

Morgan Lewis Hires Employee Benefits Partner In Chicago

By Taylor Arluck

Law360 (April 9, 2018, 8:30 PM EDT) -- Daniel R. Salemi, a former co-chair of Franczek Radelet PC's employee benefits practice group, joined Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP's Chicago office on Monday, where he will focus on developing benefits and compensation provisions for large employers and multi-employer funds.

Salemi joined Morgan Lewis after spending more than nine years at Franczek Radelet, where he served as co-chair of the firm's employee benefits practice since January 2015. He has represented large employers and plan sponsors, including corporations, government employers and nonprofits, and helped clients design retirement, health and executive compensation plans.



Daniel Salemi

Salemi said Morgan Lewis' reputation and experience in the benefits space as well as rejoining some former colleagues at the firm were both reasons for the move. He was an associate at Winston & Strawn LLP from January 2008 to June 2010.

"Morgan Lewis is the gold standard in the area of employee benefits and multi-employer benefits plans," he told Law360 on Monday. "Marla Kreindler and Julie Stapel, both former colleagues when we were at Winston & Strawn, are great lawyers and great people and their experience at the firm was also a draw for me."

As an employee benefits generalist, Salemi's work focuses mostly on developing and negotiating the benefits and compensation provisions in employment agreements, which he plans on continuing at Morgan Lewis. He has worked with clients such as large multi-employer benefit funds in the construction, transportation and hospitality industries.

Salemi's past employee benefits litigation experience includes representing a sheet metal workers' union pension fund, trucking company Gradei's Express Co. Inc., and NPL Construction Co. in cases over alleged withdrawal liability and unpaid fringe benefits.

In addition to his legal work, Salemi has served as vice chair of the Fiduciary Responsibility and Plan Investments Subcommittee of the American Bar Association's Employee Benefits Committee since 2016. As vice chair, he helped organize panels that featured representatives of the U.S. Department of Labor to explore the implications of federal regulations, including the now-defunct fiduciary rule for retirement account advisers.

Salemi was a partner at Franczek Radelet from January 2014 to April 2018, and an associate from August 2006 to January 2008. He received his law degree from University of Notre Dame, the Law School in 2006, and his undergraduate degree from the University of Dayton in 2003.

--Editing by Adam LoBelia.

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