



For Immediate Release  
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## **National PELRA and Clark Baird Smith LLP Release 2023 Results of Public Employer Labor Survey**

Vernon Hills, IL – Tuesday morning in Louisville, Kentucky during the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Training Conference, National PELRA released their annual survey of public employers. The survey results were presented by Attorneys Robert J. Smith Jr. and Roxana M. Underwood with Clark Baird Smith LLP. According to Mr. Smith, who co-authored the survey questions, *the number one issue facing public employers in 2023 is hiring new employees*. A plurality of those responding also indicated that collectively bargained wage increases in 2023 would likely average 4.0%. During the presentation of the data at the National PELRA conference to attendees from 31 different states, attorneys Smith and Underwood offered practical labor relations suggestions to address challenges currently faced by public employers, including hiring and retention issues.

National PELRA is the single organization with a mission and goals supporting public employers' labor relations law and operations, with 22 affiliated state chapters focused on their state specific public employment statutes. Attendees at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference represent employers from cities, counties, state agencies, school districts, special authorities and districts who collectively employ over 4 million workers.

The **2023 Public Employer Labor Survey** has a 95% confidence value with a 5.5% margin of error based on the statistical data results. Attendees of the conference received access to the presentation slides, and all National PELRA members will directly receive a copy of the 2023 labor survey data results.

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