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### **2017 Excellence in Benefits Award Winner**

**(May 25, 2017)** – Employers Health, a professional benefits organization, is announcing the first-ever recipient of its [Excellence in Benefits Award](#). The award is intended to recognize annually, an individual who has made meaningful impact in the field and/or delivery of employee benefits.

This year's winner is Jessica Ward, benefits manager at Columbus, Ohio-based DSW. Ward was unanimously selected by an independent panel of human resources and benefits industry professionals. Nominees were scored on the impact made in the field of employee benefits, achieved outcomes and contributions to the betterment of the overall workplace and community.

Comments from the judges included, "This is one busy and highly productive professional. Her contributions to organization are stellar" and "her accomplishments are tremendous". Ward is past president and board member of the Central Ohio Chapter of the Certified Employee Benefits Specialist program and serves as a client advisor to Benefitfocus and Willis Towers Watson.

In her tenure with DSW, Ward has launched a corporate discount program resulting in an increase of 3,000 subscribers and implemented prescription plan changes for prior authorization and quantity limits to reduce improper drug use. Additionally, she has conducted on-site flu shot clinics and mobile mammography events at the company's home office.

Employers Health congratulates Jessica Ward!

Nominations for the 2018 award will open in January 2018. Go to [benefitsaward.com](http://benefitsaward.com) for more information.

#### **About Employers Health**

Founded in 1983, Employers Health is a professional benefits organization, which provides resources, tools and advice that help plan sponsors deliver access to high-quality health benefits at a sustainable cost. With offices in Canton, Columbus and Cincinnati, Ohio, as well as Dallas, Texas and Denver Colorado, Employers Health consists of four entities that provide services to nearly 300 members representing approximately 400 organizations domiciled in 32 states. Employers Health Coalition, Inc. is an employer-led business group focusing on human resource, legal, finance and procurement issues facing client organizations in the delivery of health benefits. Employers Health Purchasing Corporation establishes and manages group



purchasing contracts for a variety of health benefit services, such as pharmacy, behavioral health, dental and vision benefits. Employers Health Solutions is a boutique consulting practice, specializing in employee benefits strategy, procurement, health management and communications. Labor Health Solutions is a labor specific initiative of Employers Health, a national coalition of employers, dedicated to supporting the benefits strategies of plan sponsors throughout the U.S. To learn more, visit [www.employershealthco.com](http://www.employershealthco.com).

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