

## ESOP

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Employee stock ownership plans (ESOP) provide a tax-advantageous ownership transition strategy that offers closely held companies the opportunity to seamlessly transfer ownership. Barley Snyder's ESOP Practice Group is experienced in handling all facets of ESOPs including feasibility analysis, design and the transaction process. The firm's ESOP Practice Group can help a company navigate through the process that allows it to transfer ownership while investing in its own future.

Barley Snyder can walk a company step-by-step through the various transition strategies available to company owners and help companies evaluate whether an ESOP is its best transition strategy. Successful ESOPs traditionally inspire and embolden employees to continue their hard work for the company since their success is directly related to the company's financial success.

ESOPs require a broad depth of knowledge and experience touching upon areas of law such as tax, commercial law, securities law, merger and acquisitions, estate planning and employee benefits. The ESOP Practice Group works with and advises public and closely held companies and plan fiduciaries in the development and maintenance of ESOPs and complex issues involving ESOPs.

The firm's ESOP Practice Group also is frequently involved in the development of equity-based incentive plans, such as restricted stock plans, phantom stock plans and equity-based deferred compensation plans as a component of its ESOP transactional practice.

If you have any questions about how Barley Snyder can help your business transition ownership through an ESOP or through other transaction alternatives, please contact a member of our ESOP Group Practice.

## CHAIR:

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