



The Washington Post Talks to Cleveland Partner about COVID-19 Vaccine Incentives

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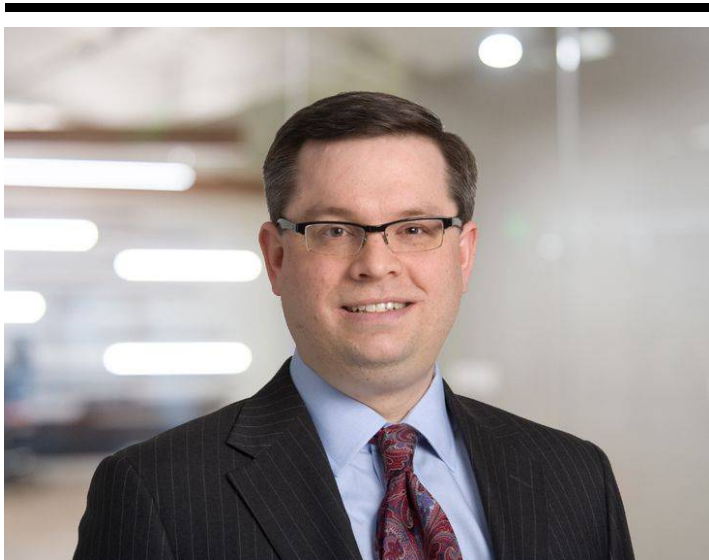
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In an interview with *The Washington Post*, **Jeff Smith** discusses how some employers are offering up incentives to encourage their employees to get the COVID-19 vaccine. Earlier this month, the EEOC issued a proposed rule expressly permitting only *de minimis* incentives as passing muster under participatory wellness programs. The current thinking on incentives seems to be that under a participatory wellness program the safest incentives would be relatively small while offering more robust incentives will likely come at a higher risk. Jeff explains that employers are trying to make sense of the EEOC's guidance and are eager to get clarity on what may or may not be acceptable. He predicts that if the EEOC provides more clarity on the rules then a lot of companies nationwide are likely to start offering incentives to their employees to get the COVID-19 vaccine.

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