

Faculty Biographies

Bettye S. Bedwell serves as a U.S. Trustee for the Western District of Tennessee in Memphis, where she has been an attorney for 19 years and concentrates her practice exclusively in the area of bankruptcy law. In addition to her representation of consumer and business debtors, she is a member of the Tennessee Bar.

Amy F. Black is a law clerk for Hon. Paulette J. Delk, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Tennessee in Memphis. She has clerked for Judge Delk for 5 years, prior to which she was in private practice. Ms. Black received her J.D. from the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law.

David Blaylock is a member of Glankler Brown, PLLC in Memphis, where he concentrates his practice in the areas of creditors' rights, bankruptcy and insolvency, secured creditor representation and general commercial law. He has participated as a speaker in numerous seminars relating to bankruptcy and commercial law, has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* and *Mid-South Super Lawyer*, and was named a "Lawyer of the Year" (2013) by *Best Lawyers*. Mr. Blaylock is also a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, a member of the American, Tennessee, Mississippi and Memphis Bar Associations, and a board member of the Mid-South Commercial Law Institute. He received his B.A. from Vanderbilt University and his LL.B. from the University of Mississippi.

Charles D. Bullock is an attorney with Stevenson & Bullock, P.L.C. in Southfield, Mich. He is admitted to the State Bars of Michigan and Tennessee and is admitted to practice in the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, as well as the U.S. District Court for the Eastern and Western Districts of Michigan and the Western District of Tennessee. Mr. Bullock is a member of the Federal Bar Association, the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees, ABI and the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys. Prior to joining Stevenson & Bullock, he clerked for Hon. Bernice B. Donald of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Tennessee. He is an adjunct professor of bankruptcy at the Thomas M. Cooley Law School and testified before the U.S. Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Administrative Oversight and the Courts on "Could Bankruptcy Reform Help Preserve Small Business Jobs?" He is a frequent lecturer on bankruptcy-related topics for ABI and other professional organizations. A former contributing editor for *Norton Bankruptcy Law and Practice Treatise*, he has been recognized in *Michigan Super Lawyers* (2010-13) and *DBusiness Magazine* (2010-13). He received his B.A. from the University of Michigan and his J.D. from the University of Memphis.

Brian R. Cahn is a partner with Perrotta, Cahn & Associates, P.C. in Cartersville, Ga., where he practices consumer and business bankruptcy law, and he assists clients with debt settlement, debt-related litigation defense, FDCPA and FCRA litigation and foreclosure defense. He is admitted to the Georgia Bar, the U.S. District Courts for the Northern and Southern Districts of Georgia, the State of Georgia Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court for the State of Georgia. Mr. Cahn is a member of the State Bar of Georgia, the American Bar Association, the Bartow County Bar Association, the Bankruptcy Law Section for the State Bar of Georgia, the Georgia Legal Services Program *Pro Bono* Initiative, the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys (NACBA) and ABI. He received his B.B.A. in 1991 from the University of Georgia and his J.D. from Samford University, Cumberland School of Law in 1994.

Samuel K. Crocker was appointed as U.S. Trustee for Region 8 (Tennessee and Kentucky) in Memphis, Tenn., on July 17, 2011. He was a solo practitioner in Nashville for more than 25 years, practicing primarily in the areas of creditors' rights and bankruptcy. Mr. Crocker has been a member of the standing panel of chapter 7 trustees for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Tennessee since 1984. He is also a member of the Nashville and Tennessee Bar Associations, a board member and past president of the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees, and a former director of the Mid-South Commercial Law Institute. A frequent speaker, Mr. Crocker is a contributing editor to *NABTalk* and has written articles for the *Journal of the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees* and the *American Bankruptcy Law Journal*. He also authored "Dueling Statutes: Application of Code §§547(e)(2) and 547(c)(1) to Avoidance of Lien Perfection" in the 2009 *Norton Annual Survey of Bankruptcy Law*. He received his B.A. from Vanderbilt University and his J.D. from the University of Mississippi.

Hon. James L. Croom is a U.S. Bankruptcy Court Judge for the Western District of Tennessee in Jackson, appointed on March 20, 2013, by the U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Croom was previously an assistant U.S. attorney for the Western District of Tennessee, appointed in 1995. Prior to that, he served as an attorney/advisor in the Office of the U.S. Trustee for Region 8. During his time as an attorney, Judge Croom represented various federal agencies in civil matters before the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Tennessee and the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee, as well as the Second, Fifth and Sixth Circuit U.S. Courts of Appeals. He also prosecuted criminal cases before the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee and the U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Croom received his B.S. from the University of Tennessee and his J.D. from the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphrey's School of Law.

