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2020 Alexander L. Paskay Memorial Bankruptcy Seminar

Faculty Biographies

Jeffrey S. Ainsworth is an attorney with BransonLaw PLLC in Orlando, Fla., where he practices primarily in the areas of bankruptcy, creditors' rights and dischargeability issues, and has represented individual debtors, corporate debtors, unsecured creditors, committees, secured creditors and trustees. He is a member of ABI, the Orange County Bar Association and the Central Florida Bankruptcy Law Association. Mr. Ainsworth is admitted to practice in all Florida courts and the U.S. District Courts for the Northern, Middle and Southern Districts of Florida. He received his B.A. in political science in 2004 from the University of Central Florida and his J.D. in 2008 from Florida State University, where he also received a Certificate in Environmental and Land Use Law.

Vincent F. Alexander, CFE is a partner in the Fort Lauderdale, Fla., office of Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP and a member of its Bankruptcy & Insolvency and Complex Business & Commercial Litigation practices. He has extensive experience in bankruptcy reorganizations and liquidations, out-of-court restructurings, asset sales, and bankruptcy- and insolvency-related litigation. Mr. Alexander regularly represents debtors, equityholders, chapter 7 and liquidating trustees, and unsecured creditors' committees, as well as other creditors, in bankruptcy proceedings and related litigation. He also has experience successfully representing clients in complex litigation matters, including fraud, trade secret and restrictive covenants, breach of contract, unfair and deceptive trade practices, fiduciary issues, and sports and entertainment. Before becoming a lawyer, Mr. Alexander was a linebacker in the NFL with the New York Jets and Arizona Cardinals, and was a mortgage banker for a large national lender. He received his B.A. in economics and commerce in 2003 from the University of Pennsylvania and his J.D. *cum laude* in 2009 from the University of Miami School of Law.

Keith T. Appleby is a shareholder at Banker Lopez Gassler PA in Tampa, Fla., where his practice focuses on creditors' rights, debtors' rights, bankruptcy, foreclosures, commercial, corporate, and general business litigation. His practice includes the representation of insurance companies, financial institutions, receivers, equipment lessors, landlords, secured and unsecured parties in bankruptcy reorganizations, merchant services processors, and defense of preferential and fraudulent transfer lawsuits. Mr. Appleby received his B.S. in finance from the University of Central Florida, his M.B.A. from Stetson University, and his J.D. from Stetson University College of Law. He is also a graduate of the Graduate School of Retail Bank Management sponsored by the Consumer Bankers Association at the University of Virginia.

Michael Barnett is a sole practitioner with Michael Barnett, PA in Tampa, Fla., where he represents consumers and small businesses in chapter 7, 12 and 13 bankruptcy cases in west central Florida. He has practiced bankruptcy and bankruptcy appeals exclusively throughout his career and is Board Certified in Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. After having become a partner at a bankruptcy boutique firm, Mr. Barnett started his own firm in 1992. He was involved in the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association *pro bono* clinic since its commencement, and was the first recipient of the association's *pro bono* service award in 2016. He is the author of 1017 checklist, an analysis of the 2005 bankruptcy law and originally linked from ABI's website, and co-author of *Strategies for Consumer Bankruptcy Appeals* (Aspatore 2012). He has spoken at seminars and workshops on *pro bono* service, client communications and chapter 12 bankruptcy. Mr. Barnett received his J.D. from the University of Florida Law School in 1985.

Douglas A. Bates is a shareholder with Clark Partington Hart Larry Bond & Stackhouse, P.A. in Pensacola, Fla., and has handled insolvency matters, distressed business situations and special-asset cases across the State of Florida and the U.S., and across a wide range of industries including airline, hospitality, manufacturing, retail and financial services. He serves as a trusted advisor to local, regional and national clients and maintains his focus on commercial and real estate litigation, as well as bankruptcy and creditors' rights matters. Mr. Bates is listed in *Chambers USA* and is an active member of the Business Law Section of The Florida Bar, serving on the Section's Executive Council. He is also a member of The Florida Bar Standing Committee on Student Education and Bar Admissions, as well as numerous other local, statewide and national organizations. Mr. Bates received his B.S.B.A. *summa cum laude* from Birmingham Southern College and his J.D. *cum laude* from the University of Florida College of Law.

Steven M. Berman is a partner in the Tampa, Fla., office of Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP, specializing in the firm's bankruptcy and creditors' rights practice group. He has nearly 30 years of bankruptcy experience and focuses his practice on business bankruptcy litigation, representing creditors, investors, distressed-debt lenders, trustees, committees and business entities litigating disputes in bankruptcy court. Mr. Berman is Board Certified by the American Board of Certification in both Creditors' Rights Law and Business Bankruptcy Law, and he is a member of the Florida, California, District of Columbia and Puerto Rico (Federal) bars. He serves on the board of directors of the American Board of Certification and is a member of its Faculty Committee. He also serves on ABI's Board of Directors, works on several committees and task forces, and routinely volunteers and speaks at seminars. On a local level, Mr. Berman is a member of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association, the Bankruptcy Bar Association of the Southern District of Florida, the Southwest Florida Bankruptcy Professionals Association and the San Diego Bankruptcy Forum. He also guest lectures for the University of Florida's Levin College of Law. Mr. Berman serves as the Judge Advocate to the Coronado Yacht Club in Coronado, Calif., and volunteers in providing *pro bono* bankruptcy and insolvency services and training for U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General officers and staff, along with enlisted service families in need. He received his B.S. in multinational business operations from Florida State University and his J.D. from the University of Florida Levin College of Law.

