

Fall 2018 Newsletter



Our Deepest Sympathies to Victims of Hurricane Michael

Our thoughts are with all our clients in the Gulf Coast region, as well as all others affected by Hurricane Michael. As two of our firm's attorneys are from the Panhandle and have family in the area, we are personally aware of the devastation to the region.

It is extremely important that anyone with property or business damage submit a claim to his or her insurance provider as soon as possible.

Business Interruption and Property Insurance Claim Reminders

- Request and read a complete, official copy of your policy
- Document all damage with photographs
- Do not remove debris unless there is a health hazard
- Keep all receipts and invoices for expenses you personally incur after the loss, examples such as tarps, boards, and cleaning supplies, as these costs may lower your deductible
- All correspondence and reports to your insurance provider should be in writing whenever possible
- Keep notes of all phone conversations, including dates, times, names, and conversation notes

Before you agree to your insurer's payment, you should have an independent, properly-licensed professional verify the scope and amount of your loss. If you have any questions about your policy, claim, or the claims process in general, do not hesitate to contact us.

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Our Firm Is Moving on November 19

We are happy to announce that as of November 19, our firm will be moving to 2101 Highland Avenue South, Suite 200 Birmingham, AL 35205. All our attorneys will be located at this office. Please remit any communication via mail to our new address.

Halliburton and Transocean Settlement Payments Expected to Begin this Year

The settlement program involving Halliburton and Transocean (HESI / TO) is still in the process of being finalized. Both defendants collectively set aside over \$1.2 billion dollars for this program. Of that, \$902 million will be distributed to certain plaintiffs as punitive damages and \$337 million will be distributed pro rata to existing Deepwater Horizon economic loss claimants. Damage models are still being implemented, but the conventional wisdom is gulf-front property owners who recovered in the BP settlement will also recover in the HESI / TO Settlement Program. Those claimants do not have to take any action, as all claims and supporting

information are being transferred from the BP Settlement Program to the new HESI / TO Settlement Program. About a month ago the Claims Administrator began sending notices confirming that this information was transferred. The notice itself was confusing, but the vast majority of claimants did not need to take action.

The Claims Administrator believes the first final determinations and payments will begin sometime later this year. We will continue to monitor the program and provide updates to our clients as appropriate.

Alabama Civil Justice Foundation Awards \$1.63 Million to Alabama Organizations

On October 15, the Alabama Civil Justice Foundation (ACJF) announced that it awarded \$1.63 million to six organizations that will create innovative programs to tackle some of the most difficult civil legal aid issues being faced in our state.

“These grants are focused on stabilizing low-income communities and/or targeted vulnerable community groups,” according to Josh Hayes, ACJF president. “ACJF believes those selected will be far-reaching with lasting impact.” The six 2018 recipients each offer a unique opportunity to help those who are unable to afford legal assistance or are in areas of the state that do not currently have programs readily available to those in need.

The grant funds that will be distributed over the next two to three years are a part of the \$3.6 million in settlement funds received by ACJF from the Department of Justice and Bank of America following the 2008 financial crisis.

“These grants will have a transformative impact on legal services in Alabama,” stated John L. Carroll, former Dean of the Cumberland School of Law, ACJF Board of Directors and Grants Committee Member.

[Link](#) to full press release.

Source: Helen Taylor, Public Relations Specialist at Beasley Allen Law Firm

Blue Cross Blue Shield Antitrust Litigation Status

Back on June 12, Judge Proctor of the Northern District of Alabama granted a pre-trial appeal to the Eleventh Circuit by the Blue defendants to answer whether their conduct in terms of geographic allocation and output restrictions are to be considered “per se” anticompetitive. We are awaiting a decision from the Eleventh Circuit as to whether they will examine the question. We are continuing to monitor the progress of the litigation and will continue provide updates as appropriate.



About Shelby • Roden

Based in Birmingham, AL, the attorneys at Shelby Roden have been proudly serving individuals, families and businesses throughout the nation for over 40 years. Our firm's mission is to provide the best legal counsel using the best practices and methods possible. We also believe in getting to know our clients and understanding their unique goals and needs. By doing so, we are able to provide results beyond our clients' expectations.

As a firm, Shelby Roden primarily specializes in mass torts, class actions, and other high-stakes litigation. Our team of attorneys have successfully protected our clients' interests having obtained over \$1 billion on their behalf. As a team, our attorneys contribute insight from their various legal backgrounds allowing us to comprehensively serve our clients and to adequately address the legal challenges they encounter.

The firm also seeks to be active in charitable endeavors. For example, in 1992, the firm played a key role in establishing the Alabama Civil Justice Foundation (ACJF), which serves as a key source of grant funds to charitable organizations throughout Alabama. Since inception, ACJF has donated over \$10 million to those in need throughout the state of Alabama. In addition, the firm established the Village Creek Greenway Fund, a \$1 million fund on behalf of the Freshwater Land Trust, for the support of environmental, flood mitigation, and recreation projects along Village Creek.

Disclaimer

Case descriptions and recoveries presented in this newsletter are not an indication of future results. Every case is different and must be evaluated on its own facts and circumstances as they apply to the law. You may provide information regarding your need of legal representation; however, contacting Shelby Roden, LLC through website forms or through email does not create an attorney-client relationship, and it is not intended to do so. No contents of this newsletter constitute legal advice. Please contact our attorneys for legal advice. ***Finally, no representation is made that the quality of legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers.***