Melissa J. Davey is an associate in the Creditors' Rights and Bankruptcy Group at Stites & Harbison PLLC in Atlanta, where her practice focuses primarily on representing institutional lenders and other creditors in bankruptcy. Prior to joining Stites and Harbison, Ms. Davey was a staff attorney for a chapter 13 trustee in the Northern District of Georgia for more than six years. She also previously represented debtors in bankruptcy. Ms. Davey is currently the director-at-large for the board of the International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation's Georgia Network and is president of the Metro Atlanta Consumer Bankruptcy Attorney Group. She also serves as chair of the Bench and Bar Committee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Georgia and is a member of the State Bar of Georgia's Law School Outreach Committee. Ms. Davey earned her B.A. *magna cum laude* in political science and French from Tulane University and her J.D. from Emory University School of Law.

Hon. Paulette J. Delk is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Tennessee in Memphis. During law school, she served as a bankruptcy extern for Hon. Frederick J. Hertz, a bankruptcy judge for the Northern District of Illinois. Following law school, Judge Delk became an associate in the Creditors' Rights section of Winston & Strawn in its Chicago office and later was an associate with the Heiskell Donelson law firm (now Baker Donelson) in Memphis in its Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights Section. In 1987, Judge Delk began her academic career as a law professor at The University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law, where she taught debtor/creditor

law, secured transactions, remedies, franchising and business reorganizations under the Bankruptcy Code. As a law professor, Judge Delk received a fellowship from the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, and she served as faculty dean for the American Board of Certification. She is a recipient of the University of Memphis Law Alumni Association's Teaching Excellence Award and of the Association of Women Attorneys' Marion Griffin-Frances Loring Award for Excellence in law (2013). Judge Delk received her B.A. from Fisk University, her M.S.W. from Atlanta University and her J.D. from DePaul University.

Joel W. Giddens is a partner with Wilson & Associates, P.L.L.C. in Memphis, Tenn., where he is the supervising attorney for the firm's Tennessee bankruptcy attorneys. He has an extensive background in the bankruptcy courts of the Western, Middle and Eastern Districts and represents mortgage creditors in adversary proceedings in bankruptcy and in multiple real estate chapter 11 bankruptcy cases. Mr. Giddens is a current board member of the Memphis Bar Association's bankruptcy section and a member of the Tennessee Bar Association and the Western Division Liaison Committee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Tennessee. He received his B.A. from Rhodes College and his J.D. with high honors from Cecil C. Humphreys University of Memphis School of Law.

Layne Gillespie is an associate with Clark & Washington, LLC in Chattanooga, Tenn., where she has been practicing bankruptcy law since 2008. She began her legal career as an intern for Hon. Michael L. Moore, Circuit Court Judge for the 29th Judicial Circuit Court of Virginia. She subsequently worked as a guardian *ad litem* for ChildLaw Services, Inc. Ms. Gillespie received her Bachelor's degree from the University of South Carolina and her J.D. from the Appalachian School of Law.

Dale R.F. Goodman is an attorney with Goodman & Goodman, PC in Atlanta, where her practice specializes in bankruptcy-related matters. She is an ABI member and frequently participates in seminars for ABI, the Georgia and Atlanta Bar Associations, the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees and the Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia. She previously chaired the Bankruptcy sections of the State Bar of Georgia and the Atlanta Bar Association. Ms. Goodman is a chapter 7 panel trustee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Georgia and also served as chapter 11 trustee. She received her B.A. from Goucher College and her J.D. from Emory University School of Law.

Paul R. Hage is a partner in the Insolvency & Reorganization Practice Group at Jaffe, Raitt, Heuer & Weiss, P.C. in Southfield, Mich., where he specializes in representing debtors, creditors' committees, secured and unsecured creditors, asset purchasers and trustees in reorganizations, liquidations and other insolvency proceedings nationwide. Mr. Hage regularly speaks and writes for a number of organizations, including ABI, the American Bar Association Business Bankruptcy Committee, the Norton Institute on Bankruptcy Law, the State Bar of Michigan and the Turnaround Management Association. He is a coordinating editor for the *ABI Journal*, newsletter editor for the ABI's Unsecured Trade Creditors' Committee and a member of the editorial board for ABI's Volo Circuit Court Opinion First Responder. Mr. Hage earned his Bachelor's degree from James Madison College at Michigan State University, his J.D. from Loyola University Chicago School of Law and his LL.M. in bankruptcy from St. John's University School of Law.

