

Faculty Biographies

Lawrence R. Ahern, III practices alternative dispute resolution and consulting with Brown & Ahern in Brentwood, Tenn., where he focuses on consulting with law firms and financial professionals on commercial and bankruptcy law issues, expert testimony, alternative dispute resolution, writing and teaching. He is a Rule 31 Mediator in Tennessee and has been certified since 1994 as a Business Bankruptcy Specialist by the American Board of Certification and the Tennessee Commission on CLE & Specialization. He also serves as director of the Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Advisors. Mr. Ahern is a long-standing member of the ABC, having served as current director, past chair and emeritus director. He has also served as chair of the Tennessee Commission and is a former ABI director, Tennessee director and former president of the Turnaround Management Association, among others. He has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* (1989-present) in business reorganization, creditors' rights and bankruptcy litigation, and he is listed in the *Nashville Business Journal's* "Best of the Bar" and "Mid-South Super Lawyers" in bankruptcy. He is a frequent speaker and is an author and co-author of several national Thomson West publications, and he contributed to the "Secured Transactions and Mortgages" chapters of *The Law of Debtors and Creditors* (Thomson Reuters). He is also a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and the American College of Mortgage Attorneys. Mr. Ahern serves on the advisory board of the St. John's School of Law LL.M. in Bankruptcy program and was a visiting professor at Cumberland School of Law in the fall of 2002, where he taught secured transactions and banking. Mr. Ahern is a graduate of Vanderbilt University Law School and has served there as an adjunct professor.

Kevin D. Anderson is a partner with BDO USA, LLP in Bethesda, Md., where his practice focuses on mergers and acquisitions and S corporations. He also chairs the firm's Corporate Tax and S Corporation Tax Consulting Groups, is a member of the Tax Quality Control Committee and leads the firm's national tax training efforts. Mr. Anderson was a member of the Treasury Department's Office of Tax Policy and was an associate tax legislative counsel from 1995-98. In January 2011, he began a three-year term as a member of the IRS Advisory Council. He is also a member of the S Corporations Technical Resource Panel of the Tax Division of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Mr. Anderson received his J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School and his B.B.A. from the University of Wisconsin - Whitewater.

Kreshnik Arifi is a vice president and asset-based loans relationship manager with Wells Fargo Capital Finance in Chicago. He manages an ABL portfolio of clients in a variety of industries with credit facilities ranging from \$8-\$35 million and annual revenues ranging from \$25-\$400. Mr. Arifi received both his B.A. and his M.B.A. from Bradley University.

Brian Audette is a partner with Perkins Coie LLP in Chicago, where he focuses on bankruptcy, creditors' rights and general commercial litigation. He represents lenders, creditors, trustees, assignees for the benefit of creditors and debtors in chapter 7 liquidation proceedings, chapter 11, reorganization proceedings, state court foreclosure actions, and out-of-court restructurings and liquidations. He has experience representing debtors and lenders in chapter 11 reorganization cases involving hotels across the country. Mr. Audette has also been a member of the private panel of chapter 7 trustees for the Northern District of Illinois since 2010. He is a member of ABI and the International Council of Shopping Centers. Mr. Audette received his B.A. in psychology and organizational behavior management from Brown University in 1997 and his J.D. *cum laude* from

Loyola University Chicago School of Law in 2002, where he was assistant features editor and news editor for the *Public Interest Law Reporter*.

Mohammed Badwan is a senior associate and head of the Bankruptcy Group at Sulaiman Law Group, Ltd. in Oak Brook, Ill., where he focuses on consumer bankruptcy as well as misdemeanor and felony cases. He currently practices in both federal and state courts. Mr. Badwan received his B.A. in psychology from the University of Illinois in 2006 and his J.D. from Southern Illinois University School of Law in 2009.

Hon. Janet S. Baer is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Illinois in Chicago, appointed on March 5, 2012. Previously, she was a restructuring lawyer for more than 25 years and was involved in some of the most significant chapter 11 bankruptcy cases in the country. The majority of her practice focused on the representation of large, publicly held debtors in both restructuring and chapter 11 matters, and she also represented companies in commercial litigation matters, including lender liability, fraud, breach of contract and breach of fiduciary duty. Prior to forming her own firm in 2009, Judge Baer was a partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP, Winston & Strawn and Schwartz, Cooper, Greenberger & Krauss. She is currently the judicial chair of ABI's Chicago Consumer Bankruptcy Conference, a board member of the Chicago chapter of the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation and a member of the Chicago Bench/Bar Liaison Committee. Judge Baer earned her B.A. from the University of Wisconsin - Madison and her J.D. from DePaul College of Law.

Bernadette M. Barron is president of Barron Business Consulting in Chicago and has more than 30 years of senior managerial experience with turnaround assignments in more than 30 industries, primarily in the middle market. In addition to successfully guiding companies through financial turnarounds, she has taken companies through bankruptcy, liquidated corporate assets, negotiated equity and debt structures, reconciled accounting and tax records, and been actively involved in the acquisition and divestiture of corporate assets and companies. Previously, she was managing director at Morris Anderson & Associates, Ltd. and owned a business consulting firm that provided clients with turnaround, interim-management, operational, accounting, legal and tax advice and strategy implementation. Ms. Barron is involved with the Turnaround Management Association, the International Women in Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation and ABI. She is also an Illinois-licensed C.P.A. Ms. Barron received her LL.M. from New York University, her J.D. from John Marshall Law School, her M.B.A. from DePaul University and her B.A. from Wayne State University.

