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Contracts

(United States First Circuit) - In an action for breach of contract, which was signed as one element of a transaction to raise capital for defendant's flailing business and income for himself, the district court's grant of summary judgment to defendant is reversed where the terms of the Non-Contravention Agreement are entitled to apply on the facts of this case, without nullification by the Loan Agreement's non-recourse clause.

US v. Sanchez-Colberg

May 8, 2017

Criminal Law & Procedure, Sentencing

(United States First Circuit) - Sentence for guilty plea to two drug- and weapons-related charges is affirmed, where although defendant's plea agreement does not bar his appeal, his procedural and substantive reasonableness claims are without merit.

US v. Berroa

May 7, 2017

Administrative Law, Criminal Law & Procedure, Health Law

(United States First Circuit) - In criminal appeals arising out of a widespread corruption scandal at the Puerto Rico Board of Medical Examiners, the former licensing authority for doctors seeking to practice in Puerto Rico, in which defendants attempted to gain medical certification by obtaining falsified scores after failing the required examinations, the convictions are: 1) affirmed as to convictions for honest-services mail fraud conspiracy; but 2) reversed as to the convictions for money or property mail fraud and aggravated identity theft, where the government's theories of prosecution on those counts was legally deficient.

US v. Matos-De-Jesus

May 5, 2017

Sentencing, Criminal Law & Procedure

(United States First Circuit) - Sentence for conviction of firearms charges involving two guns is affirmed where the district court did not err in recognizing that the USSG section 2K2.1(b)(1) enhancement was inapplicable and considering the second firearm as an aggravating factor in imposing an upwardly variant sentence.