Jacob A. Brown is a partner with Akerman LLP in Jacksonville, Fla., where he practices in the areas of bankruptcy, creditors' rights and commercial litigation. He is a member of the Jacksonville Bar Association, ABI, and the Florida and Georgia Bar Associations, and he is a past-president and chairman of the Jacksonville Bankruptcy Bar Association. Mr. Brown currently chairs the Florida Bar Business Law Section and is past chair of the Section's Bankruptcy/UCC, Bankruptcy Judicial Liaison and Legislative Committees. He is admitted to practice in the federal and state courts of Florida and Georgia and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. Following law school, Mr. Brown clerked for Hon. Jerry A. Funk, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida. He received two B.S. degrees from North Carolina State University's Schools of Engineering and Forestry in 1994 and his J.D. from Samford University's Cumberland School of Law in 1998, where he was a member of Cumberland's trial advocacy program.

Hon. Roberta A. Colton is a bankruptcy judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida in Tampa, the first bankruptcy judge to be appointed under a memorandum of understanding between the Eighth and Eleventh Circuit Courts. She also serves as a member of the mediation

team involved in the Puerto Rico PROMESA cases. Prior to taking the bench, Judge Colton practiced at Trenam Law in Tampa, Fla., where she was a shareholder and a member of the firm's Executive Board. Her practice areas included business reorganization, bankruptcy litigation, foreclosure/lender liability, creditors' committees, bankruptcy trustee representation, commercial litigation and bankruptcy asset sales. Prior to joining Trenam Law, she served as a judicial law clerk for Hon. James C. Hill of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit in Atlanta. During her more than 30 years in practice, Judge Colton has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy & Creditor-Debtor Rights, Bet-the-Company Litigation and Bankruptcy Litigation. She was also featured as a "Tampa Best Lawyer of the Year" in bankruptcy law. Prior to her appointment, Judge Colton was named one of the top 10 *Super Lawyers* in Florida from 2011-16. She has served as Eleventh Circuit Regent for the American College of Bankruptcy, chair of the Local Rules Committee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court of the Middle District of Florida, and chair of the Grievance Committee of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida. She also is the former chair of the Florida Bar Business Law Section's Bankruptcy/UCC Committee, as well as the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association. Judge Colton has taught numerous CLE programs over the past 20 years, both for the Florida Bar and for bankruptcy programs across the country, on topics ranging from specific bankruptcy and foreclosure issues, workout issues, mediation, and trial and discovery issues. She received her B.A. in commerce with distinction from the University of Virginia in 1979 and her J.D. from William & Mary Law School in 1982, where she served on its law review and was a national moot court finalist.

Betsy C. Cox is a shareholder with Rogers Towers, PA in Jacksonville, Fla., where her practice is concentrated on bankruptcy, banking and commercial litigation. She has more than 35 years' experience in these areas, including representing primarily secured and unsecured creditors in all aspects of numerous bankruptcy cases and related adversary proceedings; representing financial institutions in enforcing commercial and real estate loans and leases, foreclosing on collateral, obtaining receivers, defending lender liability claims, and structuring workouts; and handling a wide variety of cases in state and federal courts through trials and appeals involving contract, real estate, shareholder and partnership disputes and business torts. Her practice also focuses on probate, trust and guardianship litigation. Ms. Cox is the past chair of her firm's Business Litigation Practice Group and is in charge of its Womens' Network. She also is a past president and chair of the Jacksonville Bankruptcy Bar Association and a former member of the Local Rules Committee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida. Ms. Cox is a member of both the Florida and Georgia Bars and is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* and rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell. She received her B.A. *summa cum laude* from The University of the South and her J.D. *cum laude* from the University of Georgia School of Law.

Hon. Caryl E. Delano is Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida in Tampa, initially appointed on June 25, 2008, and named Chief Judge on October 1, 2019. She also was appointed Presiding Judge of the Fort Myers Division in July 2012. Previously, Judge Delano practiced before the bankruptcy courts of the Central District of California for 14 years. In 1994, she returned to Tampa and most recently practiced law with the firm of Addison & Delano, P.A., where she concentrated her practice on bankruptcy and commercial litigation. Judge Delano has represented debtors and creditors in numerous chapter 11 cases and related adversary proceedings. She is a member of the Florida Bar, the State Bar of California, the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, ABI, the Business Law Section of The Florida Bar (Executive Council, CLE Committee), the Hillsborough County Bar Association and the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association.

In addition, she serves as the liaison judge to the Middle District of Florida's Local Rules Lawyers' Advisory Committee and is a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges Federal Rules Advisory Committee. In 2017, Judge Delano received the Southwest Florida Bankruptcy Professionals Association's Alexander L. Paskay Professionalism Award. In addition, she is the former executive director and past-president of the J. Clifford Cheatwood American Inn of Court. Judge Delano received her B.A. in English *cum laude* in 1976 from the University of South Florida and her J.D. in 1979 from Indiana University School of Law, having completed her final year of law school at Emory University School of Law.

Kathleen L. DiSanto is a shareholder with Bush Ross, P.A. in Tampa, Fla., where she focuses her practice on matters related to bankruptcy, corporate restructuring, creditors' rights, insolvency proceedings, and general commercial transactions. She represents businesses and individuals in a wide array of matters in the bankruptcy, creditors' rights and insolvency arena. Ms. DiSanto is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification and accredited by The Florida Bar. She entered private practice in 2010 following a two-year clerkship to Hon. Caryl E. Delano, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida. Ms. DiSanto has represented numerous debtors, secured creditors, unsecured creditors and trustees in complex chapter 11 bankruptcy cases, adversary proceedings and chapter 7 cases. She is a member of ABI, for which she serves as a coordinating editor of the *ABI Journal*; an associate of the Ferguson White Inn of Court; a financial advisor to the Gamma Phi Beta sorority; and a board member of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association. Ms. DiSanto is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell and has been named a *Florida Super Lawyers* "Rising Star" from 2013-16 and 2019, as well as a *Florida Trend* "Legal Elite Up-and-Comer" for 2012. She received her B.S. in 2005 from the University of Virginia and her J.D. in 2008 from Stetson University College of Law.