Larry E. Bickelhaupt is a senior vice president at Associated Bank in Milwaukee, where he oversees the bank's Special Loan Group (SLG). Previously, he was with the Marine Corporation and First Bank Systems. Mr. Bickelhaupt also has experience in consumer lending, floor-plan lending and leasing. He received his B.A. from the University of Wisconsin.

Phillip W. Bohl is a principal with Gray Plant Mooty in Minneapolis, where his practice focuses on business reorganization, bankruptcy and commercial payment services. He represents secured and unsecured creditors in business workouts, reorganizations and bankruptcies. Mr. Bohl has signifi-

cant experience representing asset-purchasers in chapter 11 and 7 cases as well as other insolvency settings. He also counsels clients with payment systems operations and regulations. Mr. Bohl is a frequent speaker. He received his B.S. with distinction from the University of Nebraska in 1976 and his J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School in 1982.

Lynn M. Brimer is a shareholder at Strobl & Sharp, PC in Bloomfield Hills, Mich., where she has extensive experience in all phases of bankruptcy practice and has represented the Internal Revenue Service in all aspects of chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings. In several cases, she also represented the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Ms. Brimer is the co-chair of the Bankruptcy Section of the Eastern District of Michigan Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, a member of the Advisory Committee of the Eastern District of Michigan Bankruptcy Court and the Debtor/Creditor Section of the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association, and a member of the Business Law and Litigation Sections of the State Bar of Michigan, the State Bar of Illinois and the Debtor/Creditor Section of the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association. Ms. Brimer has written and spoken extensively for organizations such as the Federal Bar Association and the Michigan Institute for Continuing Legal Education. She received her B.A. and M.A. from the University of Michigan and her J.D. from Loyola University of Chicago School of Law.

Jason S. Brookner is a member of Gray Reed & McGraw, PC's Corporate Restructuring and Bankruptcy practice in Dallas, where he represents and advises companies, buyers, creditors, trustees, committees, lenders and other constituents in all aspects of distressed, insolvency and restructuring scenarios. Mr. Brookner has been profiled as one of the leading "Bankruptcy/Restructuring Lawyers in Texas" by *Chambers USA* since 2005 and as a "Texas Super Lawyer" in *Texas Monthly* (2004, 2008-11), and has been named one of the "Best Business Lawyers in Dallas in Bankruptcy" by *D Magazine* (2009). He was a law clerk to Hon. Charles N. Clevert, Jr., formerly the Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin. Mr. Brookner chaired the Dallas Bar Association's Bankruptcy and Commercial Law Section (2007), and as co-chaired ABI's Commercial Fraud Committee (2010-12). He currently co-chairs ABI's Technology and IP Committee and is a frequent speaker and writer on bankruptcy issues. Mr. Brookner received his B.A. from the University of New York at Binghamton and his J.D. from Hofstra University School of Law, where he was the articles editor of the *Hofstra Property Law Journal*.

Marc Brown is a director with AlixPartners LLP in Chicago, where his practice focuses on valuation consulting. He has valued hundreds of companies and assets for bankruptcy and distressed situations, mergers and acquisitions, litigation and other disputes, strategic assessments and financial and tax reporting. Mr. Brown has calculated damages and provided expert witness testimony, and he has considerable experience with valuation and transaction disputes. He has advised on restructuring and sale scenarios, valuation disputes, contract-rejection analyses, liquidation analyses and cash-flow modeling. Mr. Brown is a CFA charterholder and member of the CFA institute, ABI and TMA. He received his B.S. in finance from the University of Illinois and his M.B.A. from the University of Chicago.

Deborah J. Caruso is a partner with Dale & Eke, PC in Indianapolis, where she focuses on business restructuring, bankruptcy, creditors' rights and state court receiverships. She has represented

individuals and businesses in chapter 7, 11 and 13 cases for more than 33 years. Ms. Caruso is a chapter 7 panel trustee and represents other bankruptcy trustees and state court receivers. She was selected as an Indiana *Super Lawyer* from 2005-13 and was included on the list of Top 25 Indiana Female Super Lawyers from 2006-13. Ms. Caruso received both her A.B. *cum laude* and her J.D. *cum laude* from Indiana University.

Stephen A. Claffey is a partner with Faegre Baker Daniels LLP in Indianapolis, where he concentrates his practice in business, commercial and financial transactions and general business organization representations. His practice includes general and transactional representation, representation of select companies in financial distress, debt restructuring, workouts or reorganizations, and representation of financial institutions and commercial lenders in connection with all facets of their lending and leasing operations. Mr. Claffey received his A.B. from Wabash College and his J.D. *summa cum laude* from Washington University, where he a member of the Order of the Coif and an editor for *Law Quarterly*.

Hon. Katherine A. Constantine is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Minnesota in Minneapolis. Prior to her appointment to the bench, she was a partner in the Finance and Restructuring Department of Dorsey & Whitney LLP, for which she chaired its Bankruptcy and Restructuring Practice Group in Minneapolis. Judge Constantine has represented a variety of parties in the bankruptcy process. She is a frequent lecturer, has been named “Best Lawyer” and won other awards for her legal work. Judge Constantine received her undergraduate degree *cum laude* from Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in 1977 and her J.D. from the Georgetown Law Center in 1980.

