



KIRSTEN L. VIGNEC

Shareholder

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PRACTICE FOCUS

Executive Compensation
Health & Welfare Plans
Professional Employer Organizations
Qualified Retirement Plans
Tax Exempt Organizations
Fiduciary & Prohibited Transactions
Tax
COVID-19 Response Team
Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation
Representation Before Federal Agencies

EDUCATION

James Madison University,
B.B.A., 1991

George Mason University
School of Law, J.D., 1997

BAR ADMISSIONS

American Bar Association
The Florida Bar

With over 20 years of experience in the area of employee benefits, Kirsten Vignec helps her clients navigate complex regulatory requirements through her ability to explain the issues in layman's terms.

Kirsten is chair of the Executive Compensation & Employee Benefits Group. Her practice involves advising and counseling employers on all employee benefit matters. Kirsten's clients include tax-exempt entities, for-profit, private, and publicly-traded companies.

She regularly counsels employers with regards to the design, maintenance and ongoing administration of executive deferred compensation plans for profit and tax exempt entities, health and welfare plans and qualified retirement plans. Kirsten represents clients before the IRS, DOL, and the PBGC with respect to audits, investigations and plan corrections. She provides employers with advice on complying with its fiduciary responsibilities and best practices with regards to plan governance. Kirsten also provides support with respect to employee benefit matters for clients that are involved in corporate transactions.

Outside the office, Kirsten enjoys spending time with her husband and two teenage daughters.

HONORS

- AV Preeminent® Rating, Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review

KIRSTEN L. VIGNEC

Hillsborough County Bar Association
The State Bar of California
The District of Columbia Bar

- Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyer, Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation (2022-2023)
- *The Best Lawyers in America*® (2010-2023)

EXPERIENCE

- Advise multinational clients on benefit requirements for ongoing employee transfers in and out of the United States.
- Assisted a client post-merger in the consolidation of the health and welfare plans, Section 403(b) and Section 401(a) plans, Section 457 (b) plans and frozen pension plans.
- Advise clients on compliance issues relating to COBRA, HIPAA, ACA reporting and disclosure.
- Amend client plans to comply with changes in the law and provide related updated to plan materials.
- Provide comprehensive advice to clients on employee benefit matters and the effect of COVID leaves and furloughs.
- Regularly assist clients in navigating retirement plan qualification corrections through the IRS' Employee Plans Compliance Resolution System (EPCRS).
- Respond to penalty assessments under the employer shared responsibility provisions of the Affordable Care Act on behalf of clients.
- Provide fiduciary training to employers and employee benefit plan committees.
- Assist clients in developing best practices as it relates to plan governance, including establishing committees and drafting committee charters and investment policy statements.
- Address due diligence and employee benefit transition matters for clients involved in corporate transactions.

COMMUNITY & PROFESSIONAL

- Alliance for Independence: Board of Directors
- American Bar Association: Tax Section
- The Florida Bar: Tax Section

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NEWS & INSIGHTS

Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys and Practices Receive 2023 Chambers Recognition

Firm News, 6.1.23

Eighty-One Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Cited in The Best Lawyers in America 2023 Publication

Firm News, 8.18.22

Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys and Practices Receive 2022 Chambers Recognition

6.1.22

Hill Ward Henderson Represents Asbury Automotive Group in Acquisition of Stevinson Automotive

Firm News, 12.8.21

Seventy Six Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Cited in The Best Lawyers in America 2022 Publication

Firm News, 8.19.21

Kirsten L. Vignec Appointed to the Alliance for Independence Board of Directors

Firm News, 9.30.20

Hill Ward Henderson Represents Asbury Automotive Group in Acquisition of Park Place Dealerships

Firm News, 8.26.20

67 Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys Cited in The Best Lawyers in America 2021 Publication

Firm News, 8.20.20

2019 Best Lawyers Cites 46 Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys & Names Six "Lawyer of the Year"

Firm News, 8.16.18

2018 Best Lawyers Cites 44 Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys & Names Five "Lawyer Of The Year"

Firm News, 8.15.17

2017 Best Lawyers Cites 44 Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys & Names Two "Lawyers Of The Year"

Firm News, 8.15.16

KIRSTEN L. VIGNEC

2016 Best Lawyers Cites 40 Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys & Names Five "Lawyer of the Year"
Firm News, 8.17.15

2014 Best Lawyers Cites 42 Hill Ward Henderson Attorneys & Names Three "Lawyer Of The Year"
Firm News, 8.30.13

Hill Ward Henderson Shareholder To Present At Association Of Legal Administrators Region Two Conference & Expo
Firm News, 8.1.12

Best Lawyers In America
Firm News, 7.31.12

Hill Ward Henderson Hosts Webinar – "Health Care Reform Update"
Firm News, 5.2.12

ARTICLES & PUBLICATIONS

- "Urban Legends: Health and Welfare Benefit Plan Myths and the Stories Behind Them" Health Benefits Conference and Expo, January 2019
- "Do You Really Know Who Has the Authority to Make Plan Decisions?" 2017 HR Florida Conference and Expo.
- QDROs Demand the Attention of CPAs. (September 30, 2016). 2016 Accounting and Business Show on behalf of Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants (FICPA).
- ERISA Reality Check: Top ERISA Myths and the Real Stories Behind Them. (August 29, 2016). 2016 HR Florida Conference & Expo.
- The Small Employer Tax Credit. (April 2011). *PEO Insider*, 15, 3.
- Health Care Reform: One Year Down, Eight More to Go. (Winter 2011). *HR Florida Review*.

CLIENT ADVISORIES

IRS Provides 2-Year Grace Period for Roth Catch-Up Contribution Requirement Under Secure 2.0
Advisory, 9.7.23

DOL Releases Cybersecurity Guidance For Retirement Plans
Advisory, 5.24.21

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Update On the ARPA Cobra Subsidy: DOL Releases Additional Guidance and Model Notices Advisory, 4.15.21

NOTEWORTHY

Chambers USA ranks the leading lawyers and law firms across the USA. Legal rankings are based on in-depth market analysis and independent research, conducted by an experienced team of researchers. Individual lawyers are ranked in their practice area(s) based on legal knowledge and experience, ability, effectiveness and client service.

"She handles all issues in a prompt and thorough manner." "Kirsten and her team greatly help navigate the complexity and nuances of our benefit plans." Client quote, *Chambers USA 2023*

"She is very capable." Client quote, *Chambers USA 2022*