Lara R. Fernandez is a shareholder with Trenam Law in Tampa, Fla., and leads the firm's Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights Practice Group. She is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification, and her clients include financial institutions, fiduciaries/trustees and private-equity groups in the areas of business reorganizations, trustee representation, bankruptcy litigation, commercial foreclosures and workouts, and loan modifications. Ms. Fernandez has served as a chapter 11 trustee and liquidation trustee. Prior to joining Trenam, she clerked for Hon. Alexander L. Paskay, Chief Bankruptcy Judge Emeritus of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida, from 2001-04 and for a year after graduating from law school. Ms. Fernandez is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell and listed in *Chambers USA*, *The Best Lawyers of America*, *Super Lawyers* and *Florida Super Lawyers*. She received both her B.A. and J.D. from Emory University.

Prof. Roberta Kemp Flowers is a professor of law at Stetson University College of Law in Gulfport, Fla. Within the Elder Law LL.M. program, she teaches ethics in an elder law practice. She also teaches evidence, criminal procedure and professional responsibility. While at Stetson, Prof. Flowers has successfully coached trial teams, arbitration teams and moot court teams to national championships. She has also served as the director of the Center for Excellence in Advocacy and as the William Reece Smith Jr. Distinguished Professor in Professionalism. During her time at Stetson, Prof. Flowers has received the university-level Excellence in Teaching Award, Most Inspirational Teacher Award from the Student Bar Association, and an award from the Student Bar Association for supporting student life. She also has received the university-level Homer and Dolly Hand Award for Excellence

in Scholarship, the Dean's Award for Extraordinary Service, and been awarded the Distinguished Service Award four times. In 2005, the Florida Supreme Court awarded her the Faculty Professionalism Award. Prof. Flowers has lectured worldwide on the topic of ethics. She won a Telly Award for Excellence in Educational Films for having produced a series of educational videos on the ethical issues faced by prosecuting attorneys. She also co-created a video series used to train and educate attorneys nationwide on the ethical dilemmas faced by elder law attorneys. The Florida Supreme Court awarded Prof. Flowers the Florida Supreme Court Professionalism Award for her work on the video productions. She also co-designed the nation's first "elder friendly courtroom," which serves as model for courtrooms of the future. Previously, Prof. Flowers worked as a prosecutor in both the state and federal system. She began her career in 1984 as a deputy district attorney for the 18th Judicial District of Colorado, where she served as a trial attorney in the criminal division. In 1989, she was appointed assistant U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Florida, where she served in the Appellate Division, the Major Crimes Unit and the Public Corruption Unit. Prof. Flowers's research interests center on the issues of ethics and professionalism. Her articles have appeared in such journals as the *Fordham Law Review*, the *Boston College Law Review*, *Missouri Law Review*, the *Nebraska Law Review*, the *Ohio State Journal of Criminal Law*, *Hastings Constitutional Law Quarterly*, the *Stetson Law Review* and the *NAELA Journal*. Prof. Flowers received her Bachelor's degree *magna cum laude* in psychology from Baylor University in 1979 and her J.D. from the University of Colorado in 1984, where she was selected to be a member of the Order of the Coif.

Tiffany Payne Geyer is a partner with BakerHostetler in Orlando, Fla., and practices primarily in the areas of bankruptcy and creditors' rights. She has represented both corporate and individual debtors in chapter 11 cases and individuals in chapter 7 cases, and her clients include health care businesses and medical professionals, investment bankers and financial advisors. She has also represented clients in the hospitality sectors, and has assisted in representing debtors in the energy sectors. Ms. Geyer has negotiated multiple settlements of guarantor liability and has experience with assignments for the benefit of creditors. She has also represented secured creditors, unsecured creditors, landlords and panel trustees. Ms. Geyer has been listed in *Chambers USA* for Bankruptcy/Restructuring in Florida and in *The Best Lawyers in America* in 2020 for Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law, and she is a member of the Central Florida Bankruptcy Law Association (CFBLA), Federal Bar Association, American Bar Association and the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation (IWIRC). She received her B.A. with honors in political science and public administration in 1998 from the University of Central Florida, and her J.D. in 2000 from the University of Florida Levin College of Law, where she received the Book Award for Legal Drafting and was a member of a trial competition team.

Alberto F. Gomez, Jr. is a partner in the Tampa, Fla., office of Johnson Pope Bokor Ruppel & Burns, LLP, where he focuses primarily on bankruptcy law, insolvency, assignments for the benefit of creditors and all other aspects of debtor/creditor law. He has represented clients in all aspects of bankruptcy representation and insolvency matters (debtors, creditors, trustees, assignees, receivers, purchasers, etc.) since 1990, and his practice has primarily focused on the commercial and corporate aspects of bankruptcy and insolvency law, but he has remained active representing clients in consumer related cases as well. Mr. Gomez is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell and has been listed as one of Florida's "Legal Elite" in *Florida Trend* magazine. In addition, he has been selected as a Florida "Super Lawyer" by *Law & Politics* publication and as one of Florida's "Top Attorneys" in *The Wall Street Journal*. Mr. Gomez is or has been a member of the Hillsborough County Bar Association,

Hillsborough County Bar Foundation Board of Trustees, the Florida Bar, the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association, the Federal Bar Association and ABI, and actively participates in local *pro bono* efforts. He received his B.A. from the University of Florida in 1985 and his J.D. from Stetson University College of Law in 1988, where he was a member of the *Stetson Law Review*.

