



## DOUGLAS M. SELWYN

**Partner**

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Douglas M. Selwyn has over 40 years of experience in employee benefit plan design, implementation and litigation; and regulatory compliance of employee pension and welfare benefit plans, including defined benefit pension plans, defined contribution retirement plans, 401(k) plans, health and welfare benefit plans, VEBA's, apprenticeship training trusts, and vacation plans under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"). His experience includes obtaining IRS determination of tax-exemption, Voluntary Correction Procedures, advising fiduciaries of employee benefit plans affecting mergers and acquisitions, plan terminations, employer Withdrawal Liability issues, compliance with the Department of Labor Cyber Security Tips, Guidelines and Best Practices, Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, the Affordable Care Act, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act issues, Qualified Domestic Relations Orders and Qualified Medical Child Support Orders, Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act issues, and Internal Revenue Service levies, Department of Labor audits, and enforcement of collection of employer contributions. Mr. Selwyn has successfully represented employee benefit plans, fiduciaries, businesses and individuals and has served as lead counsel in ERISA disputes before the Internal Revenue Service, Department of Labor, federal trial courts, federal appellate courts, bankruptcy courts, and arbitration panels in Texas, and other states. Mr. Selwyn has appeared before the Internal Revenue Service concerning tax-exempt applications and compliance; the Department of Labor seeking approval of prohibited transaction exemptions and compliance audits; and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation seeking partition and funding assistance.

Mr. Selwyn served as Co-Chairman of the Employee Benefits Committee of the Labor and Employment Law Section of the American Bar Association (2008-2011). He previously served as Co-Chairman of the Fiduciary Responsibility

### **PRACTICES**

Employee Benefit Plan Design and Administration  
Employee Benefits  
ERISA Litigation  
Litigation  
Multiemployer Plans  
Tax  
Tax-Exempt Organizations

### **EDUCATION**

South Texas College of Law, J.D., 1979  
Bethany College, B.S., 1975

### **ADMISSIONS**

United States Supreme Court  
U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit  
U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit  
U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit

**Douglas M. Selwyn**

Subcommittee and the Ethics Subcommittee of the Employee Benefits Committee. Mr. Selwyn currently serves as Co-Editor of the Newsletter of the Employee Benefits Committee, published quarterly. Mr. Selwyn is a Fellow and Secretary of the Board of Governors of the American College of Employee Benefits Counsel, Inc. and chairs its Long-Range Planning Committee.

Mr. Selwyn is also a Fellow of the Houston Bar Foundation and a Sustaining Life Fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation. Mr. Selwyn is listed multiple years in The Best Lawyers in America (Employee Benefits Law), including "Lawyer of the Year – Employee Benefits 'ERISA' Law for 2022" and is also listed as a multi-year Texas Super Lawyer (Employee Benefits/ERISA). He is a member of the State Bar of Texas, the Fifth Circuit Bar Association, the Houston Bar Association, and the ERISA Industry Group of Houston. Mr. Selwyn has served on the Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Houston, Inc. since 1981 having been its Chairman in 1987; He also was one of the founding Directors of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Houston Foundation and served as its Secretary for 25 years; Mr. Selwyn is also a Rotary International Paul Harris Fellow.

Mr. Selwyn has lectured on employee benefits issues including conferences sponsored by the American Bar Association, Joint Council on Employee Benefits, International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans, Houston ERISA Industry Group, Houston Bar Association, Dallas Bar Association and various other regional and national associations.

***Seminars & Lectures***

Fiduciary Responsibility and Legal Update for Apprenticeship Trustees, for the 49th Annual Apprenticeship Training Association of Texas State Convention, January 23, 2020

A Basic Approach to Key Terms and Concepts under Title I of ERISA for the ERISA Basics National Institute, sponsored by the American Bar Association, Joint Committee on Employee Benefits, May 2011

Collectively Bargained Plans, for the ERISA Basics National Institute, sponsored by the American Bar Association, Joint Committee on Employee Benefits, May 2011

Collection of Employer Contributions to Multiemployer Employee Benefit Plans, for the ERISA Litigation National Institute, sponsored by the American Bar Association, Joint Committee on Employee Benefits, Co-Author, November 2010

Introduction to Multiemployer Plans, for the ERISA Basics National Institute, sponsored by the American Bar Association, Joint Committee on Employee Benefits, May 2010

Introduction to Subrogation and Reimbursement, for the ERISA Basics National

U.S. District Court, S.D. of Texas

U.S. District Court, N.D. of Texas

U.S. District Court, E.D. of Texas

U.S. District Court, W.D. of Texas

All State Courts of Texas

Institute, sponsored by the American Bar Association, Joint Committee on Employee Benefits, May 2010

Withdrawal Liability and Collections, the ERISA Litigation National Institute, sponsored by the American Bar Association, Joint Committee on Employee Benefits, November 2009

A Basic Approach to Key Terms and Concepts under Title I of ERISA for the ERISA Basics National Institute, sponsored by the American Bar Association, Joint Committee on Employee Benefits, June 2009

Multiemployer Plans, for the ERISA Basics National Institute, sponsored by the American Bar Association, Joint Committee on Employee Benefits, June 2009

Transitioning to a New Third-Party Administrator, 54th Annual Employee Benefits Conference, sponsored by the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans, November 2008

Withdrawal Liability and Collections, the ERISA Litigation National Institute, sponsored by the American Bar Association, Joint Committee on Employee Benefits, November 2008

Special Topics in Welfare Litigation, for the ERISA Litigation National Institute, sponsored by the American Bar Association, Joint Committee on Employee Benefits, November 2008

Reporting and Disclosure, for the ERISA Basics National Institute, sponsored by the American Bar Association, Joint Committee on Employee Benefits, June 2008

