

NEWS RELEASE

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Faegre Drinker Bolsters Benefits & Executive Compensation Practice in D.C. With Partner Kendra Roberson

Washington, D.C. — January 4, 2022 — <u>Faegre Drinker</u> announced today that <u>Kendra Roberson</u> has joined the firm as partner in the <u>benefits and executive</u> <u>compensation</u> practice group in the <u>Washington</u>, D.C. office. She comes to the firm from Covington & Burling, where she practiced for 18 years.

Roberson utilizes nearly two decades of experience to design and implement health and welfare plans, retirement plans, executive compensation agreements and equity compensation plans. She has deep knowledge of health and welfare plan compliance issues and provides creative solutions to implementing increasing regulations affecting those plans. Roberson has represented public companies, tax-exempt organizations, universities, and governments in these areas.

"Health plan compliance is becoming increasingly complex and more clients are seeking help in navigating this regulatory landscape. Kendra's exceptional technical skills, particularly with sophisticated health and welfare plan compliance issues, will greatly benefit our team and clients," <u>Sarah Bassler Millar</u>, benefits and executive compensation practice leader, said in a statement. "Kendra has built an impressive practice and we are thrilled to welcome her to the firm."

Roberson has provided critical advice to Fortune 500 companies on benefits and executive compensation matters. She also has experience representing clients before the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Department of Labor and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

Examples of matters Roberson has counseled include advising a client in the settlement of \$1.7 billion in pension obligations by purchasing a group annuity contract that covers approximately 70,000 plan participants and disputing a request from the IRS on behalf of a client to make a multimillion dollar employer shared responsibility payment under the Affordable Care Act.

"Kendra is a talented attorney and excellent addition to our D.C. office." said Washington, D.C. office leaders <u>Maureen Hardwick</u> and <u>Nick Manetto</u>. "D.C. is the epicenter of ERISA legislation and regulation, making Kendra the perfect fit to grow our benefits team here."

Roberson summer clerked for Honorable Lawrence L. Koontz, Jr., Supreme Court of Virginia and is an active member of the American Bar Association Section of Taxation's

Employee Benefits Committee. She earned her bachelor's degree, summa cum laude, from Old Dominion University, her Masters of Public Policy from the College of William and Mary and her Juris Doctor from the College of William and Mary Marshall-Wythe School of Law.

Keeping pace with the changes and complexities of the regulatory environment, Faegre Drinker's benefits and executive compensation practice group helps plan sponsors and service providers mitigate risk and advance critical HR objectives. With comprehensive service offerings, our attorneys can consider clients' distinct needs and concerns in developing or modifying benefits plans and executive compensation arrangements. When beneficial, we form multidisciplinary teams — often comprising colleagues from our corporate, employment, health, insurance, investment management and litigation practice groups. Through these collaborations, we identify creative resolutions to our clients' most vexing problems and uncover opportunities that might otherwise go unseen.

About Faegre Drinker

Faegre Drinker is a firm designed for clients, providing exceptional transactional, litigation and regulatory services to organizations ranging from emerging enterprises to multinational companies. With more than 1,300 attorneys, consultants and professionals in 21 locations across the United States, London and Shanghai, Faegre Drinker is one of the nation's top-50 law firms. Faegre Drinker Consulting and the District Policy Group, the firm's advisory and advocacy divisions based in Washington, D.C., provide public policy, regulatory and technical services to key sectors of the economy. Additional services include Tritura Information Governance, the firm's data science subsidiary, and Innovative Health Strategies, a health care consultancy that helps hospitals operate efficiently and improve quality of service. Learn more at <u>FaegreDrinker.com</u>.

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