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Fall Plan Sponsor Education Series

DATE & TIME: Thursday, November 21, 2019 | 11:45 am – 1:30 pm
Lunch and networking will start at 11:45am, announcements and programming to follow at 12:15pm
LOCATION: Embassy Suites Cleveland-Rockside | 5800 Rockside Woods Blvd | Independence, OH 44131

TOPIC #1: US Defined Contribution (DC) Trends - Presentation

SPEAKER: Michael W. Schwanekamp, CIMA, ARPC, Managing Director Defined Contribution, MFS Investment Management

About the Program: Overview of various themes throughout the defined contribution space (Demographic breakdown of participants, ESG, Retirement Income, and Investment Themes). The State of the US Retirement Market: Convergence of DC and IRA markets. DC Industry themes to watch – Change is Afoot: Legislative, Social and Technological developments.

About the Speaker: Michael W. Schwanekamp is the managing director of the Defined Contribution Investments (DCI) group at MFS Fund Distributors, Inc., a subsidiary of MFS Investment Management® (MFS®). He manages the DCI sales team and overseas the distribution of MFS portfolios that serve as investment options on external retirement platforms. Mike came to MFS in 1985 as a sales desk representative for the Insurance Industry Sales Department of MFS Fund Distributors. He joined the firm's wholesaling team as a regional manager in 1986. In 1989 he became an assistant vice president and in 1991 a regional vice president. Mike joined the firm's Retirement Services Division in 1993. In 2005 he joined the Institutional Sales team as director and was responsible for PPM sales. He then joined the DCI group in 2008 as a specialist. Before taking his current position, he served as a regional vice president for the DCI sales team. Mike is a graduate of Xavier University. He holds both the Certified Investment Management Analyst (CIMA) and the Accredited Retirement Plan Consultant (ARPC) designations.

TOPIC #2: Legislative & Regulatory Update – Hot Issues for Retirement Plan Sponsors

SPEAKER: Dale R. Vlasek, Attorney, Employee Benefits Practice Group, McDonald Hopkins

About the Program: This program will discuss current legal and regulatory issues impacting retirement plan sponsors. Including the recent Department of Labor (DOL) proposed amendment to current disclosure rules that would provide a new "notice and access" safe harbor for the use of electronic communications to satisfy required participant disclosures in retirement plans. In addition, legal issues to consider when offering an employee student loan benefit program, and an update on changes to hardship distributions that took place in 2019.

About the Speaker: Dale R. Vlasek is chair of the Employee Benefits Practice Group. He focuses his practice on all employee benefit matters including pension, profit sharing and 401(k) planning design, operation and compliance matters, ESOPs, welfare benefit plans (e.g., group health, life, dependent care programs) design, operation and compliance matters, ERISA litigation, and multi-employer pension plans. He serves as benefits counsel to a number of middle-market and larger companies. Dale is licensed to practice in Ohio, Iowa, and Wisconsin. Dale earned his J.D., with high distinction, from the University of Iowa, College of Law, in 1982, and a Ph.D. from the University of Iowa in 1978. He received an M.A. and B.A. from Cleveland State University in 1972 and 1970, respectively.

This event is FREE for attendees.

To RSVP:
Email: Register HERE or emrja@raymondjames.com
By Phone: Contact Sandra Holland at (440) 638-4282

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