



Partner

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Services

- Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation >
- Financial Services and Investment Management > Investment Advisers >
- Investment Funds and Investment Companies >
- Broker-Dealers, Securities Trading and Markets >
- Banking and Financial Institutions > Derivatives and Structured Products >
- Private Funds > Private Equity > Corporate >
- Corporate Finance and Capital Markets > Commercial Mortgage-backed Securities >
- Mergers and Acquisitions > Regulatory Compliance >
- Asset Management Litigation/Enforcement >

Steven W. Rabitz focuses his practice on the fiduciary responsibility, prohibited transaction and funding rules of ERISA, specifically how they relate to financial products and services, U.S. Federal income tax, securities and other legal matters concerning **compensation and benefits**. In addition, Mr. Rabitz assists clients on how ERISA rules are applicable to the design, implementation and ongoing operation of retirement and health benefits.

Mr. Rabitz advises clients such as broker-dealers, futures commission merchants, banks, investment managers, trustees, mutual fund complexes, alternative fund sponsors and other financial market participants on the conduct of their businesses as applied to U.S. retirement clients. He also represents both private and public companies in a variety of matters involving compensation and

benefits, as well as cross-border related considerations. He is regularly featured in *Chambers USA* for his work in employee benefits and executive compensation and in *Best Lawyers* for his ERISA-related practice. He is nationally recommended by *The Legal 500* and was named a “Leading Lawyer” in 2017, in addition to being ranked in *Super Lawyers*. Mr. Rabitz has been recognized as a top 20 practitioner in the area of Employee Benefits and ERISA by *Lawdragon* in 2019.

Mr. Rabitz’s writing on current legal topics and issues has appeared in numerous publications, including, *Tax Management Compensation Journal*, *Pension & Benefits Daily*, *Derivatives: Financial Products Report*, *The Hedge Fund Law Report*, and Neuberger Berman's *DC Insights*, and he has been quoted in such publications as *The Wall Street Journal*, *Financial Times*, *Institutional Investor*, *Barron’s*, *Bloomberg*, *Hedge Fund Law Report*, *International Business Times* and *Law 360*. In 2015, he received the Burton Award for excellence in legal writing. Mr. Rabitz frequently presents at conferences and webinars held by organizations, such as the Practising Law Institute (including one which he organized and currently chairs), IBA, SIFMA, the Institutional Investor Legal Forum, Regulatory Compliance Association and International Longevity Markets Association.

Prior to private practice, Mr. Rabitz pioneered and led the ERISA, executive compensation and benefits legal function at Lehman Brothers and served in a similar capacity at Barclays Capital. He also worked as part of a dedicated team of ERISA and compensation lawyers at Goldman Sachs earlier in his career. Prior to joining Dechert, Mr. Rabitz was a partner at a national leading law firm.

EDUCATION

- Brandeis University, B.A., 1992, *summa cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa, Pi Sigma Alpha
- New York University School of Law, J.D., 1995, *cum laude*, Editor of *New York University Review of Law & Social Change*
- New York University School of Law, LL.M., Taxation, 1998

ADMISSIONS

- New York
- Massachusetts

MEMBERSHIPS

- Brandeis University Alumni Board (2018-current)

- Anti-Defamation League, various roles including: National Commissioner; New York Regional Board; Chair or Co-Chair of New York Regional Board International Affairs; Public Policy and Government Affairs Committees (2010-2018)
- NYU Law Alumni Association, Board of Directors (2006-2015)

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- **Taxation of Financial Instruments and Transactions Committee Presentation** — New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants, New York NY (June 13, 2019)
- **Current Plan Investment Issues** — PLI's Pension Plan Investments 2019: Current Perspectives (May 7, 2019)
- **Carrying On and “Acqui-hiring” a Taste for Earnouts and Other M&A Issues** — Practising Law Institute, New York, NY (March 11, 2019)
- **ERISA's Fiduciary Rule Is Dead - Done, Done, on to the Next One** — (August 29, 2018)
- **Regulatory Interactions with Plans** — PLI's ERISA 2017: The Evolving World 2017 (July 31, 2017)
- **DOL for Various Business Models** — SIFMA Compliance & Legal Society Annual Seminar (March 19, 2017)
- **Cool Compensation Considerations for the Private Company: Pay, Performance and Perspectives** — Practising Law Institute (March 13, 2017)