



The American College of Employee Benefits Counsel

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Washington, D.C. – The American College of Employee Benefits Counsel (ACEBC®) has named Emily Spreiser as the winner of the College's 2021 Simplification Award for original ideas to simplify the complex laws applicable to employee benefit plans. Randy Hardock, Chair of the ACEBC® Simplification Award Committee, will present the award's \$10,000 prize to Ms. Spreiser at the College's 22nd Annual Meeting and Induction. Ms. Spreiser won the prize for her proposal to simplify the QDRO process through common-sense disclosure rights for former spouses.

The ACEBC® Simplification Award has been established with a multi-year grant from a past president of the ACEBC®, David E. Gordon of Frederic W. Cook & Co, Inc. Neither the Simplification Award Committee nor the Board of Governors knew the identity of the winner until the winning entry was selected. See the link to the rules below.

The competition for the 2022 ACEBC® Simplification Award will open in the fall. Further details on the rules for consideration of submissions for the 2022 Award will be posted at that time.

Questions about the Simplification Award should be directed to Randy Hardock, at rhardock@davis-harman.com.

ACEBC® is a not-for-profit organization whose mission statement is: "Fostering excellence in the practice of employee benefits law and advancing public understanding of employee benefits." The College advances its mission by encouraging the study and development of employee benefits laws and of significant legal and social policy issues impacting the regulation and management of pension, retirement, group health, welfare, and disability plans. It pursues those goals by initiating professional discussions and high-level symposiums of significant issues, offering a searchable data base of Fellows who are willing to serve as expert witnesses and/or mediators, cosponsoring continuing legal education programs, and recognizing the achievements of distinguished employee benefits attorneys.

In addition to the Simplification Award to inspire ideas to simplify the regulation of employee benefit plans, the ACEBC® also sponsors:

- a law student outreach mentoring program;
- its national law student writing competitions to encourage legal scholarship in this evolving area of law; and
- the Annual Ellen A. (Nell) Hennessy Moot Court Competition in partnership with the Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law, addressing cutting edge employee benefits issues.

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