

News

Groom Ranks High in the 2017 US Legal 500

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Groom Law Group is proud to announce that Legal 500 ranked Groom as a Tier 1 firm for Employee Health and Retirement Plans. Groom was also recommended for ERISA Litigation and Healthcare: Health Insurers. Groom was recommended in the new practice area for Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation Transactions.

Three attorneys earned the “Leading Lawyers” recognition and two attorneys earned the “Next Generation Lawyers” recognition:

- Jon Breyfogle (Leading Lawyers, Employee Health and Retirement Plans)
- Mark Lofgren (Leading Lawyers, Employee Health and Retirement Plans)
- Michael Prame (Leading Lawyers, ERISA Litigation)
- Sarah Adams (Next Generation Lawyers, ERISA Litigation)
- Lisa Campbell (Next Generation Lawyers, Healthcare: Health Insurers)

Congratulations to 17 attorneys individually recognized in the Legal 500 editorial for their outstanding work!

Excerpts from the Guide are below:

Employee Health and Retirement Plans – The benefits practice at specialist firm Groom Law Group is ‘*extremely responsive, knowledgeable in terms the legal and industry sides, and overall top notch*’, and advises clients on all aspects of health and retirement plans. ‘*Outstanding lawyer*’ Jennifer Eller is an expert in fiduciary regulations and ‘*strikes the balance between collaborative and assertive*’; she represents numerous clients with regard to the DOL’s fiduciary ruling alongside Jon Breyfogle and new partner Erin Cho. Breyfogle also handled healthcare reform work for health insurance suppliers, Fortune 100 companies, and health plan administrators, and worked on mental health parity compliance. Other key contacts include Daniel Hogans, Gary Ford, Elizabeth Dold and Lars Golumbic. The team is based in Washington DC.

ERISA Litigation – Lars Golumbic ‘*knows ERISA and conveys his knowledge in a way that imbues confidence*’ and leads the ‘*outstanding*’ litigation practice at Washington DC’s Groom Law Group. The team consists of ‘*highly*

responsive’ lawyers advising on issues including fiduciary breach claims, excessive fee and stock-drop matters, and retiree health

suits. Sean Abouchedid has *'a deeper understanding of the impact of legal developments'* and assisted Golumbic in the defense of CHI in a class action suit claiming its retirement plan did not qualify as a *'church plan'* exempt from ERISA, among other issues. Other notable names include Sarah Adams, Edward Meehan and Mark Nielsen, all of whom advised ESOP and multi-employer plan trustees in fiduciary breach cases in 2016.

Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation Transactions – Groom Law Group handles benefits and executive compensation issues in a wide range of corporate transactions for clients, and is particular strong in the area of spin-offs. Jon Breyfogle is *'a standout in the employee benefits world'*; he represents benefits plans in front of federal regulatory bodies and advises on multi-employer pension plans alongside Jennifer Eller, Jeff Kroh and Jeff Witt.

Healthcare: Health Insurers – Groom Law Group is *'impressive for its combination of industry knowledge, strategic insight, political acumen and solid legal advice'*. The firm is known for its Affordable Care Act work, regularly advising health plan administrators, service providers and health insurers on healthcare reform; other areas of expertise include regulatory and compliance matters, mental health parity cases and tax reports relating to market reform rules. Cigna, UnitedHealth Group and Unum are clients. The team includes *'standout'* practice head Jon Breyfogle and Tamara Killon, who *'provides sound guidance and effective analysis at lightning speed'*. Rachel Levy is recommended for tax matters. Joel Wood joined as counsel.