

Taft-Hartley Benefits Firm Joins The Wagner Law Group

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BOSTON, MA, USA, September 27, 2021 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [Marcia Wagner](#), the Managing Director of [The Wagner Law Group](#), widely recognized as the country's top ERISA and employee benefits law firm, has announced the

opening of an Iowa office with the acquisition of Germaine Law Firm, PLLC. The acquisition includes the addition of attorney Jason Kotlyarov, who will be joining the firm as an associate, attorney Jennifer Germaine, who will be joining the firm as a consultant, and Paralegal Kate

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Marcia S. Wagner, Founder and Managing Partner

Prenatt. “We are delighted that Jason, Jennifer and Kate are joining our firm. Their combined vast experience in the area of multiemployer funds will serve as a tremendous asset to our firm's continued growth in that realm,” says Ms. Wagner.

Mr. Kotlyarov focuses his practice on representation of training funds for construction trades as well as other jointly managed multiemployer ("Taft-Hartley") funds, including defined benefit, defined contribution and health and welfare funds. He provides comprehensive representation for multiemployer plans, including review and preparation of standards and policies, compliance

with regulations and requirements issued by the Department of Labor, plan design and drafting, litigation in federal and state courts, and compliance with state law as well as ERISA, HIPAA, the Internal Revenue Code and other relevant federal law.

Additionally, Mr. Kotlyarov specializes in privacy and cybersecurity law. He drafts policies and procedures to ensure that his clients are in compliance with the rapidly changing state and federal requirements, and are prepared for breaches and events such as accidents or natural disasters. Mr. Kotlyarov also advises clients on best practices for meeting cybersecurity-related fiduciary responsibilities. He earned an LL.M in taxation, a J.D. and a Bachelor of Science in



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accounting from University of Missouri.

Ms. Germaine advises apprenticeship programs across the nation on handling risks and identifying hidden opportunities. She is respected as a thought leader on apprenticeship programs through her speaking, writing and founding of the podcast, Talking Training with the Trades. Her practice focuses primarily on multiemployer, Taft-Hartley benefit plans, including advising boards of trustees of collectively bargained multiemployer health and welfare plans, retirement plans (defined contribution and pension plans) and apprenticeship programs with respect to plan design, compliance, participant communications, and litigation. Ms. Germaine received her J.D. from Creighton University School of Law and has an undergraduate degree in accounting from the University of Northern Iowa.

Also joining the firm is Paralegal Kate Prenatt. Ms. Prenatt has an excellent understanding of the complexities of multiemployer Taft-Hartley benefit plans, as well as trade-union apprenticeship matters. Her 17 years of experience working as an office manager for a labor union make her uniquely suited to working with Taft-Hartley benefit plans.

The Wagner Law Group's attorneys have been working with Taft-Hartley benefit plans since 1979, either as Fund Counsel, Independent Fiduciary, or in regulatory practice working within the Department of Labor and the PBGC. With the addition of Mr. Kotlyarov, Ms. Germaine and Ms. Prenatt, the firm has again shown its commitment to the longevity and growth of these jointly administered, collectively bargained plans that cover millions of workers across the country. The firm has great depth of knowledge in the laws and regulations governing Taft-Hartley plans,



Marcia Wagner, founder and Managing Director of The Wagner Law Group



Jason Kotlyarov, Jennifer Germaine, Kate Prenatt

including the Internal Revenue Code and ERISA, and their numerous complex updates in addition to the relevant provisions of the Social Security Act (including the Medicare provisions), securities and bankruptcy law, and the Taft-Hartley Act itself. The firm's attorneys have advised a wide variety of union-affiliated pension (defined benefit and defined contribution), welfare, disability, vacation and apprenticeship plans on compliance, administration, and general advice in support of the boards of trustees. Its services include plan drafting and amendment, litigation, collections, and ongoing advice for daily operations, fiduciary responsibility, benefit claims, reporting and disclosure, delinquency claims, and withdrawal liability, and related arbitration or litigation, including appeals. The Wagner Law Group also provides counsel on the numerous issues that present during the course of plan administration and management, such as pension funding issues, plan design, service provider contracts, investment matters, tax qualification, plan mergers and dissolution, etc.

The Wagner Law Group:

Now celebrating its 25th anniversary, The Wagner Law Group continues to be dedicated to the highest standards of integrity, excellence and thought leadership, and is considered to be the nation's preeminent ERISA and employee benefits law firm. With 42 attorneys in 12 offices, it provides unparalleled legal advice to its clients, including large, small and nonprofit corporations as well as individuals and government entities nationwide and in several foreign countries. The firm's attorneys combine many years of experience in their fields of practice and include those who are AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell and have been named to prestigious Super Lawyers lists for 2021. The Wagner Law Group is recognized by U.S. News and World Report as a Tier 1 Best Law Firm in the areas of ERISA and employee benefits, is certified as a woman-owned and operated business by the Women's Business Enterprise National Council and is listed among the largest woman-owned businesses in Massachusetts by the Boston Business Journal.

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