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Attorneys at Law

Lydia Lee

Of Counsel

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Upholding the Rights of Investors

Lydia Lee is Of Counsel to our firm and has been practicing law for 40 years. She is an experienced and accomplished attorney specializing in corporate governance, pension practices, and fiduciary matters. Born and raised in Oklahoma, Lydia spent 19 years as the general counsel for a multi-billion dollar governmental retirement fund, advising a thirteen-member Board of Trustees and overseeing four different defined benefit and defined contribution plans.

Lydia has published articles on topics including fiduciary best practices and pension plan administration. She is also a member of numerous legal and pension organizations, including the Oklahoma Bar Association, the National Conference on Public Employee Retirement Systems, and the National Association of Public Pension Attorneys, where she has served on the Executive Board and is the former President. In addition, Lydia currently served as an administrative law judge for several Oklahoma state agencies, including the Oklahoma Merit Protection Commission and the Oklahoma Department of Labor.

Lydia has substantial responsibility for client communications. She frequently counsels public funds and other institutional investors with respect to corporate and board governance principles and fiduciary liability issues. She also has a significant role in advising our clients on such issues and is available to serve as governmental liaison to our institutional investor clients.

Areas of Practice

Securities & Investor Fraud

Education

Oklahoma City University School of Law, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma - 1983

University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond, Oklahoma - 1980

Bar Admissions

Oklahoma, 1983

U.S. Court of Appeals 10th Circuit
U.S. District Court Western District of Oklahoma
U.S. District Court Eastern District of Oklahoma

Professional Associations and Memberships

Ruth Bader Ginsberg Inn of Court, 2015-present, Outstanding Master of the Bench, 2016 – 2017
American Bar Association Judge for NAAC Regional Student Moot Court competitions, 2017-present
Edmond Neighborhood Alliance Board of Directors, 2005 – Present; President, 2012 – 2013, 2006 – 2007
Oklahoma Bar Association, Member, 1983 – present; OBA Women in Law Committee, 2007 – 2013; Bench and Bar Committee, 2013 – present; Government and Administrative Law Practice Section, 2009-present
National Association of Public Pension Attorneys, 1988 – Present, President, 2002 – 2004, Vice-President 2001 – 2002, Executive Board member, 1998 – 2004, Chair of Benefits Section, Emeritus Board member, 2004-present
Edmond Sun newspaper, Editorial Board member 2014-2021
Edmond Way newspaper, Editorial Board member 2021-present
Edmond Planning Commission, 2008 – 2010
Central Edmond Urban Development Board, 2006 – 2008
Midwest City Regional Hospital, Board of Governors, Served on Physician/Hospital Organization Board, Pension and Insurance Trust Committees, and Chairman of Woman's Health Committee, 1992 – 1996
City of Midwest City, Planning Commission, 1984 – 1998, Chairman, 1990 – 1995, Vice-Chairman, 1987 – 1990, Served on Capital Improvement Committee, Airport Zoning Commission (Tinker AFB), and Parkland Review Board, served on Midwest City Legislative Reapportionment Committee, 1991

Past Employment Positions

Law Office of Lydia Lee, Partner, 2005 - 2008
Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System, General Counsel, 1985 - 2005
Law Firm of Howell & Webber, Associate, 1983 - 1985

Published Works & Appearances

National Association of Public Pension Attorneys
Benefits Subcommittee, Chair – moderator/speaker: February 1996-June 2007
Small and Medium Fund Affinity Group, Convenor – moderator/speaker: June, 2011; June, 2012; June, 2013; June, 2014; June, 2015; June, 2016; Defined Contribution Plan Affinity Group – moderator, June 2017, 2023; New Member Session, June 2018-present
National Conference on Public Employees Retirement Systems
Public Safety Employees Conference: “The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly, the Sequel”, October, 2011; “Top Ten Practices of Highly Performing Public Retirement Boards”, October, 2015
Trustee Education Seminar: “The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly, the Pension Edition”, May, 2012; “Who wants to be a Fiduciary?”, April, 2014
Annual Conference: “In the beginning – Trustee 101”, May, 2023; “Avoiding Front-page Scandals at your Pension Fund”, May, 2013
Oklahoma Public Fund Trustee Education Conference
“Pay to Play and Best Practices”, October, 2010
Oklahoma Employees Benefit Council
“Prevention of Sexual Harassment and Sexual Discrimination”, August, 2008
Oklahoma Bar Association
Opinion Writing Seminar, December, 2005

Fire and Police Funds Summit (Information Management Network)

“Understanding Your Fiduciary Obligations”, June, 2005

Special Problems in Dividing Retirement for Employees of the State of Oklahoma, (co-author),
2002 OBA/FLS Practice Manual, Chapter 27.3

QDROs for Oklahoma’s Public Pension Plans, Oklahoma Family Law Journal, Volume 13,
September, 1998

Featured Guest Speaker, Saturday Night Law, KTOK Radio

Contributor and Editor, INFRE Course Books for CRA program