

For the International Municipal Lawyer's Association - IMLA's 5 things to know for February 20th

1. In Indianapolis, a bloody confrontation between parties over the presidency of the council was averted last evening when council president Stephen Clay resigned his position of leadership. Clay's presidency was short-lived and filled with controversy.

<https://www.indystar.com/story/news/local/marion-county/2018/02/19/do-not-publish-stephen-clay-resigns-clearing-path-vop-osili-become-indianapolis-council-elect-vop-os/349963002/>

2. In New York City, the sexual assault and harassment case against Fox Business Host Charles Payne may get a new voice as the city corporation counsel has asked to intervene in support of its law protecting victims of sexual assault.

<http://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/city-jumps-fox-news-sexual-assault-case-article-1.3828546>

3. In Milwaukee, the city is stepping up efforts to require a landlord to divest himself of properties based on the landlord's violations of housing laws. The property owner had agreed to divest by May, but a sale of 115 properties recently fell through and in other developments a couple was awarded \$20000, in punitive damages against the landlord for intentional disregard of maintenance responsibilities.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/investigations/reports/2018/02/19/tough-week-landlord-rashaed-jury-hits-him-20-000-judgment-and-city-speeds-up-effort-seize-control-p/343713002/>

4. On Friday, the 6th Circuit brought down the curtain on a long running fair debt collection practices case against a law firm, lawyer and creditor when the court concluded that Congress did not have the authority to establish a claim for statutory damages without an underlying injury. The attorney had resolved the claim for the creditor, but the creditor mistakenly sent a dunning letter to the debtor which was quickly corrected. The suit however lingered for some six years.

<http://www.opn.ca6.uscourts.gov/opinions.pdf/18a0032p-06.pdf>

5. On Sunday April 22, at IMLA's Chief Legal Officers Forum, we will discuss leadership and management using a unique approach. Gunnar Johnson will talk about racing in the Iditarod and how managing that race and a team of dogs translates to managing and leading people.

I had a great trip to Tennessee and being able to mingle with some great local government lawyers from that state really made me proud to be a local government lawyer. Don't forget our Seminar in DC provides a great opportunity to learn and gain CLE credits while you do. The seminar and hotel are filling up quickly and could sell out, so don't wait to register. Make sure you consider registering for our Supreme Court practice track. Get

more from IMLA by joining. Not a member? Contact us. Sign up at www.imla.org . Have a great day and make it an inspirational one.