# Lieff Cabraser Heimann& **Bernstein**

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 multibillion 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 Fastern 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

Moderator, "What Makes a Good Securities Case: Essentials for Public Funds," NCPERS Annual Conference & Exhibition (ACE), May 2024

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