

From: Access to Justice Law360 <news@law360.com>

To: <[REDACTED]>

Subject: How Defense Sleuths Are Forging Ahead Despite A Pandemic

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How Defense Sleuths Are Forging Ahead Despite A Pandemic

Across the country, thousands of investigators who help build cases for indigent defendants are adjusting to a new reality in which field work is "pretty much shut down." Though arrests have slowed and many court proceedings are on hold, investigators say their work can't stop.

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Victims' Rights Suffer Blow In Epstein Case

In the latest twist in the Jeffrey Epstein saga, a split Eleventh Circuit panel ruled last week that the protections of the Crime Victims' Rights Act do not arise until after a formal criminal charge has been filed. For Epstein's victims, it could mark the end of a 12-year-long legal challenge — and for the victims' rights movement, it could be a lasting blow.

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Virus Forces Transparency Reckoning Among Highest Courts

Since coronavirus concerns shuttered courthouses nationwide, the U.S. Supreme Court and some appellate judges have given in to livestream technology. Transparency advocates welcome this development and hope the practice will continue even after the pandemic ends.

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Analysis

Amid Pandemic, Hearings For Detained Migrant Kids Go On

As federal courts close their doors during the coronavirus pandemic, immigration court proceedings for migrant children in government custody are moving forward. Attorneys told Law360 that continuing these hearings risks children's health and threatens due process.

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Q&A

Coping With A Pandemic: Pine Tree's Nan Heald

With distancing and isolation the new norm amid the COVID-19 pandemic, Law360 is sharing reactions from around the business and legal community. Today's perspective comes from Maine-based Nan Heald, executive director at Pine Tree Legal Assistance.

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Homeless Angelenos Get Due Process Win Over City Seizures

In January 2019, Janet Garcia returned from getting ready for work to find that all of her belongings had been seized and destroyed by the Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation.

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Bail Bond Groups Can't Sink Calif. Price-Fixing Suit

For those who turn to bail bonds in California, the cost of getting oneself or a loved one out of prison while awaiting a court date can be steep, but a proposed class action now poised to move forward contends there's more to those rates than honest market forces.

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Pro Bono Spotlight

O'Melveny Helps Reunite Family Amid COVID-19 Fears

When three young siblings found themselves detained 50 miles from their father's home in Maryland, with the government moving to deport them rather than reunite the family, it was the latest hardship in a journey fraught with danger.

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Perspectives

COVID-19 Highlights Access Injustice In Personal Bankruptcy

In the age of enforced social distancing, the limits on access to electronic filing means bankruptcy is paradoxically only available to those individuals who can afford it, says Rohan Pavuluri at Upsolve.

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Perspectives

Inmate Release Exhaustion Rule Should Be Waived For COVID

The issue at the forefront of many compassionate release applications during the pandemic has been whether federal courts must wait 30 days before they can rule on them due to the statutory administrative exhaustion requirement, and those 30 days could become a matter of life or death, says Jolene LaVigne-

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