Randall D. Crocker is president and CEO of von Briesen & Roper, s.c. in Milwaukee, where he chairs the firm’s Banking, Bankruptcy and Business Restructuring Practice Group. He represents businesses and institutions in matters of commercial finance, commercial transactions, commercial litigation, banking, business restructuring and bankruptcy. Mr. Crocker is a two-term past president of the Milwaukee Bar Association Bankruptcy Section, a past board member of the State Bar of Wisconsin’s Debtor, Creditor and Insolvency Rights Section and a member of the Board of Governors of the Seventh Circuit Bar Association, for which he chairs its Bankruptcy Law and Procedure Committee. Mr. Crocker received his B.A. from Drake University in 1976 and his J.D. from Marquette University 1979.

Allan B. Diamond is the managing partner of Diamond McCarthy LLP in Houston and New York, where he focuses on complex business litigation, particularly matters involving insolvency and international cross-border litigation. He is a member of the Congress of Fellows for the Center for International Legal Studies, the International Business Law Consortium, the American Bar Association’s International Litigation Division, ABI and INSOL. Mr. Diamond is a vice chairman of the Advisory Board for Emory University School of Law in Atlanta and was co-chair of the State Bar of Texas’s Advanced Bankruptcy Litigation Committee. He clerked for Hon. James C. Hill of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, has been named a *Texas Super Lawyer* (2003-14) and is a frequent national and international lecturer and panelist. Mr. Diamond received his J.D. from Emory University School of Law.

David J. Distel is a partner and senior managing director for O’Keefe in Grand Rapids, Mich., where his practice focuses on insolvency and bankruptcy matters, turnaround consulting and litigation support throughout the Midwest. Prior to joining O’Keefe, he was an auditor and consultant with Deloitte & Touche and had senior financial and operational roles, including controller, chief financial officer and chief operating officer. Mr. Distel is a member of the Turnaround Management Association, ABI, Association for Corporate Growth, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants and the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners. He is an ABV, CFF and CTP and is licensed in Michigan and New York as a Certified Public Accountant. Mr. Distel holds a B.A. from Michigan State University.

Deborah K. Ebner is the principal of The Law Office of Deborah Kanner Ebner, a bankruptcy boutique law firm in Chicago. She has practiced bankruptcy law for 30 years and has served as a Federal Bankruptcy Trustee for the Northern District of Illinois since 1983, and was appointed chapter 12 trustee in 1986 for that district. She has served as a faculty member for the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers on the issue of the intersection of bankruptcy and divorce, and to numerous bar associations including the Illinois, Chicago and Will County Bar Associations. In addition, *Leading Lawyers Network* named her one of the top lawyers in Illinois.

Devon J. Eggert is a partner in the Bankruptcy and Financial Restructuring Practice Group of Freeborn & Peters LLP in Chicago, where he represents debtors, creditors’ committees and secured and unsecured creditors in chapter 11 proceedings and out-of-court restructurings. His practice covers all aspects of chapter 11 cases, including debtor-in-possession financing and cash-collateral issues, § 363 sale transactions and plan-confirmation disputes. Mr. Eggert has represented both trustees and defendants in preference, fraudulent conveyance and other complex bankruptcy litigation. He received his B.S. from Clemson University and his J.D. *cum laude* from DePaul University College of Law.

Bill T. Frazier is a principal and managing director with Raintree Capital Partners, LLC in Lakewood, Ohio, where he specializes in turnaround management advisory, fiduciary services, capital placement and asset divestitures. He has over 30 years of experience as a financial advisor to debtors and secured creditors. Mr. Frazier received his undergraduate degree in accounting and finance and his M.B.A. from the University of Texas.

Joe Gessner is a senior manager of BMO Harris Bank’s Special Accounts Management Unit in Milwaukee, where he oversees large commercial real estate exposures throughout the bank’s U.S. footprint. He has more than 30 years of experience in banking and real estate, and he assumed responsibility for the CRE Large Exposure unit in March 2012. Mr. Gessner received his B.B.A. from the University of Wisconsin.

Hon. A. Benjamin Goldgar was appointed a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Illinois in Chicago in 2003. From 1982-95, Judge Goldgar was in private practice with the Chicago firm of Keck, Mahin and Cate. In 1995, he joined the Illinois Attorney General’s Office as an assistant attorney general in its Civil Appeals Division. He became a supervising attorney in the Division in 1997, serving there until his appointment to the bench. During his tenure with the Attorney

General's Office, Judge Goldgar represented Illinois departments, agencies and officials in more than 140 appeals and original actions in state and federal reviewing courts, presenting more than 50 oral arguments. Judge Goldgar has lectured on bankruptcy, bankruptcy practice, appellate practice, appellate jurisdiction, litigation skills and brief-writing. He has taught appellate advocacy at Loyola University of Chicago Law School and is a past president of the Illinois Appellate Lawyers Association, and he currently serves as an associate editor of the *American Bankruptcy Law Journal*. Judge Goldgar received his A.B. *magna cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa from Brown University and his J.D. from Northwestern University School of Law, where he was a member of the *Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology*.

Hon. Robert E. Grant was appointed a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Indiana in Fort Wayne in 1987. He was previously an attorney with Baker & Daniels. Judge Grant received his B.A. from Wabash College in 1977 and his J.D. from Dickinson School of Law in 1980.

Paul R. Hage is a partner in the Insolvency & Reorganization Practice Group at Jaffe, Raitt, Heuer & Weiss, PC 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*, a former newsletter editor for 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.