Sean M. Haynes is a trial attorney in the Office of the U.S. Trustee in Memphis, Tenn. Prior to joining the U.S. Trustee's Office, he was an attorney at Baker, Donelson, Bearman & Caldwell, primarily focusing on the representation of secured creditors in bankruptcy and commercial litigation. Mr. Haynes received his B.A. from Vanderbilt University and his J.D. from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

Hon. David W. Houston, III is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Mississippi in Aberdeen, appointed in 1983. Previously, he was a special agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, a partner with Houston, Chamberlin and Houston, assistant district attorney for the First Circuit Court District of Mississippi, a municipal judge of the City of Aberdeen and a city attorney for Aberdeen. He is the recipient of Mississippi Bar Association's Judicial Excellence Award for 2011 and a Fellow of the Mississippi Bar Foundation. In addition, Judge Houston is chair of NCBJ's Legislative Committee, a former ABI director and a visiting bankruptcy judge in the Southern District of Mississippi, the Northern, Southern and Western Districts of Texas, and the Middle District of Louisiana. A frequent lecturer, he previously served as bankruptcy judge representative to the Judicial Council of the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Houston received his B.B.A. from the University of Mississippi and his J.D. from the University of Mississippi Law School.

David W. Houston, IV is a partner with Burr & Forman LLP in Nashville, Tenn., where he practices in the firm's Creditors' Rights and Bankruptcy group. He concentrates on commercial bankruptcy matters, including the representation of secured and unsecured creditors, committees, defendants in preference actions, corporate debtors and parties involved in out-of-court restructurings, including the representation of lenders initiating receiverships in federal and state courts. Mr. Houston has been recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America* in the area of bankruptcy law since 2010 and is a member of the Turnaround Management Association. He is a former advisory board member of ABI's Southeast Bankruptcy Workshop and is a former co-chair of ABI's Ethics and Professional Compensation Committee, as well as past director of the Mid-South Commercial Law Institute. He is also a past chair of the executive council for the Tennessee Bar Association's Bankruptcy Section, past chair of the Nashville Bar Association's Bankruptcy Court Committee and past chair of its local rules subcommittee. Mr. Houston is licensed in Tennessee and Mississippi. He earned his J.D. and his B.P.A. in criminal justice administration from the University of Mississippi.

Hon. David S. Kennedy was appointed in 1980 to the bankruptcy bench for the Western District of Tennessee in Memphis and has served as chief judge since 1988. He has also served as an adjunct professor at the University of Memphis Law School since 1981. Judge Kennedy formerly served as a member of the U.S. Judicial Conference's Committee on the Administration of the Bankruptcy System and of the Federal Judicial Center's Bankruptcy Judges Education Committee, having been appointed to both by Chief Justice Rehnquist. He was also a member of the Administrative Office's Bankruptcy Judges Advisory Group, which he chaired for a number of years. Judge Kennedy served as the nation's second bankruptcy judge ever to the U.S. Judicial Conference from 2008-09, having been appointed by Chief Justice Roberts. He is a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges and a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, and is the immediate past president of the University of Memphis Law School Alumni Association.

Hon. Jennie D. Latta is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Tennessee in Memphis, appointed on March 6, 1997, and reappointed to a second 14-year term on Feb. 14, 2011. She also served a four-year term on the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the Sixth Circuit from 2003-07. Previously, Judge Latta practiced with the firm of Krivcher, Magids, Neal, Cottam & Campbell, P.C., and served as chairman of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges' Public Outreach Committee from 2006-10. She is co-founder and chairman of the court's Bankruptcy *Pro Bono* Committee. In 2010, she received the Memphis Area Legal Services' W.J. Michael Cody *Pro Bono* Attorney of the Year award. Judge Latta earned both her B.A. *summa cum laude* and her J.D. from the University of Memphis and her M.A. from Saint Meinrad School of Theology.

Hon. Margaret Dee McGarity is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. Initially appointed in 1987 and reappointed to another 14-year term in 2001, she served as chief judge from 2003-10. She is a frequent lecturer on various marital property and bankruptcy-related topics, especially on the interrelationships between family law and the Bankruptcy Code. She is a co-author of *Marital Property Law in Wisconsin*, published by the State Bar of Wisconsin, and a co-author of *Collier Family Law and the Bankruptcy Code* and *Collier on Bankruptcy*, published by Matthew Bender/LexisNexis. Judge McGarity has authored articles dealing with the practical aspects of bankruptcy practice and is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy.

Nancy R. Rigell is a Standing Chapter 13 Trustee for the Western District of Tennessee in Memphis and has worked for the trustee's office since November 1991. Following law school, she served as a staff attorney. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Memphis in 1996 and her J.D. from the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphrey School of Law in 2000.

Carrie Ann Rohrscheib is a trial attorney with the Office of the U.S. Trustee for Region 8 in Memphis. Prior to joining the U.S. Department of Justice in 2009, she clerked for Hon. James H. Sledge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Alabama. After clerking, Ms. Rohrscheib was an associate in the insolvency department of a regional firm and later joined a Memphis creditors' rights boutique, where she practiced primarily in the areas of commercial litigation and business reorganization. She received her B.A. *cum laude* from Rhodes College and her J.D. *magna cum laude* from the University of Memphis, where she was articles editor of the *University of Memphis Law Review*.

