

# *The Firm Line*

Welcome to *The Firm Line*, a newsletter designed to inform our clients and friends about developments at the firm, legal issues that may impact your lives and businesses, and other items of interest. Our intention is to keep the information we provide to you in this newsletter concise. We welcome any further discussion on the topics addressed herein and hope that *The Firm Line* will provide you with interesting and noteworthy information about the law and our firm.

## **Review: Early Decisions from the Supreme Court's October 2013 Term**

The final couple months of the U.S. Supreme Court's term is typically packed with highly anticipated, hot-button issues. Before those start to materialize, now is a good time to review the Court's decisions that have already come out - not necessarily the breaking-news decisions regarding affirmative action or government prayer, but the more nitty-gritty decisions that can affect commercial and environmental litigants on a day-to-day basis. Most of the time, these cases are decided unanimously, or at least by an overwhelming majority. While the sexier cases often fall under 5-4 splits, the daily grits-and-grease cases generally receive overwhelming backing by the Court.

To read the full article, [click here](#).

## **New Orleans City Council Adopts Resolution in Opposition to Set of Legislative Bills That Aim to Kill the Lawsuit Filed on Behalf of SLFPA-E**

Declaring that "we believe it is our duty to make our voices heard...to protect the lives and property of the people of New Orleans," the New Orleans City Council voted unanimously on May 8 to adopt a resolution against a set of legislative bills that aim to kill a lawsuit brought by the South Louisiana Flood Protection Authority - East (SLFPA-E) against 90+ oil, gas, and pipeline companies.

SLFPA-E has sued for damages defendants caused to the "buffer zone" that protects the greater New Orleans area. Governor Bobby Jindal has vowed to kill the lawsuit, and has worked with oil and gas lobbyists to pass a number of bills in the legislature aimed to do so. The SLFPA-E lawsuit has already survived one challenge in the courts by the Louisiana Oil and Gas Association, and the Governor's bills are overwhelmingly opposed by Louisiana citizens. Pointing out

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### **Suggestions**

Please provide us with ideas and suggestions for topics that you would like to read about in the future, as well as any thoughts you may have that will help us deliver better, more insightful information to you.

### **Contact Us**

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these facts, the Council urged legislators to "respect the will of the people, the laws of this state, the judgment of a Louisiana state court, and the separation of powers upon which our government is founded," and "let the courts decide this case."

To see the full text of the New Orleans City Council resolution, [click here](#).

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## Matt Lindsay Appointed to Historic District Landmark Commission

[Matt Lindsay](#) was recently appointed to the Historic District Landmarks Commission (HDLC) by Mayor Mitch Landrieu, a decision which was then ratified by the New Orleans City Council. The HDLC safeguards the city's historic legacy by preserving and regulating the cultural, social, economic, political, and architectural aspects that comprise it.



Lindsay serves on the New Orleans section of the HDLC, which oversees the neighborhoods of Holy Cross, Marigny, St. Charles Avenue, Irish Channel, Esplanade Ridge, Bywater, Treme, Algiers, and Garden District. His term will last through June 2016.

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## Katie Lasky Named Fellow of the Louisiana Bar Foundation

The Louisiana Bar Foundation (LBF) has recognized [Katie Lasky](#) as a Fellow for her commitment to improving the justice system in Louisiana. In order to become a Fellow, one must be nominated by an existing member of the LBF.



In particular, the LBF seeks to fund, develop, and promote the enhancement of the profession, public understanding of the law, and advancement of equal justice under the law. An LBF Fellowship affords members opportunities for committee participation, volunteering endeavors, and professional development.

## 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, which primarily handles complex commercial and environmental/property disputes. In the commercial and environmental litigation arenas, the firm has and continues to represent many of Louisiana's and the Southeast's largest and most active business entrepreneurs and landholders, while also retaining a sharp focus on the representation of smaller 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.



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