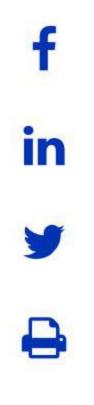
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CONDAILY BUSINESS REVIEW

Exchange logo on a digital device arranged in Riga, Latvia, Nov. 24, 2022. (Credit: Andrey Rudakov/Bloomberg)

**NEWS** 

Legal News ~

#### 'You and Your Family Shot': Lawyer Allegedly Threatened Over Accused FTX **Crypto Influencer**

Public Notices V

One plaintiff attorney received a message that allegedly warned him, "These people are dangerous' and can result in 'you and your family shot," according to the filing.

② 4 minute read

March 21, 2023 at 03:22 PM

Michael A. Mora

Cryptocurrency



### class action lawsuit.

threats and harassment on a Florida attorney.

What You Need to Know

 The chief federal judge granted a status conference to discuss alleged threats on named plaintiffs' counsel.

A cryptocurrency influencer was among the eight sued in connection to the FTX

- The case is a cautionary tale in taking legal action against influencers with millions of social media followers.
- A cryptocurrency influencer, who is among defendants sued last week for \$1

billion in fortunes lost via FTX, is the subject of a status conference for <u>alleged</u>

Lead counsel Adam Moskowitz, the managing partner of the Moskowitz Law Firm in Coral Gables, alleged crypto influences, allegedly like defendant Ben Armstrong, take the position that they are "immune from accountability" for statements made online to their followers.

"Anyone with a computer that's just hiding in their parent's basement, that has

millions of followers, could be very dangerous," Moskowitz said. "This guy was sending out my office address, he said he was going to call me during his show, and he was going to track down my family. These are the people that specific companies set up to fuel profits."

Armstrong, who does not have legal counsel listed in the federal docket, did

not respond to a call requesting comment. However, on social media,

Armstrong said that "he never had contact with anyone at <u>FTX and never even</u> had a reflink," and as a result, a countersuit that will prove his innocence would return "the easiest money anyone ever made." A "reflink" is a unique URL that companies provide to an influencer in referral marketing programs to track web traffic to determine if the partnership was worthwhile.

RECOMMENDED FOR YOU people irregardless or [sic] who they are or what position they hold," Armstrong tweeted. "The fact is I Florida Construction always go at people with the truth on my side and Defect Litigation nothing to hide. That's what allows me to be so bold.

You should try it."

2022 GARY L. BROWN dbr

Book Florida Construction **Defect Litigation** Florida Construction Defect Litigation covers a variety of topics and issues, including the

legal framework within which

construction defect claims are

EDWIN GARRISON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

addressed, typical...

View This Book →

Case 1:23-cv-21023-CMA Document 6 Entered on FLSD Docket 03/20/2023 Page 1 of 1

Now, Chief U.S. District Judge Cecilia M. Altonaga, who sits on the Southern District of Florida bench, entered an order setting the status conference. Read the Order:

"People think I'm brave because I go directly at

KEVIN PAFFRATH, et al., Defendants. ORDER THIS CAUSE came before the Court on Plaintiffs' Request for a Status Conference, to Bring Awareness of Defendant Armstrong's Harassment Towards Plaintiffs' Counsel [ECF No. 5]. Being fully advised, it is ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the Motion is GRANTED. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1), Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 72, and the Magistrate Rules of the Local Rules of In a separate action, lead-named plaintiff Edwin Garrison sued celebrity endorsers like Tom Brady, Madonna, and Gwyneth Paltrow, to recoup investor money. Moskowitz is joined by lawyers David Boies and Stephen Zack of Boies Schiller Flexner, as well as additional attorneys, including his law firm partner Joey Kaye.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

CASE NO. 23-21023-CIV-ALTONAGA/Damian

11 bankruptcy protection in November. Garrison alleged "undisclosed payments ranging from tens of thousands of dollars to multimillion-dollar bribes."

Chief U.S. District Judge Cecilia M. Altonaga. (Credit: J. Albert Diaz/ALM) on his channel says he is not a "professional advisor." After Armstrong allegedly encouraged his followers in a post to take action, Garrison said the "most concerning" message they received was by a person who allegedly warned Moskowitz "that 'these people are dangerous' and can

result in 'you and your family shot." Moskowitz said he has since filed a report with the authorities.

security, and second, the defendants promoted the unregistered security for their "financial benefit and/or the financial benefit of FTX," he said. Armstrong, for instance, has more than 1 million followers on Twitter, and more than 1.45 million followers and 244 million views on his "BitBoy Crypto" YouTube channel since its launch in February 2018. A disclaimer

In the class action filed last week, Garrison sued eight

To recoup investors' money, Garrison argued in the

complaint that his counsel does not have to prove

"reliance" or "deceit." Rather, they must show that they

suffered damages from first, purchasing an unregistered

<u>influencers</u>, over their alleged "major role" promoting Sam

Bankman-Fried's FTX Trading Ltd., which filed for Chapter

"This will not stop me from defending my clients," Moskowitz said. "It will make me more vigilant, more dedicated, and I will see this fight until the end."

