

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Vedder Price Expands Labor & Employment Practice in Washington, DC with Addition of OSHA Attorney Nicole Smith

WASHINGTON, DC (March 12, 2018) – [Vedder Price](http://vedderprice.com) is pleased to announce that Nicole A. Smith has joined the firm as a Shareholder in its Labor & Employment practice area in the Washington, DC office.

Ms. Smith balances her practice between traditional labor and employment law issues and occupational safety. She has extensive experience working with in-house counsel and human resource professionals, providing counsel to clients on traditional labor law issues including collective bargaining, arbitrations, union avoidance strategies, unfair labor practice cases and representation cases. She regularly counsels clients in regards to employee-employer relationship problems, including race, sex, age, national origin and disability discrimination claims, wage and hour matters, Family and Medical Leave Act issues and other types of leaves of absence, and compliance with local, state and federal employment laws.

"I'm excited to join Vedder Price's dynamic L&E group," said Ms. Smith. "My practice complements our existing traditional labor capabilities and I look forward to bringing my unique OSHA experience to the firm, while continuing to provide best in class service to my clients in DC and nationwide."

A particular area of concentration for Ms. Smith is internal investigations of occupational safety concerning workplace accidents and fatalities, including: developing safety programs and policies; training employees on hazardous substance protocols; representing employers in OSHA contests following safety citations; appealing citations and penalties administered by OSHA; and advising and abating safety violations.

"Nicole has unique experience and holds a strong reputation as a talented OSHA lawyer," said Amy Bess, Chair of Vedder Price's Labor & Employment practice area. "She also adds considerable depth to our traditional labor capabilities at the firm, and will expand our OSHA practice not only in the District, but throughout the country. She fits in perfectly with our entrepreneurial, client service oriented culture at Vedder and we are thrilled to have her."

Prior to joining Vedder Price, Ms. Smith was a partner at Venable, LLP after 14 years at DLA Piper. She earned her J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center and her B.A. from McKendree College.

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About Vedder Price:

Vedder Price is a thriving, 300-lawyer firm with seven offices worldwide, including Chicago, New York, Washington, DC, London, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Singapore. The firm offers a unique mix of finance, corporate, labor and employment, and litigation skills, including market-leading practices in global transportation finance, middle-market finance/M&A, executive compensation, employment class actions and more. Vedder Price has enduring relationships with marquee organizations, and many of the firm's clients have been with the firm since its founding in 1952. For more information, visit vedderprice.com.

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