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## **U.S. 1st Circuit Case Summaries**

## Potvin v. Speedway LLC

June 4, 2018

Civil Procedure, Injury & Tort Law

(United States First Circuit) - Affirming the district court's summary judgment to the defense in a case where a woman sued for injuries that occurred when she was walking backwards at a gas station and fell when her hell caught in grooves required by law to catch and divert spilled gasoline because even if the grooves were dangerous at all it was open and obvious, so the station had no duty to warn customers about potential danger.

## US v. Lawson

June 4, 2018

Sentencing, Criminal Law & Procedure

(United States First Circuit) - Vacating the present supervised release term of a convicted child rapist who violated the terms of their probation and remanding to the district court to determine what term to impose and, if it exceeded five years, to explain the upward variance, which they had failed to do previously.

## US v. Melendez-Gonzalez

June 4, 2018

Sentencing, Evidence, Criminal Law & Procedure

(United States First Circuit) - Affirming convictions for fraudulent recruitment practices against members of the US Army National Guard in Puerto Rico who carried out a scheme to get recruitment bonuses to which they were not entitled.

## **Coskery v. Berryhill**

June 4, 2018

Labor & Employment Law, Government Benefits

(United States First Circuit) - Affirming a district court order upholding the Social Security Administration's denial of an application for Social Security Disability Insurance Benefits and Supplemental Security Income in the case of a former cook who was shown to be able to continue with light work.

## **Rodriguez-Tirado v. Speedy Bail Bonds**

May 30, 2018 Civil Procedure, Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure (United States First Circuit) - Remanding a case involving a bail bonds company's acts in attempting to retrieve a New Jersey bail jumper from his home in Puerto Rico for briefing and consideration of how Puerto Rico law would apply to out of state bounty hunters and affirming a damages award based on the liquidated damages clause of the bail agreement.

#### Blattmann v. Scaramellino

May 30, 2018

#### Civil Procedure, Evidence

(United States First Circuit) - Reversing a district court decision in a suit relating to a corporate merger in which a corporate official refused to answer questions about documents in a deposition on account of attorney-client privilege and work-product protection, the former of which was rejected and the latter granted because attorney-client privilege, if any, was waived when the documents were disclosed to the plaintiff and the work-product theory advanced was significantly different from the caselaw cited in its support.

#### **Morris v. Sessions**

May 30, 2018

International Law, Immigration Law

(United States First Circuit) - Denying a petition for review of a decision of the Board of Immigration Appeals denying an application for deferral of removal under the UN Convention Against Torture by a Jamaican national Lawful Permanent Resident who was convicted of various charges including indecent assault on a minor and assault to rape who claimed that the Jamaican police had threatened to kill him for being an informant because the court lacked jurisdiction to review the decision.