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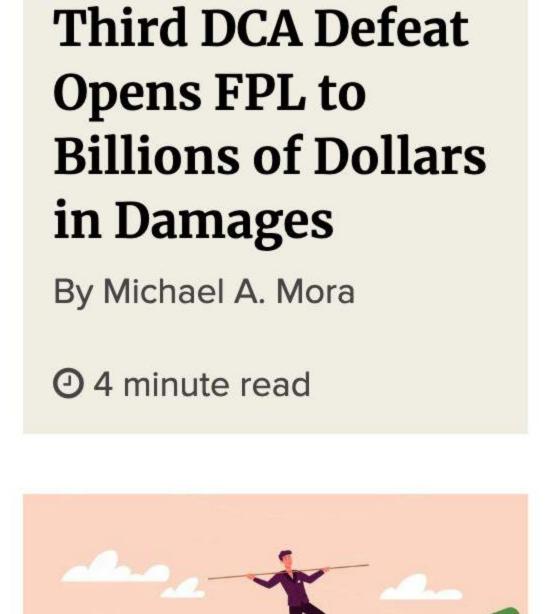
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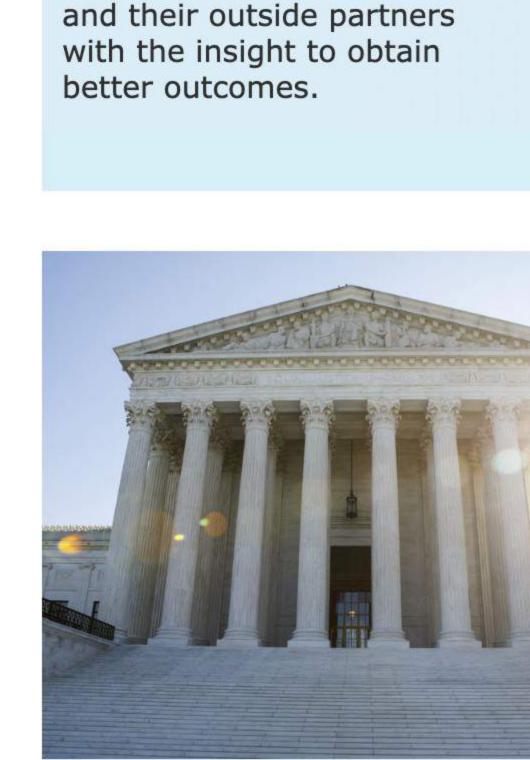
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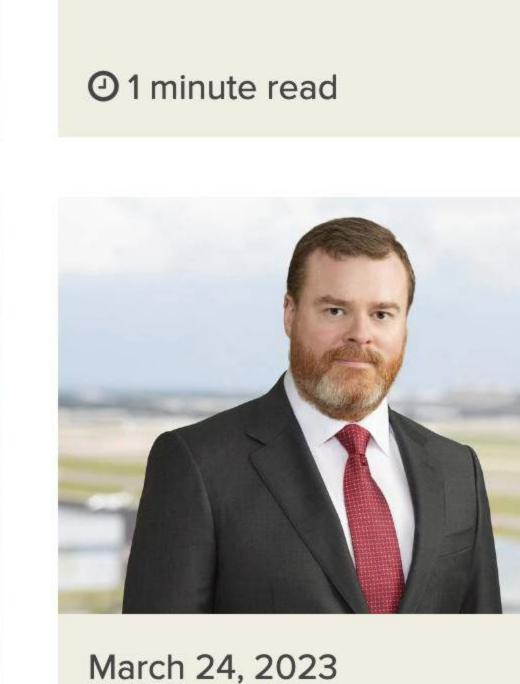
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By Alexander Lugo

