FOREWORD

We are pleased to present this Special Issue of the Emory Law Journal memorializing a special Symposium the Journal was privileged to host with the support of the Emory University School of Law, Ford & Harrison, LLP, and the Labor and Employment Section of the Georgia Bar on April 10, 2015: The National Labor Relations Board After Eighty Years.

The decisions and actions of the Board have drawn increased scrutiny in the modern era, and even more so in the wake of President Obama’s efforts to ensure that the Board was comprised of a full contingent of members. But even before President Obama was elected, because the Board primarily develops its rules through adjudications, its decisions have become quite controversial—no doubt in part as a result from the lack of legislative changes to guide the agency’s actions over the past forty years. The NLRB’s effectiveness as it reaches its eightieth anniversary in 2015 represents an important legal question and a major concern for all those interested in labor law. This Symposium offered an array of perspectives that considered these and other important questions.

This Symposium was only possible because of the work of many individuals, but this event was the brainchild of Professor Michael Z. Green, who approached the Journal with the idea for this event and eagerly worked with us to make it successful. It was our privilege to be able to host this event with his assistance and support. We would also like to specially thank our event sponsors, Ford & Harrison, LLP, and the Labor and Employment Section of the Georgia Bar, and the administrators and faculty who helped make the event a reality and for their support of the Journal, specifically Dean Robert Schapiro, Vice Dean Robert Ahdieh, Joella Hricik, Robert Jackson, Professor Charles Shanor, and Alyssa Ashdown.

Finally, this Special Issue reflects a record of the remarks delivered during the panel discussion with the NLRB Members and General Counsel. We gratefully acknowledge the work of Al Betz & Associates for helping us to memorialize this conversation. This work has been edited with the assistance of the NLRB Members and General Counsel for readability and clarity. Full audio of the Symposium can be accessed on our website.

–THE EDITORS