Mark H. Shapiro is an attorney with Steinberg Shapiro & Clark in Southfield, Mich., where he also serves as a chapter 7 panel trustee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. He is admitted to practice before the Eastern and Western Districts of Michigan, the U.S. District Court and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. Mr. Shapiro is a member of the Federal Bar Association, the State Bar of Michigan, ABI and the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees and is a board member of the Consumer Bankruptcy Association. He received his B.A. from Kalamazoo College and his J.D. from Wayne State University Law School.

Brian L. Shaw is a member of Shaw Fishman Glantz & Towbin LLC in Chicago and has 19 years of experience representing debtors, secured and unsecured creditors, creditor and equity com-

mittees, chapter 7 and 11 trustees, and plaintiffs and defendants in bankruptcy-related litigation. Mr. Shaw is ABI's President-Elect and co-chairs its Young and New Members Committee. He is also a past chair of the Chicago Bar Association's Bankruptcy and Reorganization Committee. Mr. Shaw is a contributing editor to the *ABI Journal*, and he has authored or co-authored numerous articles in publications such as *Norton Bankruptcy Law Letter*, *The Bankruptcy Strategist*, *Business Credit* and *Credit Today*, as well as for the Illinois Institute of Continuing Legal Education. He has also spoken on a variety of bankruptcy-related topics at regional and national conferences, and he chaired ABI's inaugural Professional Development Program and regularly serves on the faculty of ABI's Litigation Skills Symposium. Mr. Shaw is admitted to practice in Illinois, the U.S. District Courts for the Northern and Central Districts of Illinois, the Eastern District of Wisconsin and the Northern District of Indiana, the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Seventh and Eighth Circuits, and the U.S. Supreme Court. He is also admitted to the Federal Trial Bar for the Northern District of Illinois and is a *magna cum laude* graduate of the University of Illinois College of Law.

Donna T. Snow is a law clerk for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Tennessee in Memphis, serving as clerk for the last 15 years. Prior to joining the court, she was in private practice. Ms. Snow received her J.D. from the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law.

Hon. Kathy A. Surratt-States was sworn in as a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri in St. Louis on March 17, 2003. From 1991-93, she was law clerk to Hon. James J. Barta in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, and from 1993-98, she was an associate with Campbell & Coyne P.C. She later joined Ziercher & Hocker, P.C., eventually rising to partner, then Husch & Eppenberger, LLC as a result of a merger, where she practiced in its Insolvency Practice Group. In 1997, she was appointed as chapter 7 trustee for Family Company of America (d/b/a National Supermarkets). In 2000, the Missouri Supreme Court appointed her to its Regional Disciplinary Committee, and in 2001, she was appointed by then-Gov. Bob Holden as one of four commissioners for the St. Louis City Board of Election Commissioners. Judge Surratt-States was featured as one of five "Up and Coming Lawyers" by *Missouri Lawyers Weekly* in 1999. She has been a member of the Missouri Bar and the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis, for which she served as co-chair of its Bankruptcy Committee; the Mound City Bar Association, for which she served as corresponding secretary; the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges; the National Association of Women Judges; ABI; and the American Bar Association. She received her B.A. *cum laude* from Oklahoma City University in 1988 and her J.D. from Washington University School of Law in 1991.

Michael T. Tabor is the founder of Michael Tabor Attorney at Law in Jackson, Tenn., where he primarily represents clients in chapters 7 trustee cases and has practiced extensively in the area of bankruptcy for more than 25 years. He has also served on the panel of chapter 7 trustees for the Western District of Tennessee for almost 23 years, is a member of the Tennessee Bar Association and is a board member of the Mid-South Commercial Law Institute. Mr. Tabor received his B.S. with high honors from the University of Tennessee and his J.D. from the University of Tennessee College of Law, where he was a member of the *Tennessee Law Review*.

Molly Williams is an attorney with Ashley, Ashley & Arnold in Dyersburg, Tenn., where she focuses her practice in estates, social security disability, creditor bankruptcy and commercial litigation. She represents corporations and individuals, as well as nonprofit groups, and is experienced in collecting commercial debts, collateral liquidations and guarantee enforcement. She has also served as a chapter 7 and chapter 12 trustee for the Western District of Tennessee since 2000 and currently serves as the city judge for Halls, Tenn. Ms. Williams is a member of the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees, a Fellow of the Tennessee Bar Association and a former chairman of the Tennessee Commission on CLE and Specialization. She received her J.D. from Vanderbilt Law School.