Hon. Arthur I. Harris was appointed as U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Ohio in Cleveland on Oct. 7, 2002. He also served as a judge on the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the Sixth Circuit and on the Judicial Conference's Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules from 2009-13. Following law school, Judge Harris clerked for Hon. John M. Manos, a U.S. District Judge in Cleveland. He then served as an assistant U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Ohio for 18 years until his appointment to the bench. Judge Harris's practice in the U.S. Attorney's office covered a wide variety of federal litigation, although he focused on environmental law and bankruptcy. From 1991-93, he served as an adjunct faculty member at Case Western Reserve University School of Law. He received his B.A. from Cornell University in 1979 and his J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School in 1982, where he was a member of the *Michigan Law Review*.

Marion A. Hecht is a managing director of CliftonLarsonAllen LLP in its Forensic, Litigation and Valuation Division in Arlington, Va., where she has extensive experience tracing the flow of illegal payments through slush funds and multi-tiered entities. Her experience includes tracking and identifying shell companies and other entities used to divert funds for illegitimate purposes. She has conducted offshore investigations in South Korea, the U.K., India and the Caribbean in support of domestic SBIC receivership litigation. Ms. Hecht is also a CPA in the state of Virginia and a Certified Fraud Examiner and holds the designations of CIRA and CFF. She is a member of the Virginia Society of CPAs and AICPA, the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners and the Washington

Metro Chapter of CFEs, and she is the former director of the Virginia Society of CPAs Education Foundation. Ms. Hecht received her B.S. from Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, Md., and her M.B.A. *beta gamma sigma* from Loyola College.

Hon. Pamela S. Hollis is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Illinois in Chicago, appointed to a 14-year term on Jan. 27, 2003. Before assuming the bench, she concentrated her practice in business bankruptcy matters for more than 20 years as a partner in private practice with Hollis and Johnson, Hinshaw and Culbertson and the Law Offices of Pamela Hollis. Upon graduation from law school, Judge Hollis practiced with Hinshaw and Culbertson in Chicago for 10 years, focusing on commercial litigation and initiating the firm's bankruptcy practice. She then founded Hollis and Johnson, serving on the private panel of bankruptcy trustees for the Northern District of Illinois. A substantial portion of her trial and appellate work centered on representing asbestos victims in mass tort bankruptcies. Judge Hollis was a member of the Private Panel of Bankruptcy Trustees for the Northern Employment District of Illinois from 1988-2003 and is currently a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, the Florida Bar Association, the Union League Club of Chicago, the Federal Bar Association and ABI. She also served on the Executive Committee to implement electronic case filing and management for the Northern District of Illinois Bankruptcy Court, and chairs the Chambers Interface Committee, which is charged with developing software to efficiently permit judges and staff to prepare for court calls electronically. She received her B.S. *cum laude* from the University of Illinois and her J.D. from Chicago Law School.

John P. Kapitan is a senior attorney at the firm of Trott & Trott, PC in Farmington Hills, Mich., where he specializes in bankruptcy law. He is a member of the State Bar of Michigan and is admitted to practice in Michigan, the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern and Western Districts of Michigan, and the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. Mr. Kapitan has also lectured on bankruptcy issues in mortgage servicing and has authored and coauthored several articles. He received his J.D. from Michigan State University, Detroit College of Law.

Douglas W. Kassebaum is a senior associate at Fredrikson & Byron, PA, in Minneapolis, where he practices in its Bankruptcy, Restructuring & Workouts Group. He represents companies and individuals in out-of-court workouts and in chapter 11 and 7 proceedings. Mr. Kassebaum is a frequent speaker on topics relating to individual indebtedness, such as guarantor liability and individual chapter 11 cases. Prior to attending law school, he spent nine years as a plant manager and regional manager for a closely held manufacturer of ceramic supplies. Mr. Kassebaum earned his B.A. from Duke University and his J.D. from the University of Wisconsin.

Steven J. Katzman is a partner at Bienert, Miller & Katzman, PLC in San Clemente, Calif., where he specializes in complex federal insolvency and commercial litigation. From 2003-08, Mr. Katzman served as U.S. Trustee for the Southern District of California and the Districts of Hawaii, Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands, and from 2003-06, he served as U.S. Trustee for the Central District of California. Mr. Katzman was responsible for the oversight of seven offices, 57 chapter 7 trustees and eight chapter 13 trustees, and chaired a national U.S. Trustee Program group that developed litigation strategies to redress creditor abuses of the bankruptcy system. Prior to that, Mr. Katzman served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for eight years, and from 1991-96 he prosecuted bankruptcy fraud and related crimes in the Central District of California. From 1996-99, he established and

managed a new office of the U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio. His numerous trials and appeals included the prosecution of attorneys, accountants and corporate officers for embezzlement, concealment of assets, tax offenses, complex bank and mail fraud, and death threats against a federal bankruptcy judge. A frequent speaker at ABI conferences and for the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees and the Justice Department's national training facilities, Mr. Katzman is a 1987 graduate of the University of California School of Law at Davis and served as law clerk for Bankruptcy Judge John E. Ryan in the Central District of California.

