

The Firm Line

January 20

Massey Energy CEO Faces Criminal Indictment for Impeding Federal Regulators

by *Andy Jacoby*

Few thought that the politically powerful chief executive of West Virginia's Massey Energy would face criminal charges stemming from a 2010 explosion that killed 29 workers at the Upper Big Branch coal mine. But a November grand jury indictment took cynics by surprise.

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Supreme Court to Review EPA Rule on Power-Plant Emissions

by *Eb Garrison*

On November 25, 2014, the Supreme Court of the United States granted a petition to review three related cases regarding power plant emissions of mercury and other listed hazardous air pollutants.

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Six Jones Swanson Attorneys Recognized as 2015 Louisiana Super Lawyers®

New Orleans, LA - Louisiana Super Lawyers® named six attorneys from Jones, Swanson, Huddell & Garrison, LLC for inclusion in its 2015 Louisiana Super Lawyers list, including founding member [Gladstone N. Jones, III](#) in Environmental Litigation and Business Litigation; members [Tad Bartlett](#) and [Katie E. Lasky](#) in Business Litigation; and attorneys [Bernard E. Boudreaux](#) in Business/Corporate, Alternative Dispute Resolution, and Legislative & Governmental Affairs; and [Kerry Murphy](#) and [Matthew J. Lindsay](#) as 2015 Rising Stars in the area of Business Litigation.

The designation of "Super Lawyer" represents no more than the top 5 percent of outstanding attorneys practicing in the state, whereas "Rising Star" refers to the top 2.5 percent of attorneys who have been practicing for less than ten years.

Super Lawyers, a Thomson Reuters business, is a rating service of outstanding lawyers from more than 70 practice areas who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement. The annual selections are made using a patented multiphase process that includes a statewide survey of lawyers, an independent research evaluation of candidates, and peer reviews by practice area. The result is a credible, comprehensive, and diverse listing of exceptional attorneys.

The Super Lawyers lists are published nationwide in *Super Lawyers Magazines* and in

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Bessie Daschbach Selected as an Honoree of *New Orleans CityBusiness Magazine's* 2015 Leadership in Law Award

Jones Swanson is pleased to announce that Bessie Daschbach is among the honorees chosen for CityBusiness Magazine's 2015 Leadership in Law Award. Bessie joins Glad, Lynn and Katie as members of the firm who have been selected for the honor. Bessie and other honorees will be recognized at an awards reception on Monday, March 23, 2015 at the New Orleans Museum of Art, as well as featured in the "**2015 CityBusiness Leadership in Law**" publication that will be released on March 20. Below is a link to the full list from CityBusiness.

[See Full List at CityBusiness Online](#)

Deadline of June 8, 2015 set for filing BP Settlement Claims

On December 8, 2014, the United States Supreme Court declined BP's request for a review of the Fifth Circuit's rulings upholding the District Court's Final Approval Order of the Deepwater Horizon Economic & Property Damages Settlement Agreement. Accordingly, the Effective Date of the Settlement Agreement is December 8, 2014, and the final deadline for filing all claims, other than those that fall into the Seafood Compensation Program, is June 8, 2015.

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Latest Judge's Ruling on BP Oil Spill is Key to Upcoming Trial

A federal Judge in New Orleans has ruled that BP dumped 3.19 million gallons of oil in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010. The maximum potential fines facing the company under the Clean Water Act, as BP enters the second week of the penalty phase of the trial over the 2010 Gulf of Mexico oil spill, is \$13.7 billion.

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ABOUT THE FIRM

[Jones, Swanson, Huddell & Garrison, LLC](#), is a boutique litigation law firm based in New Orleans, with a second office in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The firm primarily handles complex commercial and environmental/property disputes. In those litigation arenas, the firm has a strong nationwide presence, continues to represent many of Louisiana's and the Southeast's largest and most active business entrepreneurs and landholders, and retains a sharp focus on the customized representation of small businesses and individuals. Jones Swanson has served as lead counsel in New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, California and Texas, as well as in Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, and Louisiana.

The Firm Line is a newsletter designed to inform our clients and friends about legal issues that may impact their lives and businesses, developments at the firm, and other items of interest. Our intention is to keep the information we provide in the newsletter concise. We welcome further discussion on the topics addressed herein, as well as ideas and suggestions as to topics of interest that we could cover in future issues, and thoughts as to how we can deliver better, more insightful information to our readership. Above all, we hope that *The Firm Line* proves interesting and noteworthy.