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

#### **US v. Pagan-Romero**

July 9, 2018

Criminal Law & Procedure, Judges & Judiciary, Insurance Law

(United States First Circuit) - Affirmed the denial of a criminal defendant's motion for a new trial. Even though the jury should not have been permitted to have a dictionary in the jury room during deliberations, enabling it to look up the definitions of words such as “knowingly,” the judge thoroughly investigated the impact of the error and properly concluded that there was no prejudice to the defendant, a medical doctor whom the jury convicted of insurance fraud.

#### **City of Taunton, Mass. v. US Environmental Protection Agency**

July 9, 2018

Environmental Law, Administrative Law

(United States First Circuit) - Affirmed a decision of the EPA's Environmental Appeals Board. Although a Massachusetts municipality objected to the imposition of a limit on the amount of nitrogen its wastewater treatment plant may discharge, the appeals court found no reason to second-guess the EPA's determination to impose the limit in administering the federal Clean Water Act, and rejected the municipality's procedural and substantive challenges.