Hon. Susan V. Kelley is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. Prior to her appointment, she was a partner in the Madison, Wis., office of Michael, Best & Friedrich and also practiced with the Madison law firms of Lee, Kilkelly, Paulson & Younger and Murphy & Desmond, and the Baltimore firm of Weinberg and Green. She is certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. Judge Kelley is active in the State Bar of Wisconsin, having chaired its Bankruptcy Insolvency and Creditors' Rights Section for four years, and is a former member of the executive committee of the board of governors. She has also co-chaired the Gender Equity Committee and is a member of the Convention and Entertainment Committee of the State Bar of Wisconsin. Judge Kelley has authored the debtor/creditor law chapter of the *Annual Survey of Wisconsin Law* for 10 years and is the editor-in-chief of the fifth edition of *Ginsberg & Martin on Bankruptcy*, published by Aspen Publishing. She is also an adjunct professor at Marquette University Law School. Judge Kelley received her J.D. from the Columbus School of Law at the Catholic University of America and her B.A. from Marquette University.

Jerome R. Kerkman is the founder and principal of Kerkman & Dunn in Milwaukee, where he concentrates on chapter 11 representations business litigation and creditor/debtor law. He has represented chapter 11 debtors in a number of large cases, including Bulk Petroleum Corporation, Muth Mirror Systems, LLC and P.A. Bergner/Carson/Pirie Scott/Boston Store. Mr. Kerkman received his J.D. from the University of Wisconsin and his undergraduate degree from Lawrence University.

Hon. J. Philip Klingeberger is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Indiana in Hammond, appointed on June 16, 2003. From 1975-85, he was in private practice in northwest Indiana, and from 1986-2003, he was the Assistant U.S. Attorney at the Office of the U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Indiana. Judge Klingeberger received his B.A. from Grinnell College in 1972 and his J.D. from Indiana University School of Law.

J. David Krekeler is a principal and shareholder of Krekeler Strother, S.C. in Madison, Wis., where he focuses on debtor/creditor bankruptcy matters, representing both individuals and corporations. He has practiced law for more than 30 years. Mr. Krekeler has been included in the 2007-10 editions of *The Best Lawyers in America* and has authored numerous articles on bankruptcy and collection. He received his B.S. from the University of Missouri and his J.D. from the University of Wisconsin.

Caralyce M. Lassner is a principal in the firm of Caralyce M. Lassner, JD, PC in Utica, Mich., where she practices exclusively in the area of consumer bankruptcy. She has been in practice for

more than 10 years. She also has experience in family law, civil and contract litigation, administrative law and estate planning. Ms. Lassner is admitted to the State Bar of Michigan, the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern and Western Districts of Michigan and the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio. She is an active member of the Consumer Bankruptcy Association and ABI. Ms. Lassner was appointed to the CBA board of directors in 2009 and 2011. She served on the planning committees for the annual CBA-ABI Detroit Consumer Bankruptcy Conference from 2010-12, the annual ICLE-CBA Consumer Bankruptcy Institute and the 2011 FBA/CBA Trial Advocacy Workshop, and she assisted in the planning and development of the ICLE Bankruptcy Bootcamp, held in spring 2011. Ms. Lassner was named the Consumer Bankruptcy Association's 2010 Member of the Year and formerly served as ABI's Consumer Bankruptcy Committee listserve moderator. She developed and moderates CBA's "Bankruptcy Basics Series" and has spoken at numerous seminars on the topic of pleadings, case preparation and best practices. Ms. Lassner has also authored and coauthored materials presented at several local and national bankruptcy seminars. She received her J.D. from Thomas M. Cooley Law School in 2000.

Barry P. Lefkowitz is a partner with BL Consultants, LLC in Southfield, Mich., where he specializes in bankruptcy, insolvency and other business restructuring matters, representing creditors, creditors' committees, debtors, trustees and other parties. In 1992, Mr. Lefkowitz was one of the original 50 individuals in the U.S. to receive certification as a Certified Insolvency and Restructuring Advisor (CIRA). His industry experience includes transportation and service industries, automotive and other service suppliers. He specializes in a wide range of bankruptcy, insolvency and other litigation support matters predominantly for troubled businesses. Mr. Lefkowitz is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants, Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Advisors, National Association of Credit Managers and ABI. He received his B.A. from Wayne State University.

James A. Lodoen is a partner with Lindquist & Vennum LLP in Minneapolis, where he co-chairs the firm's Financial Restructuring and Bankruptcy Practice Group and represents lenders, debtors, committees and buyers in bankruptcy cases and workouts, and has been involved in numerous 363 sales. Mr. Lodoen is a frequent lecturer and author on various bankruptcy and debtor/creditor issues. He has practiced law at Lindquist & Vennum since 1987 and previously served as judicial law clerk to Hon. William A. Hill, a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of North Dakota. He is recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America* and in *Super Lawyers*, and he is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. Mr. Lodoen received his J.D. in 1985 from the University of North Dakota School of Law and his B.S. from North Dakota State University.

Christina M. Lucas is a managing director and founding member of Applied Business Strategy, LLC in Newbury, Ohio, where she is in charge of secured lending functions for both KeyBank and National City Bank. She has worked with secured lenders, creditors, corporate boards, equity funds, private-equity funds and companies. She has also been responsible for leading the underwriting, structuring and monitoring/collection efforts for a number of secured-debt transactions. Ms. Lucas received her B.A. from Lake Erie College and is a CPA.

