

News Release



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Regional Director Named To Head Kansas City Federal Pension Agency

KANSAS CITY, Mo. -- Steven R. Eischen has been named regional director of the U.S. Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) in Kansas City, Mo.

As regional director, Eischen heads a staff of 52 investigators, auditors and pension benefit advisors. He is responsible for overseeing the operations of private-sector pension, health and other benefit plans in the states of Colorado, Southern Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming.

Eischen is responsible for enforcing provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), overseeing civil and criminal investigations and serving as the primary liaison to other federal and state enforcement authorities involved in ERISA investigations. As part of the department's compliance assistance initiative, his office also assists workers in understanding their rights to obtain benefits under ERISA and related laws.

Eischen joined the Labor Department as program analyst in 1970. He has more than 15 years of enforcement experience in the employee benefits field, previously serving as the regional director of EBSA's Dallas regional office. As the head of EBSA's Dallas regional office, he supervised the high-profile corporate fraud case involving misuse of Enron's retirement plan funds.

Prior to that position, Eischen was associate regional director in Kansas City, where he supervised the compliance and enforcement activities of the EBSA regional office and served as the technical expert on major enforcement projects. Besides an enforcement background, he has instructed national and field office staff as part of the agency's ongoing professional training programs and provided technical assistance to the governments of Hungary, Poland and Slovenia.

Eischen is a native of Algona, Iowa. He has a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Benedictine College in Atchison, Kan.

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