Multiemployer Plans, for the ERISA Basics National Institute, sponsored by the American Bar Association, Joint Committee on Employee Benefits, June 2008

The Pension Protection Act of 2006, sponsored by the Attorneys Annual Conference for the International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers, 2007

What Every Business Lawyer Should Know About the Pension Protection Act of 2006, sponsored by the American Bar Association, Business Law Today series, 2007

Fiduciary Responsibility sponsored by the American Bar Association, Labor and Employment Law Section, Employee Benefits Committee, 2006-2008

Ethical Standards of Lawyer Conduct in Employee Benefits Practice, sponsored by the Houston ERISA Industry Group, 2002 and 2007

Ethics, sponsored by the American Bar Association, Labor and Employment Law Section, Employee Benefits Committee, 1994-2005

Lawyer Ethics in Employee Benefits Law, sponsored by the Dallas Bar Association, 2001

***Publications***

"A Basic Approach to Key Terms and Concepts under Title I of ERISA" for the ERISA Basics National Institute, sponsored by the American Bar Association, Joint Committee on Employee Benefits, Co-Author, May 2011

"Introduction to Multiemployer Plans," for the ERISA Basics National Institute, sponsored by the American Bar Association, Joint Committee on Employee Benefits, Co-Author, May 2011

"Collection of Employer Contributions to Multiemployer Employee Benefit Plans," the ERISA Litigation National Institute, sponsored by the American Bar Association, Joint Committee on Employee Benefits, Co-Author, November 2010

"Introduction to Multiemployer Plans," for the ERISA Basics National Institute, sponsored by the American Bar Association, Joint Committee on Employee Benefits, Co-Author, May 2010

"Introduction to Subrogation and Reimbursement," for the ERISA Basics National Institute, sponsored by the

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American Bar Association, Joint Committee on Employee Benefits, Co-Author, May 2010

"Withdrawal Liability and Collections," the ERISA Litigation National Institute, sponsored by the American Bar Association, Joint Committee on Employee Benefits, Co-Author, November 2009

"A Basic Approach to Key Terms and Concepts under Title I of ERISA" for the ERISA Basics National Institute, sponsored by the American Bar Association, Joint Committee on Employee Benefits, Co-Author, June 2009

Multiemployer Plans, for the ERISA Basics National Institute, sponsored by the American Bar Association, Joint Committee on Employee Benefits, June 2009

"Transitioning to a New Third-Party Administrator," for the 54th Annual Employee Benefits Conference, sponsored by the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans, Co-Author, November 2008

"The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act and Employee Health Benefits," The Houston Lawyer, Houston Bar Association, Author, Sept./Oct. 2008

"Ethical Standards of Lawyer Conduct in Employee Benefits Practice," ERISA Industry Group of Houston, CoAuthor, 2002 and 2007

"Standards of Lawyer Conduct in Employee Benefits Practice," ERISA Fiduciary Responsibility Issues Update, ALI-ABA Video Law Review, Co-Author, June 15, 2000

"Ethical Standards of Lawyer Conduct in Employee Benefits Practice," Journal of the Corporate Counsel Review, Journal of the Corporate Counsel Section, State Bar of Texas, Co-Author, May 1999

"Standards of Lawyer Conduct in Employee Benefits, Practice," Journal of Pension Planning & Compliance, Panel Publishers, Summer & Fall, Co-Author, 1998

"Employee Benefits Law," published by the ABA Section of Labor and Employment Law and the Bureau of National Affairs, Chapter Editor (Ethics and Fiduciary Responsibility Chapters): Second Edition, 1996-2008

"ERISA Ethical Issues and Concerns," American Bar Association, 1996

"Ethical Considerations in ERISA Litigation," Benefits Law Journal, Panel Publishers, Co-Author, 1998

"Policy and Procedures for the Collection of Delinquent Employer Accounts," International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans, Author, 1983

## Honors & Recognitions

Recognized on the list of Texas *Super Lawyers* - Employee Benefits/ERISA

Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Employee Benefits Law (2013 - present)

*Best Lawyers* "Lawyer of the Year" for Houston Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law (2022)

American College of Employee Benefits Counsel, Fellow

American Jurisprudence Awards - Constitutional Law

Garland R. Walker American Inn of Court, Master

Douglas M. Selwyn

Texas Bar Foundation, Sustaining Life Fellow

Houston Bar Foundation, Life Fellow

Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Houston, Inc. - Board of Directors, 1981-Present; Chairman 1987, Secretary 1989-2012

Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Houston Foundation - Founding member of the Board of Directors, 1987-Present; Secretary 1987-2012

Houston Bar Association Founding Chairman of Fee Dispute Committee, 1987-1988

Rotary International, Paul Harris Fellow 1985

AV rated, Martindale-Hubbell

## **Community & Professional**

State Bar of Texas

Houston Bar Association

Houston ERISA Industry Group

American Bar Association

Fifth Circuit Bar Association

## **News**

58 Conner & Winters Lawyers Recognized in 2026 Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*<sup>®</sup>  
08.29.2025

30th Edition of Best Lawyers<sup>®</sup> Recognizes 67 Attorneys from Conner & Winters  
08.18.2023

Conner & Winters Lawyers Honored as "Lawyer of the Year"  
08.19.2021

Peers Rank Conner & Winters Lawyers as the Best in their Field  
09.16.2020

Douglas M. Selwyn

Congratulations to the 59 lawyers from Conner & Winters who were recognized in The Best Lawyers in America© 2019.  
08.15.2018

## **Alerts & Publications**

59 Conner & Winters Attorneys Recognized by Best Lawyers in America  
08.16.2019