Hon. Keith M. Lundin is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Tennessee in Nashville, where he has been serving since 1982. He also served on the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the Sixth Circuit from 1997-99. Judge Lundin has been an adjunct professor for Vanderbilt University School of Law and Emory University School of Law, as well as a visiting professor for the University of New Mexico School of Law. He is a member of the National Bankruptcy Conference and has been the assistant editor for the *American Bankruptcy Law Journal*, a contributing editor for *Norton Bankruptcy Law and Practice* and managing editor for the *Norton Bankruptcy Law Adviser*. He also co-authored *Chapter 13 Bankruptcy*.

Robert E. McKenzie is a partner with Arnstein & Lehr LLP in Chicago, where he focuses on representations before the IRS and state tax agencies. He has also lectured extensively on taxation. Mr. McKenzie served as a member of the IRS Advisory Council from 2009-11 and was the vice-chair of the Professional Service section of the ABA Tax Section. He received his J.D. from the Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago Kent College of Law.

Hon. Daniel S. Opperman is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan in Flint and Bay City, sworn in on July 13, 2006. Prior to taking the bench, he practiced with Braun Kendrick Finkbeiner concentrating in litigation, bankruptcy and real estate. He earned his B.S. *magna cum laude* from Eastern Michigan University and his J.D. *magna cum laude* from Wayne State University Law School. While at Wayne State University, Judge Opperman was a member of the *Wayne Law Review* and served as note and comment editor.

Hon. Pamela Pepper is Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. She was initially appointed on July 5, 2005, and named chief judge on July 1, 2010. Prior to her appointment, she joined the U.S. Attorney's Office in Chicago and moved to the Milwaukee U.S. Attorney's Office in 1994. Judge Pepper was previously a solo criminal defense practitioner, representing clients in federal trial courts and in the Seventh Circuit, as well as in Wisconsin state court. She holds a graduate certificate in dispute resolution from Marquette University and has taught legal writing and law practice management at Marquette Law School. Judge Pepper is a member of the State Bar of Wisconsin, the Association for Women Lawyers, the Seventh Circuit Bar Association, the American Bar Association, the Eastern District of Wisconsin Bar Association and the NACTT Academy for Consumer Bankruptcy Education. Previously, she served on the boards of Federal Defender Services and the State Public Defender. She is a former president of the Milwaukee Bar Association and co-chairs its Bankruptcy Bench/Bar Committee. Judge Pepper is a member of ABI, for which she served as co-chair and education director of its Consumer Bankruptcy Committee, and of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, for which she is an associate editor of the *American Bankruptcy Law Journal*. She also serves on the Human Resources Advisory Council of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts and speaks at Federal Judicial Center programs. Judge Pepper received her undergraduate degree in theater from Northwestern University and her J.D. from Cornell Law School, where she was a notes editor on the *Cornell Law Review* and a teaching assistant.

Nancy A. Peterman is chair of Greenberg Traurig, LLP's Business Reorganization & Financial Restructuring Department in Chicago and concentrates her practice on corporate restructurings, bankruptcy and creditors' rights law. She has a wide range of experience representing debtors,

asset-purchasers, committees and secured creditors. Ms. Peterman is member of ABI's Executive Committee and is a former chair of the Chicago Bar Association's Bankruptcy & Reorganization Committee. She also assisted in drafting the health care bankruptcy provisions of the 2005 amendments to the Bankruptcy Code. Ms. Peterman is listed in *Chambers & Partners USA Guide, Best Lawyers in America*, "Illinois Super Lawyers" and "Leading Lawyers Network," was named "Restructuring Lawyer of the Year" by *Global M&A Network* in 2013 and is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. She was also inducted into the American College of Bankruptcy as a Fellow in 2011. Ms. Peterman earned her J.D. and undergraduate degrees from the University of Michigan.

Kathy Bazoian Phelps is a partner in the law firm of Diamond McCarthy LLP in Los Angeles and has been practicing in the areas of bankruptcy and fraud litigation since 1991, representing bankruptcy trustees, receivers, defendants and investors. She is well versed in all issues arising in Ponzi cases and has been lead counsel in large-scale litigation involving recovery of assets in those types of fraud cases. Ms. Phelps co-authored *The Ponzi Book: A Legal Resource for Unraveling Ponzi Schemes* (2012). She is also the editor of the *Receivership News* and recently published *Ponzi-Proof Your Investments: An Investor's Guide to Avoiding Ponzi Schemes and Other Fraudulent Scams*. She has lectured widely and written on bankruptcy and receivership matters for ABI, the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees, the Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Accountants, the International Association for Asset Recovery, the National Association of Attorneys General and the California Bankruptcy Forum. She received her B.A. from Pomona College and her J.D. from the University of California at Los Angeles.

Victoria E. Powers is a partner with Ice Miller LLP in Columbus, Ohio, where she co-chairs its Bankruptcy and Financial Restructuring Group. She focuses her practice on complex chapter 11 cases, corporate trust and municipal default, litigation, foreclosure and receivership, creditor remedies, out-of-court workouts, business and asset sale transactions and health law-related matters. Previously, she served on the firm's management. Ms. Powers was listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* in 2005-13. She received her B.A. from Mount Holyoke College in 1981 and her J.D. from the University of California, Hastings College of Law in 1987.

