



JEFFREY LEWIS

PARTNER

Oakland Office

jlewis@kellerrohrback.com

(510) 463-3900



PRACTICE EMPHASIS

- ◆ Class Action & Complex Litigation
- ◆ Employee Benefits & Retirement Security (ERISA)

EDUCATION

Yale University

B.A., 1970

University of California at Berkeley School of Law

Order of the Coif – J.D., 1975

Jeffrey Lewis has specialized in ERISA and employee benefits law since 1975.

He recently completed a three-year term as a representative of the general public on the ERISA Advisory Council to the Secretary of Labor. He has successfully litigated individual, group, and class action claims on behalf of hundreds of thousands of employees, retirees, and the disabled. He was a founding partner of Lewis, Feinberg, Lee & Jackson, one of the first firms in the nation to specialize in ERISA litigation on behalf of plaintiffs. Among his major successes was serving as one of appointed counsel for employees of WorldCom, Inc. in a class action which resulted in a settlement that paid more than \$47 million to participants in WorldCom's 401(k) plan. He recently recovered over \$40 million for retirees after a lengthy trial in which he served as lead counsel. Mr. Lewis serves as a mediator for the U.S. District Court, the Northern District of California, and in private practice, and has served as an arbitrator and expert witness in ERISA cases. He has also advised employee groups and benefit plan fiduciaries, is a fiduciary of two large employee benefit plans, and has served as an independent fiduciary of employee benefit plans.

In addition to his litigation and advisory activities throughout the U.S., Mr. Lewis has testified before Congressional committees regarding pension issues and served as one of the Co-Chairs of the Senior Board of Editors of the Employee Benefits Law treatise. He has also taught employee benefits law at the University of California at Berkeley School of Law, as well as pension law courses at several other law schools.

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

1975, California

1976, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California

1981, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

1985, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California

1991, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California

1993, U.S. District Court for the Central District of California

1995, Supreme Court of the United States

1999, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit

2001, U.S. Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit

2001, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit

2004, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit

2005, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

2007, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit

2015, U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado

2018, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit

PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

ERISA Advisory Council to U.S. Secretary of Labor, *Member*

College of Employee Benefits Counsel, *Charter Fellow, former Member of Board of Governors*

American Bar Association, *Member, Labor & Employment Section, former Plaintiff Co-Chair of the Employee Benefits Committee*

AC Transit Retirement Board, *Chair, Board of Trustees*

Goodyear Retiree Health Care Trust, *Member of the Plan Committee*

HONORS & AWARDS

Ranked in Chambers and Partners USA Guide, 2023 and 2024-2026 ERISA Litigation: Mainly Plaintiffs

Selected to Super Lawyers List, *Super Lawyers - Northern California*, 2005-2026

Selected to Top 100 Lawyers List in *Super Lawyers - Northern California*, 2010-2016

Top Attorney for ERISA Plaintiffs in the San Francisco Bar Area, *The Recorder*

Forty Top Benefits Attorneys, *The National Law Journal*, 1998

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Panelist, ABA Section of Labor and Employment Law Employees Benefits Committee 2024 Midwinter meeting, San Diego, California, 2024 (ERISA Advisory Council)

Panelist, ABA Section of Labor and Employment Law Employee Benefits Committee 2023 Midwinter meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, 2023 (*Are You Ready for a DOL Cybersecurity Audit or to Defend Against Hacks?*).

Co-Chair of the Board of Senior Editors of Lewis, et al., *Employee Benefits Law* (3d and 4th eds. Bloomberg BNA)

Board of Senior Editors, *Employee Benefits Law* (2d ed. BNA)

Former editor of the Discrimination Claims Under ERISA chapter of *Employee Rights Litigation: Pleading and Practice* (Matthew Bender, 1991)

Frequent speaker on ERISA topics such as preemption, fiduciary duty, and benefit claims at seminars sponsored by the American Bar Association, the Bureau of National Affairs, the National Employment Lawyers Association (NELA), and other organizations.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

Tatum v. R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., 392 F.3d 636 (4th Cir. 2004).

Dobson v. Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc., 389 F. 3d 386 (2d Cir. 2004).

Canseco v. Construction Laborers Pension Trust, 93 F.3d 600 (9th Cir. 1996).

Sonoma County Ass'n of Retired Employees v. Sonoma County, 708 F.3d 1109 (9th Cir. 2013).

Trotter v. Perdue Farms, Inc., 168 F. Supp. 2d 277 (D. Del. 2001).

Vivien v. Worldcom, Inc., 2002 WL 31640557 (N.D. Cal. July 26, 2002).

Mertens v. Kaiser Steel Retirement Plan, 829 F. Supp. 1158 (N.D. Cal. 1992).