



Damarr Butler

Associate

Washington, DC
D: +1-202-383-5222
dbutler@omm.com

Damarr Butler is an associate in O'Melveny's Washington, DC office. Leveraging extensive experience in the public sector, Damarr focuses his practice on ERISA litigation and advises clients on fiduciary related matters. Damarr represents retirement plan sponsors, trustees, and other plan service providers, and financial services companies, including banks, trust and mutual fund companies, health care payers, and health and life insurers, in connection with class or mass actions.

Damarr is a frequent thought leader on ERISA-related topics. He currently serves as Co-Chair of the American Bar Association's Section Committee on Real Property, Trust and Estate Law, Employee Benefit Plans and Other Compensation Arrangements, Fiduciary Responsibility, Administration and Litigation. Damarr also maintains an active pro bono practice. Recently, he successfully appealed a procedural family matter to the Maryland Court of Special Appeals.

Prior to joining the firm, Damarr was an attorney in Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation's Office of the General Counsel, where he represented the PBGC in complex federal bankruptcy, state insolvency/receivership, transactional, and litigation matters concerning ongoing and terminated defined benefit pension plans. He also previously served as Special Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, representing the United States and its departments and agencies and federal government officials in their individual official capacities at the trial level concerning allegations of discrimination under Title VII, access to and/or the amendment of records under the FOIA and the Privacy Act, challenges to agency actions under the APA, and tort claims.

Admissions

Bar Admission

District of Columbia
Illinois
Maryland

Court Admissions

US District Court, District of Columbia
US Court of Appeals, Fourth & District of Columbia Circuits

Education

Howard University School of Law,
J.D.

Georgetown University Law Center,
Taxation LL.M., with a certificate in
Employee Benefits Law

Jackson State University, B.S.,
Criminal Justice

Experience

- Defending various financial services companies against ERISA claims challenging 401(k) plan investment selections.

Professional Activities

Author

- “Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation Who, American Bar Association, Young Lawyers Division,” The 101 Practice Series (2018)
- “A Window into PBGC’s Practice: Current Issues and Trends” (Apr. 2017 and 2018), contributing
- “Employee Benefits Law, Chapter 9. Plan Insurance and Plan Termination” (Cumm. Supp. 2015), contributing

Speaker

- *Top Ten Benefit Issues of 2019*, American Bar Association, Section of Labor and Employment Law, Employee Benefits Committee Mid-Winter Meeting, Rancho Mirage, CA (Feb. 2020)
- *ERISA Supreme Court Updates*, American Bar Association, Section of Real Property, Trust and Estate Law, Employee Benefit Plans and Other Compensation Arrangements, Fiduciary Responsibility, Administration and Litigation Committee (Dec. 2019)
- *Searching for Missing Plan Participants and Defining the Appropriate Duty of Care Sufficient to Satisfy DOL Standards*, American Conference Institute 16th National Forum on ERISA Litigation, New York, NY (Nov. 2018).
- *Top Five Benefit Issues for Employment Attorneys (ERISA Requirements in M&A Transactions)*, National Employment Law Conference 23rd Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA (Apr. 2018)
- *Working with Employers on ERISA Reporting and Compliance Requirements*, American Bar Association, Section of Real Property, Trust and Estate Law (Aug. 2017)
- *Missing Participants and State Escheat Laws*, American Bar Association, Section of Labor and Employment Law, Employee Benefits Committee Mid-Winter Meeting, Austin, TX (Feb. 2017)
- *Dealing with PBGC Liabilities*, American Bar Association, Section of Labor and Employment Law, Employee Benefits Committee Mid-Winter Meeting, Coronado, CA (Feb. 2015)
- *Protection of IRA & Qualified Plan Assets after Clark v. Rameker*, American Bar Association, Joint Committee on Employee Benefits (Jan. 2015)
- *Litigating Against the PBGC*, American Bar Association, Section of Labor and Employment Law, Employee Benefits Committee Mid-Winter Meeting, New Orleans, LA (Feb. 2014)

Other Activities

- Co-Chair, American Bar Association, Section of Real Property, Trust and Estate Law, Employee Benefit Plans and Other Compensation Arrangements, Fiduciary Responsibility, Administration and Litigation Committee (2019-present)
- Assistant Coach, Georgetown University Law Center Taxation, LL.M. Moot Court Team, Georgetown University Law Center (2019-present)
- Planning Committee Member, American Bar Association, Section of Labor and Employment, Employee Benefits Committee, Mid-Winter Meeting Planning Program Committee (2015-present)

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- Co-Chair, American Bar Association, Section of Real Property, Trust and Estate Law, Employee Benefit Plans and Other Compensation Arrangements, Plan Transactions and Terminations Committee (2017-2019)
 - Government Fellow, American Bar Association, Section of Labor and Employment Law, Employee Benefits Committee (2013-2015)