



ERIN RILEY

OF COUNSEL

Seattle Office

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(206) 623-1900



PRACTICE EMPHASIS

- ◆ Appeals
- ◆ Class Actions & Complex Litigation
- ◆ Employee Benefits & Retirement Security (ERISA)
- ◆ 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 practices in the firm's nationally recognized Complex Litigation Group.

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. Additionally, she has represented government entities on ERISA preemption matters.

Erin is currently the employee-side Co-Chair of the American Bar Association's Employee Benefit Committee of the Labor and Employment Law Section. She is a fellow of the American College of Employee Benefits Counsel, where she currently serves on its Board of Governors.

Previously, Erin served as a lead editor of Employee Benefits Law (Bloomberg-BNA) from 2018 to 2024. She has worked on numerous ERISA-related articles and amicus briefs, and frequently speaks at employee benefits conferences.

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.

Outside of work, Erin enjoys spending time with her family and friends.

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

HONORS & AWARDS

The Best Lawyers in America®, Seattle, Washington, 2027 (Recognized since 2024)

- Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law
- Litigation - ERISA

Selected to Super Lawyers list in *Super Lawyers – Washington*, 2023-2026

Selected to Rising Stars list in *Super Lawyers – Washington*, 2009

PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

American Bar Association's Employee Benefit Committee of the Labor and Employment Law Section, *employee-side Co-Chair*

American College of Employee Benefits Counsel, *Fellow*

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

Br. of Amicus Curiae of Pension Rights Center in Support of Appellants, Graf v. Board of Regents of the University of California (California Court of Appeals August 11, 2025).

Panelist, ERISA Preemption, ABA Joint Committee on Employee Benefits ERISA Basics Virtual Program (November 19, 2024).

Panelist, 2023 Employee Benefits Highlights, ABA Section of Labor and Employment Law Employees Benefits Committee 2024 Midwinter Meeting, San Diego, California (2024).

Panel Moderator, *Did Hughes Move the Needle? 401(k) Fee Litigation Update*, ABA Section of Labor and Employment Law Employee Benefits Committee 2023 Midwinter meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana (2023).

Quoted, *Benefits Practice Group of the Year: Keller Rohrbach*, Law360 (February 22, 2022).

Panelist, *Current Developments in Defined Contribution Investment Litigation*, ABA Live Webinar (March 23, 2022).

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

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).

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

(Continued)

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

Co-contributor with Gretchen S. Obrist, *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>)

Co-author with Gretchen S. Obrist, *The Impact of Fifth Third Bancorp v. Dudenhofer: Finally, a Court Gets it Right!* Pension & Benefits Daily, Bloomberg BNA (154 PBD, 8/11/2014) (<http://www.bna.com>).

Co-author with Lynn L. Sarko, *Brief for Law Professors as Amici Curiae in Support of the Respondents*, Fifth Third Bancorp v. Dudenhofer, 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)

Co-author with Sarah H. Kimberly, *Court Declines to Limit Damages in Neil v. Zell*, ABA Employee Benefits Committee Newsletter (Spring, 2011).

Co-author with Derek W. Loeser 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).

Co-author with Derek W. Loeser, *The Case Against the Presumption of Prudence*, Bureau of National Affairs, Inc. (Sept. 10, 2010).