-sex marriage (AP - ABC News)  
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Sweet Briar president won't preside at commencement  
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Some developments go Bob McDonnell's way as ex-Virginia governor's hearing nears (Roanoke Times - Associated Press)  
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Judges to hear Bob McDonnell's corruption appeal Tuesday (Richmond Times-Dispatch)  
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Fiat Chrysler seeks new trial in Georgia Jeep fire case (Associated Press + Other News Outlets)  
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Pennsylvania's missing judges (Pittsburgh Post-Gazette)  
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Federal court panel says NSA phone data collecting is illegal (KSL News Radio)  
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Sweet Briar stakeholders meet at attorney general's office (WCVE)
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Lumber Liquidators axing Chinese flooring products (Montgomery Advertiser)
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Tobias: Mediation promises the best outcome in Sweet Briar dispute (The Roanoke Times)
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Roanoke medical malpractice case settled quietly in Botetourt (The Roanoke Times)
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What if gay marriage loses? (MSNBC)
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Senators: We will interview both men, women for federal role (Seattle Post-Intelligencer)
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Fresno federal judge nominee finally gets Senate Judiciary Committee hearing (The Fresno Bee)
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A vacancy on the Virginia Supreme Court (Washington Post)
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Following backlash, senators say they are interview both men, women for federal judicial role (The Republic)
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Idaho senators say they are interviewing both men and women for judge post (The Spokesman-Review)
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Va. attorney general offers to help Sweet Briar opponents reach a compromise (Washington Post)
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Sweet Briar case appealed; judge blocks asset sale (Richmond Times-Dispatch)
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As woes mount, Lumber Liquidators swings to 1Q loss (USA Today)
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Gay rights supporters confident of victory but justices provide few clues (The Guardian)
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Both sides in same-sex marriage debate remain optimistic (Richmond Times-Dispatch)
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Virginia Supreme Court justice LeRoy Millette retiring (Roanoke Times)
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Gay marriage case opens in High Court (The Detroit News)
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Supreme Court Justices appear divided on gay marriage (Detroit Free Press)
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U.S. Supreme Court hears Ohio gay marriage case today: Five things to look for during the arguments (Cleveland.com)
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U.S. Supreme Court hears marriage equality arguments with Utah Origin (KUER 90.1 NPR)
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Damages on hold in Virginia International Terminals suit (The Virginian-Pilot)
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Gay marriage case a race with time for Michigan couple (The Detroit News)
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Western District of Virginia dominated by hard drug case (The Roanoke Times)
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Same-sex marriage hinges on U.S. Supreme Court Decision (San Francisco Chronicle)
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Loretta Lynch confirmed as next U.S. attorney general (Newsday)
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Barry Bonds' obstruction of justice conviction overturned (LA Times)
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The legal odds are shifting in the A.I.G. case (The New York Times)
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GM avoids some ignition switch liability (Automotive News)
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Phizer Inc. victorious in first trial over Zoloft birth-defect claims (Bidness Etc.)
Mon., Apr. 20, 2015

Justice lawyers make appeal to lift stay on Obama immigration actions (MSN.com)
Fri., Apr. 17, 2015

A ticking clock threatens Obama's immigration plan (NPR The Two-Way)
Fri., Apr. 17, 2015

Obama asks court to lift block on immigration actions (The Hill)
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Obama nominates Minnesota Supreme Court Justice Wilhelmina for federal judge seat (Star Tribune)
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GM car owners to fight on for billions after bankruptcy ruling (Bloomberg)
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GM shielded from many ignition-switch lawsuits, bankruptcy judge rules (LA Times)
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Senate fills South Texas judgeship; first confirmation since GOP takeover
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Virginia attorney general weighs in on Sweet Briar College case (The Washington Post)
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Fraternity pursuing 'all available' legal action against Rolling Stone (Roanoke.com)
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Indiana religious freedom act spurs debate in Virginia over 2007 law (Roanoke.com)
Thu., Apr. 2, 2015

Legal teams set for DeBoer v. Snyder same sex case (The Detroit News)
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As self-driving cars get more complex, so do the questions (WTOP.com)
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Obama nominates Murphy Firm partner for federal bench (The Baltimore Sun)
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Appeals court sets arguments on Obama Immigration suit (Politico Blog)

Federal Appeals Court to Hear Arguments on Immigration Ruling (WSJ.com)
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Cruz to launch White House bid, will tea party go along? (McClatchy DC)
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Tesla to Introduce Model S self-driving cars this summer (The Economic Times)
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Drywall company to pay damages to 7 families (Herald Tribune)
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Lawsuit that showed GM hid problem settled (Legal News)
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GM avoids depositions after settling ignition lawsuit (BDlive)
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Gay marriage in Alabama: What will happen next in ongoing legal battle? (AL.com)
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Marriage equality grinds to a halt in Alabama (MSNBC)  

Johnson & Johnson loses first Risperdal jury trial [The Philadelphia Inquirer] (Pharmacy Choice)  
Thu., Feb. 26, 2015

Texas Supreme Court blocks same-sex marriage licenses (Houston Style Magazine)  
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Calls increase for Ginsburg to recuse herself in same-sex marriage case (MSNBC)  
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GM Customers Face Uphill Fight to Reignite $10 Billion Suit (Washington Post - Bloomberg)  
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Does gay marriage ruling threaten constitutionality of all marriages in Alabama? (AL.com)  
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Former Lilly partner ordered to pay $2.3M to Actos user (bloomberg)  
Thu., Feb. 12, 2015

No state has fought harder against gay marriage ruling than Alabama, expert says (AL.com)  
Tue., Feb. 10, 2015

No state has fought harder against gay marriage ruling than Alabama, expert says (AL.com)  
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Alabama heading for 'constitutional crisis' over marriage equality (MSNBC)  
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Alabama heading for 'constitutional crisis' over marriage equality (MSNBC)  
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Alabama on potential collision course with supreme court over gay marriage (The Guardian)  
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Supreme Court Accepts Ohio's Same-Sex Marriage Cases (The Columbus Dispatch)  
Fri., Jan. 30, 2015

Disorder in the court? (Virginia Business)  
Thu., Jan. 29, 2015

Loretta Lynch promises better relationship with Congress during AG confirmation hearing (Fox6now.com)  


Marijuana, polygamy, torture: Lynch confirmation hearing (CNN)  
Federal judge stays Alabama gay marriage ruling for 2 weeks (timesunion.com)
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J&J Agrees to First Vaginal Mesh-Implant Suit Settlements (philly.com)
Mon., Jan. 26, 2015

Congress slow to fill federal bench in Texas (Houston Chronicle)
Fri., Jan. 23, 2015

Johnson & Johnson to settle four cases over vaginal-mesh implants (Los Angeles Times)
Thu., Jan. 22, 2015

Supreme Court to rules on same-sex marriage (San Antonio Express-news)
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US Supreme Court decision to decide gay marriage issue welcomed in NC (newsobserver.com)
Fri., Jan. 16, 2015

Virginia Democrats now wary of expelling Del. Joe Morrissey (Roanoke.com)
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Judge Sets a Crucial Number in BP\'s oil spill case (the Houston Chronicle)
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GM Attorney-Client Privilege Ruling Boosts Embattled Cos. (Law 360)
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Federal Regulator fine Honda $70 million in safety investigation (LA Times)
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Grassley\'s checklist of priorities (The Des Moines Register)