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LAW AND LOBBYING IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL

March 21, 2011

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The Morning Wrap

Play Ball: Former baseball slugger Barry Bonds' trial on perjury charges is set to begin today in San Francisco federal district court. *The New York Times* writes about Bonds' all-star team of defense lawyers, including Allen Ruby, Cris Arguedas and Dennis Riordan.

Weathering The Storm: A double-digit decline in the number of new filings in U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York helped the court grapple with a substantial number of judicial vacancies, *The New York Law Journal* reports. The number of new cases filed dropped by nearly 12 percent.

✓ **Veteran v. Rookie:** Caitlin Halligan, general counsel for the New York district attorney, is expected today to argue in the U.S. Supreme Court in a case about whether evidence from an unlawful police stop must be suppressed. Kristina Schwarz, a lawyer for The Legal Aid Society who has not argued previously in the high court, represents the defendant. Last month, *The National Law Journal* reported that Republicans appeared skeptical about the nomination of Halligan for a slot on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.

Purchased: AT&T Inc. on Sunday announced a \$39 billion cash and stock deal to buy T-Mobile USA from Deutsche Telekom, combining the second and fourth largest wireless carriers, *The Wall Street Journal* reported. It's unclear whether regulators will approve shrinking the number of national wireless operators in the United States from four to three. *The New York Times* reported that AT&T would add 33.7 million customers in the deal.

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