Karim Guirguis, PMP, CAE is chief strategy and innovation officer of the American Bankruptcy Institute in Alexandria, Va., the nation's largest association of bankruptcy professionals, comprised of 11,000 members in multidisciplinary roles, including attorneys, bankers, judges, lenders, turnaround specialists and others. Mr. Guirguis provides vision and leadership in transforming and conducting the company's internal and external IT plans. He joined the ABI staff in 2002 after several positions in website architecture and computer animation, most recently with Disney MGM Studios in Florida. Mr. Guirguis's work has earned several awards from his peers, including an Oscar for his work on *Finding Nemo*, the prestigious Horizon Award for ABI's video honoring its founders, as well as the Webby Award for his work with Tiffany Inc. and Polo.com. He is a regular presenter on cutting-edge technology issues for professional educators such as the American Society of Association Executives, for which he serves on its technology board. Mr. Guirguis received his B.S. in electrical engineering from Cambridge University in England, his Master's in multimedia and animation from George Mason University, and his M.B.A. from Harvard Business School.

Hon. Jeffery P. Hopkins is a Bankruptcy Judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Ohio in Cincinnati, appointed in 1996 and reappointed in 2010. After graduating from law school, he clerked for Hon. Alan E. Norris on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, then worked as an associate with Squire, Sanders & Dempsey, LLP, specializing in complex commercial litigation. In 1990, Judge Hopkins sought appointment as an Assistant U.S. Attorney and advanced to become chief of the Civil Division for the Southern District of Ohio. During his tenure on the bankruptcy court, he has served on several committees of the Judicial Conference of the United States and for bar-related and civic organizations. In 2002, the late Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist appointed Judge Hopkins to the Federal Judicial Center's Education Committee for bankruptcy judges. Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr. appointed him to the Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules, for which he chaired its Business Bankruptcy Subcommittee until 2009. Judge Hopkins formerly served on the boards of ABI, the ABA Business Bankruptcy Committee and the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, and as chair of the Queen City Foundation. Judge Hopkins is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and a frequent lecturer on bankruptcy law. He also was an adjunct professor at the University of Cincinnati College of Law. In 2010, Judge Hopkins received the William K. Thomas Distinguished Jurist Award from his alma mater, The Ohio State College of Law. He also is a past president of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges. Judge Hopkins received his A.B. in government and legal studies and anthro-sociology from Bowdoin College in 1982 and his J.D. in 1985 from The Ohio State University's Michael E. Moritz College of Law.

Hon. Laurel Myerson Isicoff is Chief Judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida in Miami, initially appointed on Feb. 13, 2006, and named chief judge on Oct. 1, 2016. She is the president of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, and is also a member of ABI's Board of Directors. Judge Isicoff is a member of the *Pro Bono* Committee of the American College of Bankruptcy, as well as chair of its Judicial Outreach Committee. She also currently serves as judicial chair of the *Pro Bono* Committee of the Florida Bar's Business Law Section and is a member of the

Florida Bar's Standing Committee on *Pro Bono*. Prior to becoming a judge, Judge Isicoff specialized in commercial bankruptcy, foreclosure and workout matters both as a transactional attorney and litigator for 14 years with the law firm of Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton, after practicing for eight years with Squire, Sanders & Dempsey, now known as Squire Patton Boggs. In private practice, she also developed a specialty in SEC receiverships involving Ponzi schemes. Following law school, Judge Isicoff clerked for Hon. Daniel S. Pearson at the Florida Third District Court of Appeals before entering private practice. She is a past president of the Bankruptcy Bar Association (BBA) of the Southern District of Florida, and, until she took the bench, chaired its *Pro Bono* Task Force. Judge Isicoff speaks extensively on bankruptcy around the country, and is committed to increasing *pro bono* service, diversity in the bankruptcy community and financial literacy. She received her J.D. from the University of Miami School of Law in 1982.

Hon. Cynthia C. Jackson is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida in Orlando, Fla., appointed on March 5, 2013. Starting Feb. 3, 2020, she will be in the Jacksonville Division for the Middle District of Florida Bankruptcy Court. Judge Jackson is a member of The Florida Bar, ABI, the Turnaround Management Association and the Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida, and she was the former president of the Jacksonville Bankruptcy Bar Association. She also was a member of the Local Rules Committee for the Middle District of Florida. Judge Jackson is rated AV by Martindale-Hubbell and is recognized in *Chambers USA: American's Leading Lawyers for Business* and in *The Best Lawyers in America*. Prior to her appointment to the bench, she was a member of Smith Hulse & Busey in Jacksonville, Fla., and she limited her practice to bankruptcy and insolvency matters throughout the U.S. She had represented debtors, creditors, committees and trustees in both commercial and consumer cases. Judge Jackson attended Tulane University and received her B.S. from Florida State University in 1981 and her J.D. from the University of Florida Levin College of Law.

Prof. Edward J. (Ted) Janger is the David M. Barse Professor of Law at Brooklyn Law School in New York and is an authority on commercial transactions and bankruptcy law. He has published in the areas of bankruptcy law, commercial law and data privacy. Prof. Janger's scholarship has appeared in the *Yale Law Journal*, the *Texas Law Review*, the *Michigan Law Review* and the *Illinois Law Review*, among others. He is the past chair of the Association of American Law Schools' Section on Commercial and Consumer Law, and a member of the American College of Bankruptcy, International Insolvency Institute and American Law Institute. Prof. Janger has served as consultant to the Business Bankruptcy Subcommittee of the Federal Bankruptcy Rules Advisory Committee, and has been an observer at UNCITRAL Working Groups V (Insolvency) and VI (Secured Credit). He has held both the Anne Urowsky and Maurice R. Greenberg Visiting Professorships at Yale Law School, as well as the Bruce W. Nichols Visiting Professorship at Harvard Law School. He also served a semester as ABI's Robert M. Zinman Scholar-in-Residence. Prof. Janger joined the Brooklyn Law School faculty in 1998 after teaching at Washington University School of Law in St. Louis and Ohio State University College of Law. Prior to teaching, he practiced as an associate with the firm of Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering in Washington, D.C., where he specialized in bankruptcy and litigation, and was a law clerk to Hon. Irving L. Goldberg of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. Prof. Janger received his B.A. from Yale College and his J.D. from the University of Chicago Law School.

