The American College of Employee Benefits Counsel

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Washington, D.C. – The American College of Employee Benefits Counsel (ACEBC®) has named Ms. Sieun Lee, University of Illinois College of Law, and Ms. Raissa Ebeh, Georgetown University Law Center, as the winners of the College's 2026 Student Writing Competition Awards.

Ms. Lee won the **2026 Sidney M. Perlstadt Memorial Award** for her paper entitled ***Risk to Remedy: Restoring the Firewall in the Pension Risk Transfer Ecosystem.***

Ms. Ebeh's winning entry entitled ***The Cost of Delay: ERISA Remedies and the Limits of Recovery in Health Benefit Disputes*** won the **2026 Brian J. Dougherty Memorial Award**.

Professor Norman Stein and Frances King Quick, Co-Chairs of the Student Writing Competition Committee, presented the awards at the College's 2026 Induction Ceremony held on Saturday, October 10, 2026, in San Diego, California, at the InterContinental San Diego Hotel.

ACEBC® is a not-for-profit organization whose mission statement is: "fostering excellence in the practice of employee benefits law and advancing public understanding of employee benefits." The College advances its mission by encouraging the study and development of employee benefits laws and of significant legal and social policy issues impacting the regulation and management of pension, retirement, group health, welfare, and disability plans. It pursues those goals by initiating professional discussions and high-level symposiums of significant issues, offering a searchable database of Fellows who are willing to serve as expert witnesses and/or mediators, cosponsoring continuing legal education programs, and recognizing the achievements of distinguished employee benefits attorneys.

In addition to its national law student writing competitions to encourage legal scholarship in this evolving area of law, the ACEBC® also sponsors:

- a Simplification Award to inspire ideas to simplify the regulation of employee benefit plans, and
- the Annual Ellen A. (Nell) Hennessy Moot Court Competition in partnership with The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law, addressing cutting-edge employee benefits issues.

Congratulations to both of these students!

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