

PRESS RELEASE September 10, 2020







Mark Poerio Honored with Prestigious **American College of Employee Benefits Counsel Simplification Award**

Washington, D.C., September 10, 2020 - The Wagner Law Group, widely recognized as the country's top ERISA and employee benefits law firm, is honored to share that Senior Counsel, Mark Poerio, has been selected to receive the <u>American College of Employee Benefits Simplification</u> Award. This prestigious award is bestowed annually on individuals who generate original ideas designed to simplify the complex employee benefits laws. Mr. Poerio is receiving this award for his proposal (reproduced here) to enable 401(k) plan and IRA participants to purchase annuities in a cost-effective manner, without burden to employers. "Throughout his career, Mark has distinguished himself as an outstanding attorney in our field. We are honored to call him a colleague, and we wish him tremendous congratulations," says Marcia Wagner, the firm's founder and Managing Partner.

Mr. Poerio has arranged to use his award proceeds to provide seed funding for separate annual Social Justice Awards that bar associations in Washington (DC), Annapolis (MD), and Charleston (SC) will launch in 2021. Public support for these awards will be critical. Those wishing to receive further information may contact Mr. Poerio at mpoerio@wagnerlawgroup.com.

For 30 years, Mr. Poerio has been in private practice with a focus on executive compensation, employee benefits (especially ESOPs), and retirement plan fiduciary matters, not only from a tax and labor perspective, but also from a business, governance, securities, and litigation perspective. He has been a Fellow in the American College of Employee Benefits Counsel (ACEBC) since 2010 and was its President, served on its board for many years, and remains active on its education and long-range planning committees. Mr. Poerio is Chambers-rated, and



Mark Poerio

The Wagner Law Group

The Wagner Law Group is a nationally recognized practice in the areas of ERISA, employee benefits and executive compensation, labor. employment and human resources, investment management, bankruptcy and restructuring, HIPAA, privacy and security, litigation, tax-exempt organizations, trusts and estates and family law.

Established in 1996, The Wagner Law Group is dedicated to the highest standards of integrity, excellence and thought leadership and is considered to be amongst the nation's premier ERISA and employee benefits law firms. The firm has 10 offices across the country,

works regularly with the American Benefits Council (where he was an executive board member for many years).

The ACEBC is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to elevating the standards and advancing the public's understanding of the practice of employee benefits law. Charter Fellows are selected, by invitation only, from among hundreds of nominees nationwide, based on stringent criteria. Each Charter Fellow is required to have demonstrated a commitment to the development and pursuit of public awareness and understanding of employee benefits law and is also required to have provided exceptionally high-quality professional services to clients, the bar and the public.

providing unparalleled legal advice to its clients, including large, small and nonprofit corporations as well as individuals and government entities worldwide. The Wagner Law Group's 34 attorneys, senior benefits consultant and seven paralegals combine many years of experience in their fields of practice with a variety of backgrounds. The firm is recognized by U.S. News and World Report as a Tier 1 Best Law Firm in the areas of ERISA and employee benefits. Nine of the firm's attorneys are AVrated by Martindale-Hubbell and nine are Fellows of the American College of Employee Benefits Counsel, an invitation-only organization of nationally recognized employee benefits lawyers. Seven of the firm's attorneys have been named to the prestigious Super Lawyers list for 2020, which highlights outstanding lawyers based on a rigorous selection process. The Wagner Law Group is certified as a woman-owned and operated business by the Women's Business Enterprise National Council.





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