Christopher J. Redmond is a partner with Husch Blackwell LLP in Kansas City, Mo., where he concentrates on complex litigation and insolvency proceedings both in domestic and cross-border cases. Mr. Redmond has a substantial practice in tracing and recovering funds transferred to off-shore jurisdictions, especially in large fraud cases. He also serves as a chapter 11 and 7 trustee. Mr. Redmond is widely recognized for his involvement in international insolvency and international litigation matters. He has been listed in *The Best Lawyers of America* as one of the best bankruptcy attorneys in the U.S. for more than 20 years and is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy. He was listed as a Missouri and Kansas *Super Lawyer* in the area of bankruptcy and creditor/debtor rights law from 2008-13. Mr. Redmond has been a representative to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) on behalf of the American Bar Association and the U.S., and was instrumental in assisting in the development of the UNCITRAL Legislative Guide on Insolvency. He served as a member of the expert group to UNCITRAL and also served as a representative on behalf of UNCITRAL in coordination with The Hague Conference on insolvency

matters. Mr. Redmond is a frequent speaker at many ABI and ABA events. He received his J.D. and his A.B. from the University of Kansas.

Hon. Steven W. Rhodes is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan in Detroit. From 1997-2004 and 2008-11, he also served on the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel of the Sixth Circuit, the last three years as chief judge. Judge Rhodes has served as an adjunct professor at the University of Michigan Law School teaching bankruptcy law and is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy. He is also co-author of *The Ponzi Book: A Legal Resource for Unraveling Ponzi Schemes* and is overseeing Detroit's municipal bankruptcy case. Judge Rhodes has spoken at numerous conferences and seminars on bankruptcy law and practice, and his publications include "The Ethical Obligations of a Chapter 7 Trustee," 80 *Am. Bankr. L.J.* 147 (2006); "An Empirical Study of Consumer Bankruptcy Papers," 73 *Am. Bankr. L.J.* 653 (Summer 1999); and "Eight Statutory Causes of Delay and Expense in Chapter 11 Cases," 67 *Am. Bankr. L.J.* 287 (Summer 1993). From 1994-96, he was an associate editor for the *American Bankruptcy Law Journal*, and from 2005-09, he was ABI's Vice President-Research Grants. On April 3, 2009, ABI awarded him its 2009 Distinguished Service Award. Judge Rhodes was elected to serve a three-year term on the Board of Governors of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges and a concurrent term on the Judicial Council of the Sixth Circuit. He received his undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering from Purdue University and his J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School, where he served as an editor of the *Michigan Law Review*.

Hon. Walter Shapero is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan in Detroit, appointed in July 1988. After clerking for a Michigan Supreme Court Justice, Judge Shapero entered private practice with Shapero, Shapero and Cohn, which merged to eventually become Butzel Long. He has served in a number of local community and national organizations, including the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association Foundation. He has also taught at the law schools of the University of Detroit and Wayne State University. Judge Shapero received his A.B. from the University of Michigan in 1951 and his LL.B. from the University of Virginia Law School, where he served as a member of the editorial board of the *Virginia Law Review*.

John A. Simon is a partner with Foley & Lardner LLP in Detroit and a member of the firm's Bankruptcy & Business Reorganizations Practice, as well as its Automotive and Energy Industry Teams. He focuses his practice on national corporate restructuring, insolvency and bankruptcy matters, representing borrowers, debtors-in-possession, creditors' committees, asset-purchasers, shareholders, customers, suppliers, landlords and other constituents in complex high-stakes troubled-company situations. Mr. Simon is admitted to the Michigan Bar and the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern District of Michigan and the Northern District of Illinois. He is a member of ABI, the Turnaround Management Association, the Association for Corporate Growth and the Hispanic Bar Association of Michigan, and was selected for inclusion in the 2008, 2009 and 2010 *Michigan Super Lawyers – Rising Stars* editions for his bankruptcy work. He was also named to *DBusiness* magazine's 2011 list of "Top Lawyers" in the areas of bankruptcy and creditor/debtor rights law. Mr. Simon has lectured on a variety of financing and bankruptcy topics and has authored or co-authored numerous articles on bankruptcy issues. He received his Bachelor's degree in English from Amherst College in 1997 and his J.D. from Boston University School of Law in 2000.

Hon. Phillip J. Shefferly is Chief Judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Michigan in Detroit. Prior to taking the bench, he worked in private practice, focusing in business reorganizations and chapter 11. Judge Shefferly has extensive trial and litigation experience in bankruptcy courts, federal courts and state courts, and he is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy. He received his B.A. from the University of Michigan with high distinction and his J.D. *magna cum laude* from Wayne State University Law School.

Jeffrey D. Smith is a partner in the Minneapolis office of Lindquist & Vennum LLP, where he focuses his practice on corporate and commercial law, finance, workouts and financial restructurings, and bankruptcy. He regularly advises and represents banks, commercial finance companies, private-equity funds, business owners, individuals and corporations on all aspects of structuring and negotiating commercial and financial transactions, including asset sales and acquisitions, leases and distressed-sale transactions, workouts, and bankruptcy-related matters, including preference and fraudulent transfer litigation. Previously, Mr. Smith spent more than 10 years in the financial services industry developing marketing programs to improve customer retention. Prior to joining Lindquist & Vennum, he served as law clerk to Hon. Gregory F. Kishel, Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Minnesota, where he assisted in the chapter 11 case of Mesaba Aviation. Mr. Smith is a member of ABI, the Minnesota State Bar Association's Bankruptcy and Business Law Sections, the Federal Bar Association and the Turnaround Management Association, and he is admitted to practice in Minnesota and before the U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota. He also provides pro bono legal advice to low- and moderate-income individuals through the Volunteer Lawyer's Network primarily in the areas of credit, debt collection and adversary proceeding defense. Mr. Smith received his B.A. in chemistry from Carleton College in 1988, his M.B.A. in finance from the University of St. Thomas Graduate School of Business in 2004, and his J.D. *cum laude* from the University of St. Thomas School of Law in 2006.