David S. Jennis is the founding attorney and a shareholder of Jennis Law Firm in Tampa, Fla., where he focuses his practice in the areas of complex corporate bankruptcy, workouts, restructuring and reorganizations, and commercial litigation. His clients include debtors, trustees and creditor committees, as well as clients requiring successful outcomes in commercial litigation. Mr. Jennis is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. He is or has been a member of the American Bar Association, the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar, ABI and other professional organizations. Mr. Jennis has authored numerous *ABI Journal* articles and routinely presents on various bankruptcy issues relating to his practice throughout the state of Florida. He is rated AV by Martindale-Hubbell and is a guest lecturer for the University of Florida and Stetson University College of Law's advanced bankruptcy courses. In addition, he has testified as an expert fee witness in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida on many occasions. Mr. Jennis received his B.S. in business administration in 1985 and his J.D. with honors in 1988 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he was a member of the Holderness Moot Court Bench and the National Moot Court Team.

Hon. Lewis M. Killian, Jr. (ret.) is Of Counsel with Berger Singerman LLP in Tallahassee, Fla., and a member of its Business Reorganization Team. He has successfully completed certification to become a Circuit Civil mediator in Florida and completed ABI's and St. John's University's 40-Hour Bankruptcy Mediation Training program. For more than 25 years, Judge Killian served as the Chief Bankruptcy Judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Florida. He was first appointed by the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals as U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the district on Sept. 22, 1986, and on Sept. 22, 2000, he was reappointed for a second term. During his time on the bench, Judge Killian had been the sole bankruptcy judge in the Northern District, which required him to regularly travel to hold hearings in each of the four divisions: Gainesville, Tallahassee, Panama City and Pensacola. Prior to his judicial appointment, he served for 10 years as an officer in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam conflict, including a tour in Vietnam, where he received several military awards and decorations. He retired from the Army Reserve with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, JAGC. Judge Killian graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1969 and received his J.D. with honors in 1976 from Florida State University College of Law.

Roy S. Kobert is a shareholder in the Orlando and Tampa, Fla., offices of GrayRobinson, P.A., where he focuses his practice in the areas of bankruptcy, creditor/debtor law, lender liability, Article 9 and commercial litigation. He has mediated more than 100 bankruptcy and commercial litigation disputes and is the first Florida graduate of the 40-Hour Bankruptcy Mediation Training Program, jointly sponsored by ABI and the Hugh Carey Center for Dispute Resolution at St. John's University Graduate School of Law. He also is a Supreme Court Certified Circuit Civil Mediator. Ms. Kobert has been Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification for over a 15 years, is a former president of the Central Florida Bankruptcy Law Association, and founded the Orlando Chapter of the Credit Abuse Resistance Education (CARE) program. He received both his B.A. and J.D. from the University of Miami.

Dennis J. LeVine is a partner in the Tampa, Fla., office of Kelley Kronenberg, where he represents creditors in bankruptcy, handles commercial and consumer collection litigation throughout Florida, and advises clients on vehicle towing, storage and repair liens. He is one of only seven attorneys in Florida to be Board Certified in both Consumer Bankruptcy Law and Business Bankruptcy Law by

the American Board of Certification (ABC). Prior to joining the firm, Mr. LeVine was founder and president of Dennis LeVine & Associates, P.A. in Tampa for 19 years where he primarily represented creditors and chapter 7 trustees in all bankruptcy courts and creditors in commercial and consumer collection actions. He is licensed to practice in the federal courts in the Northern, Middle and Southern Districts of Florida. Mr. LeVine is a past president of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association and an active member of ABI, for which he served on its Board of Directors, and the Florida Bar's Business Law Section. He has published numerous articles on consumer bankruptcy law in the *ABI Journal*, the *Florida Bar Journal*, the ABI Consumer Bankruptcy Committee e-newsletter and *The Cramdown*, the monthly publication of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association. He has also been a guest speaker on bankruptcy and collection law throughout the U.S. Mr. LeVine is the Florida editor for the annual *West Exemption Manual*. He received his undergraduate degree from Tulane University, where he was elected Phi Beta Kappa, and his J.D. from George Washington University's National Law Center.

Jerry M. Markowitz is a founding shareholder of Markowitz Ringel Trusty + Hartog, P.A. in Miami and a member of the firm's Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights practice group. He concentrates his practice in the areas of creditors' and debtors' rights, including workouts, bankruptcy, asset recovery, insolvency, receiverships, reorganizations, restructuring and mediation. Mr. Markowitz is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*, *Chambers USA* in the bankruptcy and restructuring category, the "Top 250 Attorneys in South Florida" by the *South Florida Legal Guide*, *Super Lawyers* "Top 100 Lawyers in Florida," and the "Best of the Bar" by the *South Florida Business Journal*. He was also recognized by *Florida Trend's* Hall of Fame for being named in their Florida Legal Elite list for the past 10 years. Mr. Markowitz is a member of the Florida Bar, ABI (for which he has served on its Board of Directors, the American Bar Association's Business Law, Business Bankruptcy Committee and Commercial Financial Services Committee Sections, and the Continuing Legal Education Committee for the University of Miami Bankruptcy Skills Workshop (for which he has served as chairman and co-chairman), and he is a member of, and a former president of, the Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida. He is also the past president of the University of Miami School of Law Alumni Association. As an active ABI member, Mr. Markowitz is a regional chair for ABI's Endowment Fund and co-Education Director of ABI's Mediation Committee. He also sits on the advisory board of ABI's Caribbean Insolvency Symposium, and has served as faculty for the ABI/St. John's University School of Law's mediation training program. He is a certified mediator in Florida. Mr. Markowitz received his B.S. in business administration with a concentration in accounting from the University of Florida and his J.D. from the University of Miami School of Law.