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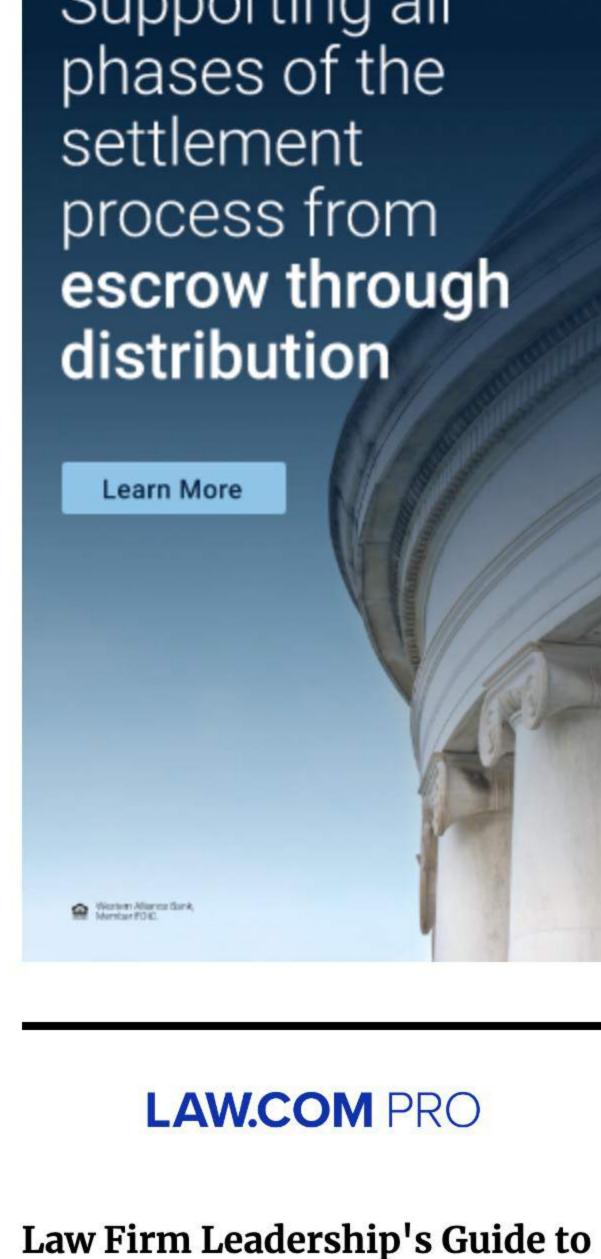
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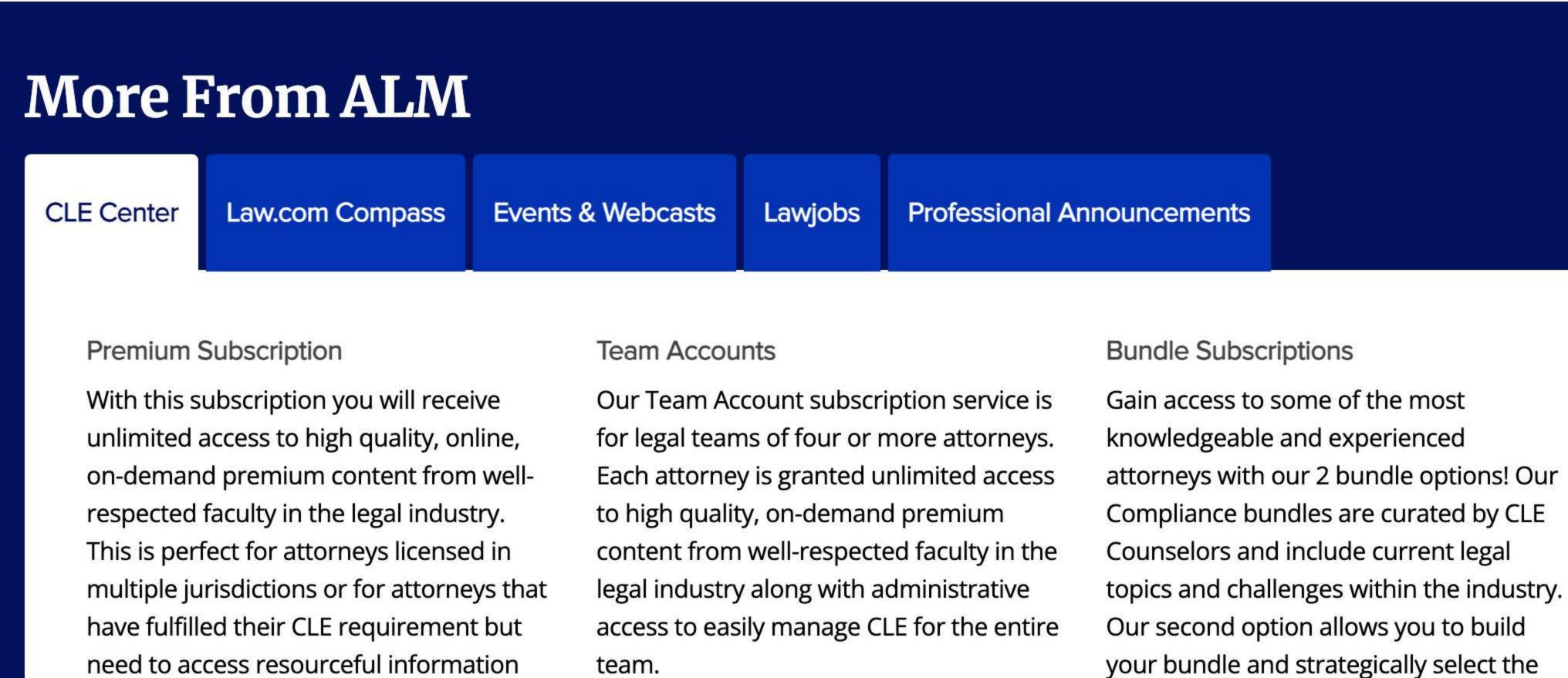
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