



ERIN RILEY

CONTACT INFO

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PRACTICE EMPHASIS

- Appeals
- Class Actions
- Employee Benefits & Retirement Security
- Fiduciary Breach
- Financial Products and Services
- Securities

EDUCATION

Gonzaga University

B.A., *cum laude*, 1992, French & History

University of Wisconsin Law School

J.D., *cum laude*, 2000, Wisconsin Law Review

Erin Riley knows that strong relationships are key in complex cases. As a partner in Keller Rohrback's Complex Litigation Group, Erin has allowed these collaborative and lasting relationships to inform her work for over 20 years.

Since 2001, Erin's practice has focused on representing employees and retirees in Employee Retirement Income Security Act ("ERISA") actions involving defined contribution, defined benefit, and health benefit plans. She has successfully litigated a number of ERISA breach of fiduciary duty cases, including cases filed against Washington Mutual, Merrill Lynch, and WorldCom.

Erin has worked on numerous ERISA-related articles and amicus briefs, and frequently speaks at employee benefits conferences. She has been actively involved with the *Employee Benefits Law* (Bloomberg-BNA) treatise since 2012 and currently serves as the lead editor, employee-side, of the Treatise.

Erin earned her J.D. from the University of Wisconsin, where she was an editor of the Wisconsin Law Review. Prior to joining Keller Rohrback as an attorney in 2000, she worked with the firm as a summer associate in 1999.

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

2000, Wisconsin
2000, Washington
2001, U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington
2010, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
2011, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
2011, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
2015, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
2016, Supreme Court of the United States

PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

Wisconsin State Bar Association, *Member*

King County Bar Association, *Member*

Washington State Bar Association, *Member*

Civil Procedure Sub-Committee for the ABA Employee Benefits Committee, *Plaintiffs' Co-Chair*, 2012 – 2016

Employee Benefits Law (Bloomberg-BNA), Chapter Editor, 2012 – 2016

Employee Benefits Law (Bloomberg-BNA), Senior Editor, 2016 – 2018

Employee Benefits Law (Bloomberg-BNA), Co-Chair, Board of Senior Editors, 2018 – present

Washington State Supreme Court, Pro Bono Publico Honor Roll, 2014 – present

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Panelist, "ERISA Class Actions: Plaintiff and Defense Perspectives," Western Alliance Bank ERISA Webinar, September 22, 2021.

Quoted, "Benefits Practice Group of the Year: Keller Rohrbach," *Law360* (Dec. 7, 2020).

Panelist, ABA Section of Labor and Employment Law, Employee Benefits Committee – Mid-Winter Meeting, Rancho Mirage, California, 2020 (Defined Contribution Investment Litigation Update).

Brief for Law Professors as Amici Curiae in Support of the Petitioners, *Thole v. U.S. Bank*, No. 17-1712 (U.S. 2019).

Speaker, Western Pension & Benefits Council – Spring Seminar, Seattle, WA, 2019 (Litigation Update: Two Perspectives).

Panelist, ABA Section of Labor and Employment Law, Employee Benefits Committee – Mid-Winter Meeting, Nashville, Tennessee, 2019 (Arbitration: What's Different About ERISA?).

Panelist, ABA Section of Labor and Employment Law, Employee Benefits Committee – Mid-Winter Meeting, Austin, TX, 2017 (How to Get the Class Action Settlement Your Client Needs).

Quoted in Jacklyn Wille, "Ninth Circuit Adopts Pro-Worker Pension Framework," *Pension & Benefits Daily*, Bloomberg BNA (Apr. 22, 2016) (www.bna.com).

"*Amgen Inc. v. Harris*: What is the Status of ERISA Company Stock Cases Post-*Amgen*," ABA Employee Benefits Committee Newsletter, Spring, 2016.

Speaker, ACI ERISA Litigation, Chicago, IL, 2016 (Supreme Court Roundup).

Panelist, ABA Section of Labor and Employment Law, Employee Benefits Committee – Mid-Winter Meeting, Las Vegas, NV, 2016 (mock mediation).

Quoted in Andrea L. Ben-Yosef, "Class Action Suits on Plan Fees Steam Ahead," *Pension & Benefits Blog*, Bloomberg BNA (Feb. 10, 2016) (www.bna.com).

Br. of Amicus Curiae of Pension Rights Center in Supp. of Petition, *Pundt v. Verizon Communications*, No. 15-785 (U.S. 2016).

Br. of Amicus Curiae AARP and National Employment Lawyers Association in Supp. of Pls.-Appellees, *Whitley v.*

BP, P.L.C., No. 15-20282 (5th Cir. Oct. 28, 2015).

Br. of The Pension Rights Center as Amicus Curiae in Supp. of Resp't, *Spokeo, Inc. v. Robins*, No. 13-1339 (U.S. Sept. 4, 2015).

Lynn L. Sarko, Erin M. Riley, and Gretchen S. Obrist, Brief for Law Professors as Amici Curiae in Support of the Petitioners, *Tibble, et al. v. Edison International, et al.*, No. 13-550 (U.S. 2014).

Quoted in Jacklyn Wille, "High Court to Address Statute of Limitations for Suits Challenging Retirement Plan Fees," *Pension & Benefits Daily*, Bloomberg BNA (Oct. 3, 2014) (www.bna.com).

Speaker, Western Pension & Benefits Council – 2014 Spring Seminar, Seattle, WA, 2014 (What's New in Fiduciary Litigation?).

Erin M. Riley and Gretchen S. Obrist, Contributors, "Attorneys Reflect on 40 Years of ERISA's Biggest Court Rulings" *Pension & Benefits Daily*, Bloomberg BNA, discussing *CIGNA Corp. v. Amara*, 131 S.Ct. 1866, 50 EBC 2569 (U.S. 2011) (95 PBD, 5/17/11; 38 BPR 990, 5/24/11) (<http://www.bna.com>).

Erin M. Riley and Gretchen S. Obrist, "The Impact of Fifth Third Bancorp v. Dudenhoefter: Finally, a Court Gets it Right!" *Pension & Benefits Daily*, Bloomberg BNA (154 PBD, 8/11/2014) (<http://www.bna.com>).

Lynn L. Sarko and Erin M. Riley, Brief for Law Professors as Amici Curiae in Support of the Respondents, *Fifth Third Bancorp v. Dudenhoefter*, No. 12-751 (U.S. March 5, 2014).

"Erin M. Riley Explores the Pro-Plaintiff Aspects of the Citigroup Ruling", ERISA Litigation Tracker: Litigator Q&A, Bloomberg BNA (Dec. 1, 2011). Reproduced with permission from ERISA Litigation Tracker Litigator Q & A (Dec. 5, 2011). Copyright 2011 by The Bureau of National Affairs, Inc. (800-372-1033)

Sarah H. Kimberly, Erin M. Riley, "Court Declines to Limit Damages in *Neil v. Zell*", ABA Employee Benefits Committee Newsletter (Spring, 2011).

Derek W. Loeser, Erin M. Riley and Benjamin Gould, "2010 ERISA Employer Stock Cases: The Good, the Bad, and the In-Between Plaintiffs' Perspective", Bureau of National Affairs, Inc. (Jan. 28, 2011).

Derek W. Loeser and Erin M. Riley, "The Case Against the Presumption of Prudence," Bureau of National Affairs, Inc. (Sept. 10, 2010).