Hon. Catherine P. McEwen is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida in Tampa, appointed by the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals on Aug. 22, 2005, and an adjunct professor at Western Michigan University Cooley Law School. She is the first female judge appointed in her district. Prior to becoming a judge, she was in private practice for almost 23 years in Tampa and was a solo practitioner from 2001 until the date of her appointment to the bench. Before opening her solo practice, she was a shareholder of Akerman Senterfitt & Eidson, P.A., formerly known as Moffitt, Hart & Herron, P.A., where she practiced law from 1982-2001 in its Tampa office, concentrating on commercial litigation with an emphasis on representing parties in bankruptcy cases. Judge McEwen was elected into the American Law Institute in 2012. Among her other honors are the Stetson University College of Law Distinguished Alumnus Award (2007), Hillsborough County Bar Association Jimmy Kynes Pro Bono Service Award (2008), the Stetson University College of Law J. Ben Wat-

kins Award (2009), the Florida Association for Women Lawyers Leaders in the Law inaugural class designation (2010), the Tampa Bay Hispanic Bar Association's Luis "Tony" Cabassa Award (2012), the George Edgecomb Bar Association's Delano S. Stewart Diversity Award (2015), the inaugural Florida Supreme Court Chief Justice's Distinguished Federal Judicial Service Award (2016), the Stetson Lawyers Alumni Association Ben C. Willard Award (2016), the University of South Florida Distinguished Alumna Award (2016) and the Bay Area Legal Services Inc. Judge Don Castor Justice Award (2016). In 2017, Judge McEwen was appointed by Chief Justice John Roberts, Jr. to serve a two-year term as the nonvoting bankruptcy judge observer to the Judicial Conference of the United States, which ended on Sept. 30, 2019. Prior to becoming a lawyer, she was a sportswriter from 1975-79 for the *Tampa Tribune* and the *Tampa Times*. Judge McEwen received her B.A. in political science from the University of South Florida in 1979 and her J.D. *cum laude* from Stetson University in 1982.

Hon. Mindy A. Mora is U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of Florida in West Palm Beach, appointed on April 6, 2018. In 2014, she was named a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, and in 2016, in light of her professional achievements in the area of commercial finance, she was named a Fellow in the American College of Commercial Finance Attorneys. She also previously chaired the Business Law Section of The Florida Bar. Previously, Judge Mora was active in the development of Florida's commercial laws, having chaired the Florida Bar Task Force that sponsored the 2007 revisions of the Assignment for the Benefit of Creditors Statute (chapter 727, Florida Statutes); co-sponsored the 1997 revisions to Article 8 and the 1999 revisions to Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code (chapters 678 and 679, Florida Statutes); led a task force for the Business Law Section of The Florida Bar on revisions to Florida's foreclosure laws, which resulted in the enactment of Fla. Stat. §702.12; and served on a committee studying the Uniform Commissioner's proposed Uniform Real Estate Receivership Act. She has often lectured and published articles about insolvency, restructuring, and commercial lending. Judge Mora continues to serve on the Eleventh Circuit Council of the American College of Bankruptcy and is a member of the Business Law Sections of the American Bar Association and The Florida Bar, as well as the Association of Commercial Finance Attorneys, the Bankruptcy Bar Association of South Florida, the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation, ABI and the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, for which she serves on its Technology and New Member Committees. She received her B.B.A. from George Washington University in 1979 and her J.D. from New York University School of Law in 1982.

Damien H. Prosser is co-managing partner of Morgan & Morgan's Business Trial Group in Orlando, Fla., where he represents clients in state and federal courts throughout the country and has experience in complex commercial litigation, contract actions, professional malpractice, idea theft and trade secret litigation, securities litigation and business torts. He also has experience in the litigation adversary proceedings in federal bankruptcy courts and bankruptcy legal malpractice actions. Mr. Prosser began his legal career with a prestigious national law firm and quickly realized the economic challenge of litigating cases under the billable hour model applied to most commercial litigation. He also realized that an additional problem is the absence of actual trial experience by most lawyers at many of the national firms. He typically tries at least one business case to verdict a year and has obtained jury verdicts in excess of \$1 million. Mr. Prosser was named a "Rising Star" in 2010, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 by *Florida Super Lawyers* magazine, and he has been recognized as a "Legal Elite Up and Comer" by *Florida Trend* magazine. Prior to joining Morgan & Morgan, he practiced for several years with BakerHostetler and Shutts & Bowen. He received his B.A. *cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa from Florida State University and his J.D. from Mercer University School of Law.

Abid Qureshi is a partner with Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP in New York, where he advises on the full range of complex financial restructuring litigation in bankruptcy and appellate courts; leads litigation teams in hotly contested proceedings, including First Energy Solutions Corp., Momentive Performance Materials, Inc., Avaya Inc. and Seadrill Limited; and represents debtors, creditors, bondholders, hedge funds, institutional investors, and ad hoc and official creditors' committees. Mr. Qureshi also handles bankruptcy appellate issues at both the district and circuit court levels. He is a frequent speaker and writer on bankruptcy-related issues and has also testified before the Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules regarding recent amendments to the Bankruptcy Rules. Mr. Qureshi has been involved in contested plan-confirmation proceedings, valuation disputes, cram-down disputes make-whole and no-call claims, fraudulent-transfer and preference actions, breaches of fiduciary duty, fraudulent-transfer claims, asset sales and valuation proceedings. He has been listed in *The Legal 500* (recommended in Finance-Corporate Restructuring from 2016-18), *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy Litigation from 2012-18, *Benchmark Litigation* as a U.S. Bankruptcy Litigation Star from 2013-17 and as a New York Litigation Star from 2013-17, and *IFLR1000 United States* as a Notable Practitioner in Restructuring and Insolvency for 2019. Mr. Qureshi received his B.A. with highest honors in 1991 from the University of British Columbia, his J.D. in 1994 from the University of Toronto and his LL.M. with merit in 1996 from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Patricia A. Redmond is an Insolvency and Restructuring shareholder in Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A.'s Miami office. She lectures locally and nationally on various aspects of bankruptcy, particularly on chapter 11 issues, and is frequently quoted in *The Miami Herald* and other business publications. Ms. Redmond's bankruptcy practice concentrates on creditors' rights and corporate restructuring in bankruptcy court and in out-of-court workouts. She also has experience representing creditors' committees, secured creditors and debtors in chapter 11 cases. Ms. Redmond is the recipient of The Florida Bar's 2019 Tobias Simon Pro Bono Service Award and the American Bar Association's 2017 Jean Allard Glass Cutter Award. She is also a fellow of the American College of Commercial Finance Lawyers. Ms. Redmond has been recognized with the highest ranking in *Chambers USA*, as a "Top 100 Florida Super Lawyer" and "Top 50 Women Florida Super Lawyer" by *Florida Super Lawyers*, and as the "Miami Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law Lawyer of the Year" by *The Best Lawyers in America*. She is a past president of the American Bankruptcy Institute from 2013-14 and served as the initial chair of ABI's "40 Under 40" celebration. Ms. Redmond received her J.D. in 1979 from the University of Miami.

