FIFTH CIRCUIT UPDATE

DAVID S. COALE

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"The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals is widely viewed as one of the nation's most conservative federal appellate courts . . ."

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PLEADINGS

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Flagg v. Stryker Corp., (April 26, 2016, unpublished)

"Perhaps after discovery Flagg will not prevail, but at a prediscovery stage of this case, in an area of law where defendants are likely to exclusively possess the information relevant to making more detailed factual allegations, we cannot say that he is merely on a fishing expedition."



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Wallace v. Tesoro Corp., 796 F.3d 468 (5th Cir. 2015)

"[A]n employee who is providing information about potential fraud . . . might not know who is making the false representations or what that person is obtaining by the fraud; indeed, that may the point of the investigation."



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Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly, 127 S. Ct. 1955 (2007) (Stevens, J., dissenting)

"[T]the proof is largely in the hands of the alleged conspirators . . . It is therefore more, not less, important in antitrust cases to resist the urge to engage in armchair economics at the pleading stage."



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