

The Legal 500 US: 2010

Fourteen Attorneys Listed

June 2010

Groom Law Group is recognized as one of the top firms for Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation and ERISA Litigation in the 2010 edition of The US Legal 500.

According to the Guide, "Clients heap praise on Washington-based **Groom Law Group**, a boutique firm that specializes in employee benefits. When asked to describe the partners' characteristics, one client says: *'experienced, common-sense, deeply involved, excellent knowledge of the law and how it is applied'*. Another comments on the *'integrity, honesty and responsiveness. I note no weaknesses'*.

Groom, *'is the best employee benefits firm in the country – there is no other law firm which has the expertise in ERISA, executive compensation schemes – across-the-board in anything to do with employee benefits work'*. The firm, the largest employee benefits specialty firm in the US, is an entirely different place in the EBEC market to the heavyweight New York firms. The firm does not handle transactional matters, but instead divides into nine practice groups specializing in subsets of the discipline. Typical work includes the design and redesign of large retirement and health benefit plans for major corporations, detailed technical issues such as stock option backdating, and tax issues for large pension plan sponsors in connection with back-loading and other tax qualification requirements. The economic crisis has brought in numerous instructions connected with Chapter 11 bankruptcy issues and negotiations with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation. Clients comment that, *'it is well-managed firm, populated with attorneys who know their particular specialty; it does not try to be all things to all clients, unlike some firms, it sticks to what it does and does it very well'*. The Washington DC-based complement includes a number of former government lawyers, and the firm is commended for *'knowing its way around the corridors'*, and is also adept at lobbying on specific EBEC issues.

View the full editorial commentary online.

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Continued*

Congratulations to fourteen attorneys individually recognized for their outstanding work: Jon Breyfogle, Gary Ford, Tom Gigot, Lonie Hassel, Mike Prame, Ted Scallet, Andrée St. Martin, Lou Mazawey, John McGuiness, David Levine, Mark Lofgren, David Powell, Roberta Ufford and Steve Saxon.