Edwin G. Rice is a partner with Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP in Tampa, Fla., and has nearly 30 years of experience primarily in the area of bankruptcy and insolvency law. He has represented nearly every major constituency in bankruptcy, including debtors, chapter 11 trustees, unsecured creditors' committees, major secured creditors and lessors. Mr. Rice has extensive experience in loan workouts, mortgage foreclosures, lending transactions, lending-related litigation and assignments for the benefit of creditors. His bankruptcy experience includes the defense and prosecution of preference, fraudulent transfer and other avoidance actions, claims litigation, dischargeability actions, relief-from-stay litigation, cash-collateral litigation, valuation litigation, contested confirmations, director and officer claim litigation, lease assumptions and rejections, bankruptcy sales and debtor-in-possession financing. Mr. Rice is a past president and chairman of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association and is recognized by *Chambers USA*, *The Best Lawyers of America* and *Super Lawyers*. He received his

B.S.B.A. in 1987 from the University of Florida and his J.D. in 1990 from the University of Florida Levin College of Law, where he was a member of the Order of the Coif.

Jacqueline P. Rubin is a partner in the Litigation Department of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP in New York. She co-chairs both the firm's Bankruptcy Litigation Group and its Professional Responsibility Committee. Ms. Rubin handles a broad range of complex commercial and bankruptcy litigation matters, regulatory and internal investigations and other complex business disputes. She has experience representing individual creditors and official and ad hoc creditor committees in contentious restructuring and liability management matters. Ms. Rubin maintains a significant *pro bono* practice and is active in the community. Recently, she handled several cases and appeals on behalf of unaccompanied children seeking to secure lawful permanent residence in the U.S. She is also a member of the board of directors of Mobilization for Justice, which offers free legal help to low-income New Yorkers. Ms. Rubin was recently recognized by *Law360* as one of four "Rising Stars" nationally in the health industry for her work on behalf of pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturing companies. She was also recognized by *The Legal 500 US* (2016-17) as a leading lawyer in the antitrust area. Ms. Rubin received her B.A. Phi Beta Kappa in 1995 from Wesleyan University and her J.D. in 2000 from Columbia Law School.

Lauri W. Sawyer is a trial lawyer with Jones Day in New York, where she litigates complex disputes in federal and state courts, as well as in domestic and international arbitral forums. She has experience litigating cases involving structured financial products and derivatives. Ms. Sawyer was previously derivatives counsel to Lehman Brothers Holdings and its affiliated debtors and tried the first derivatives cases in the Lehman bankruptcy. Her trial experience extends beyond the financial arena and includes disputes involving securities, constitutional and voting issues, project finance, advertising and asylum. Ms. Sawyer has participated in foreign court proceedings and appeals, as well as worldwide discovery and enforcement efforts. She also regularly lectures on litigation and on e-discovery issues. Ms. Sawyer is strongly committed to *pro bono* service, especially for clients with family law and immigration issues. She is the *Pro Bono* partner for the firm and was recognized as an Equality Trailblazer by the *National Law Journal*. Ms. Sawyer received her B.A. cum laude in international studies in 1992 from the University of Denver, her M.A. in Russian studies in 1994 from the University of Washington and her J.D. *magna cum laude* in 1997 from Mercer University.

Robert Scott Shuker is a bankruptcy partner with Shuker & Dorris, PA in Orlando, Fla., and practices primarily in the areas of bankruptcy and creditors' rights. He has represented corporate debtors, secured and unsecured creditors, asset-purchasers and trustees in bankruptcy cases of corporate and individual debtors. Mr. Shuker has also represented several chapter 11 trustees in Ponzi scheme cases and has experience in fraudulent-transfer litigation. Prior to entering law school, Mr. Shuker was a corporate banking officer for Southeast Bank, N.A. He is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification, was named the 2010 Bankruptcy Lawyer of the Year (Orlando) by *The Best Lawyers in America* and ranked as a top bankruptcy attorney by *Chambers USA* for over 10 years. His notable representations include as debtor's attorney in the chapter 11 reorganization cases of Planet Hollywood International, Inc., Transit Group, Celebrity Resorts, Appliance Direct and Hudson's Furniture. A Fellow in the Litigation Counsel of America, Mr. Shuker received his B.S. in finance in 1986 with high distinction from Pennsylvania State University and his J.D. with

high honors in 1993 from the University of Florida College of Law, where he was a member of the Order of the Coif.

