



## Leslie Thomson

Of Counsel

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**Leslie Thomson provides representation in nearly all facets of employee benefits law, from the establishment and design of retirement and welfare plans to the administration and termination of such programs.**

She counsels both private and public sector clients and guides them through the many facets of plan compliance and ERISA fiduciary obligations and represents plans, employers, and fiduciaries before the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, the IRS, and the United States Department of Labor.

Leslie also works regularly with employers regarding both single employer and multiemployer pension plans and advises them on managing their funding obligations and withdrawal liability exposure. She has assisted employers with defined benefit de-risking strategies to help them achieve fully funded status and provides useful and practical advice to employers that have been assessed withdrawal liability in challenging such assessments and negotiating settlements.

Leslie counsels clients on their HIPAA privacy and security compliance obligations and has developed HIPAA required documentation that can easily be tailored to each client's needs. She also provides HIPAA training for her clients' workforce and advises clients on how to handle improper uses and disclosures of protected health information.

### EXPERIENCE

#### Employee Benefits Law

Leslie practices exclusively in the employee benefits area, and includes nearly all facets of employee benefits law, her areas of experience include:

- ERISA
- Qualified Retirement Plans
- Multiemployer Pension Plans
- Governmental Agency Audits
- HIPAA Privacy & Security Compliance

### CLIENT RESULTS

Counseled client facing significant withdrawal liability exposure on construction industry exception rules to avoid withdrawal liability.

### PRACTICES

Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation  
 Tax and Benefits  
 ERISA and Benefits Litigation

### EDUCATION

University of Florida, LL.M., 2001  
 Taxation  
 University of Montana, J.D., 2000  
 University of Washington, B.A., 1989

### BAR ADMISSIONS

Montana

Successful resolution of Department of Labor case regarding fiduciary breach without monetary penalties.

Development of HIPAA compliant policies and procedures to ensure clients meet HIPAA obligations and avoid civil penalties.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

"Disability Claims Procedures Finally Final," *Holland & Hart News Update*, 01/11/2018

"What To Do – Or Not Do – With The Disability Claims Rules?," *Holland & Hart News Update*, 10/11/2017

## **PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC AFFILIATIONS**

- Montana State Bar Association, Member
- American Bar Association, Member
- American Society of Pension Professionals and Actuaries, Member