Catherine L. Steege is a partner with Jenner & Block LLP in Chicago and co-chair of the firm's Bankruptcy Litigation practice group, where she concentrates in bankruptcy and creditors' rights, frequently representing debtors, creditors, creditors' committees, trustees and other parties. Ms. Steege has also handled complex litigation arising out of insolvencies. She is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell, is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy and is a member of the Panel of Private Trustees of the Northern District of Illinois. A frequent author, she has won many awards and is a member of several national and local bars, and is a contributing author to the National Institutes of Trial Advocacy's *Commentaries to the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure*. Ms. Steege has also served as an adjunct professor of bankruptcy law at The John Marshall Law School. She received her B.S. from Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism and her J.D. from DePaul University College of Law, where she was managing lead articles editor of the *DePaul Law Review*.

Hon. Thomas J. Tucker is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan in Detroit, appointed on March 21, 2003. Following law school, Judge Tucker clerked for Hon. Albert J. Engel of the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. He then entered private practice for 20 years with the law firm of Cooper & Walinski, L.P.A. of Toledo, Ohio, where he focused on commercial litigation involv-

ing bankruptcy, Uniform Commercial Code and contract-dispute matters. Following law school, Judge Tucker clerked for Hon. Albert J. Engel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. He received his B.A. *summa cum laude* from the University of Toledo and his J.D. *cum laude* from Harvard Law School, where he served as an editor of the *Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review*.

Thomas G. Wallrich is a managing partner with Cozen O' Connor in Minneapolis, where he focuses on commercial transactions, banking, bankruptcy, real estate finance and development, and commercial litigation. He represents debtors, creditors and committees in complex reorganization proceedings and work-outs. Mr. Wallrich also represents commercial landlords in lease creation, lease disputes, property recovery and bankruptcy matters. He has been named a "Super Lawyer" by Thomson Reuters for the past 15 years. Mr. Wallrich received his B.A. from the University of Minnesota in 1987 and his J.D. from William Mitchell College of Law in 1990.

Michael B. Watkins is a partner with Barnes & Thornburg LLP in South Bend, Ind., where his practice includes representing debtors, secured and unsecured creditors and creditors' committees in both bankruptcy proceedings and out-of-court work-outs. He is a frequent speaker and author. Mr. Watkins is certified as a Business Bankruptcy Specialist by the American Board of Certification and is a member of the ABC Board of Directors. He is currently serving as chairman of the Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights Section of the Indiana State Bar Association. Mr. Watkins received both his B.A. and his J.D. from Indiana University.

Robert A. Weisberg is a partner in the Bloomfield Hills, Mich., law firm of Carson Fischer, PLC. He has concentrated his practice in the areas of complex financial restructuring and bankruptcy reorganization for more than 25 years and has authored articles on a variety of bankruptcy topics, including "Protection of Secured Interests in Bankruptcy in Michigan," National Business Institute, Inc., 1992; "The Secured Lender: Victim or Villain? - The Battle to Prevent Separate Classification of Unsecured Deficiency Claims in Bankruptcy," *Michigan Real Property Review*, Fall 1994, and "The Road Less Traveled: Alternatives to Bankruptcy for Businesses," *Laches*, Oakland County Bar Association Bankruptcy Law Issue, June 2000. Most recently, he co-authored the chapter "Fraud and the Bankruptcy Code" in *The Handbook of Fraud Deterrence* (John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 2007). He has also lectured on bankruptcy issues before many business and bar groups, including ABI. Mr. Weisberg is a member of the American and Federal Bar Associations, the State Bar of Michigan and ABI, and is a former chair of the Oakland County (Michigan) Bar Association Bankruptcy Committee. He received his law degree from Georgetown University Law Center, where he was a member of the *Tax Lawyer Law Review*, and his A.B. with distinction from the University of Michigan.

Hon. Mary Ann Whipple serves as a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Ohio in Toledo. She has also served a term on the Sixth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel. Before her appointment as a bankruptcy judge, she practiced law for 20 years as a commercial, bankruptcy and employment litigator with Fuller & Henry Ltd. in Toledo. Judge Whipple is admitted to practice in Ohio and Michigan and before the U.S. Supreme Court, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and the U.S. District Courts for the Northern District of Ohio and the Eastern District of Michigan. She also teaches creditor/debtor law as a part-time faculty member at the University of Toledo College of Law. Judge Whipple received the 2008 Toledo Bar Association Community Service Award

and is also a master in and the immediate past president of The Morrison R. Waite Chapter of the American Inns of Court Foundation. She received her A.B. in Russian studies from the University of Michigan in 1977 and her J.D. from Stanford Law School in 1981.

Mark S. Zuckerberg is in solo practice at the Law Office of Mark S. Zuckerberg in Indianapolis, where he focuses on bankruptcy. He is also a frequent lecturer. Mr. Zuckerberg is Board Certified in Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification and is a former ABC board member. He is also a past chairman of the Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights section of the Indiana State Bar Association. Mr. Zuckerberg received his B.A. from Indiana University and his J.D. from Capital University.