Paul S. Singerman is co-chair of Berger Singerman LLP in Miami and leads the firm's Business Reorganization Team. For decades, he has been nationally known for handling complex restructuring, insolvency and bankruptcy cases, including loan workouts and cross-border matters. Best known for his representation of debtors in corporate reorganization cases and high-stakes litigation, Mr. Singerman also represents creditors' committees, lenders, large unsecured creditors, asset-purchasers in § 363 sales and trustees. He also has experience in large fraud cases and "bet the company" litigation cases. Mr. Singerman writes and speaks frequently on a wide variety of bankruptcy and restructuring-related subjects. He has been a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy since 2003. Mr. Singerman has been a member of the Business Law Section of The Florida Bar for 33 years. He received his B.A. with highest honors from the University of Florida and his J.D. with honors from the University of Florida Frederic G. Levin College of Law, where he was a member of the Order of the Coif and Omicron Delta Kappa.

Joseph L. Sorkin is a trial attorney with Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP in New York and regularly represents clients engaged in contentious disputes related to corporate restructuring. He also handles a full range of contested matters and adversarial proceedings in complex chapter 11 proceedings. Mr. Sorkin's clients include creditors, debtors, bondholders, hedge funds, institutional investors, financial institutions and ad hoc and official creditors' committees. He devotes time to *pro bono* matters and is the chair of the New York Office *Pro Bono* Committee. Mr. Sorkin has supervised or worked directly on matters with The Legal Aid Society, Her Justice, The Bronx Defenders, Human Rights First, New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG) and Lawyers Without Borders. He received his B.A. in 1994 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and his J.D. *cum laude* in 2001 from the University of Wisconsin Law School.

Hon. Karen K. Specie is the Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Florida in Tallahassee, also presiding over cases in Gainesville, Panama City and Pensacola. She was initially appointed on July 25, 2012. Judge Specie began her legal career with a Manhattan law firm, representing creditors in commercial litigation and bankruptcy. She then practiced with Fowler, White, Boggs, *et al.* in Tampa and has practiced solo and as a shareholder with firms in Gainesville; just prior to taking the bench, Judge Specie was Of Counsel to Akerman LLP as part of its Bankruptcy and Reorganization practice group in Jacksonville, Fla. While in private practice, she focused on commercial litigation and commercial and consumer bankruptcy cases throughout Florida and the Southeast. Judge Specie has taught bankruptcy and secured transactions as an adjunct professor of law at the University of Florida Levin College of Law, where she still teaches advanced bankruptcy. She has served as a chapter 7 panel trustee for the Northern District of Florida, is a founder of the Federal Bar Association for North Central Florida, and has been a member of the Bankruptcy/UCC Committee of the Business Law Section of The Florida Bar since the early 1990s. Judge Specie currently serves on the Executive Council of the Florida Bar Business Law Section, is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, and is a member of ABI, INSOL, IWIRC and NCBJ. In 2018, she chaired the committee that organized and presented the Bankruptcy Roundtable at the Eleventh Circuit Judicial Conference. In addition to traveling throughout the Northern District to perform her judicial duties, Judge Specie routinely speaks at CLE programs for various organizations such as The Florida Bar,

the Alabama Bar Association, the Jacksonville Bankruptcy Bar Association and the Northern District of Florida Bankruptcy Bar Association. She received her B.A. from the University of South Florida and her J.D. from Florida State University College of Law.

Traci K. Stevenson is a bankruptcy attorney and a chapter 7 trustee with Traci K. Stevenson, PA in Madeira Beach, Fla. She has been a panel trustee for 27 years is also a court-approved mediator for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Tampa, Fla., and has been a State of Florida Supreme Court Certified Civil Circuit mediator since 2008. Before attending law school, Ms. Stevenson was a police officer and labor negotiator, among other things. She was involved in developing the Mortgage Modification Mediation program in the bankruptcy court in all the districts of Florida and has participated in over 3,000 mediations thus far. Ms. Stevenson is a member of National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys and the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association. She received her B.S.B.A. with honors in 1982 from Rollins College in Winter Park, Fla., and her J.D. *cum laude* in 1991 from Stetson University College of Law.

Scott A. Stichter is a shareholder in Stichter, Riedel, Blain, & Postler, P.A. in Tampa, Fla., a boutique firm specializing in bankruptcy and insolvency proceedings. He has more than 30 years of experience practicing principally in the areas of bankruptcy, commercial litigation, foreclosure defense, workouts and debtor/creditor relations, and specializing in all aspects of chapter 11 representation: debtors, trustees, creditors' committees, secured and unsecured creditors, landlords, purchasers and defendants in adversary proceedings in bankruptcy court. Mr. Stichter has received *pro bono* awards from the Florida Bar Association and Hillsborough County Bar Association. He received his B.A. in 1984 from Vanderbilt University and his J.D. from Wake Forest University School of Law in 1987, where he served as a member of the Moot Court Board and the American Bar Association National Appellate Advocacy Team.

Lauren L. Stricker is a partner in the Tampa, Fla., office of Shutts Bowen LLP, where she is a member of the firm's Creditors' Rights/Bankruptcy and Business Litigation Practice Groups. She represents individual and corporate clients in bankruptcy cases, commercial and criminal litigation, and government investigations. Ms. Stricker's practice focuses on bankruptcy, insolvency and restructuring, avoidance actions (including fraudulent and preferential transfer proceedings), corporate fraud, and financial crimes. She represents secured and unsecured creditors, trustees, committees, and corporate and individual clients in complex bankruptcy cases and financial-recovery litigation. She also represents defendants, targets, witnesses, victims, and companies involved in white-collar criminal matters, government investigations, and False Claims Act *qui tam* actions. Ms. Stricker is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell and is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights, Insolvency and Reorganization Law, and *Super Lawyers* lists her as a Rising Star in Business Bankruptcy. She is currently a Fellow of the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar and serves on Florida Bar's Judicial Nominating Procedures Committee. Before going into private practice, Ms. Stricker was a federal judicial law clerk intern for Hon. Caryl E. Delano. She received her B.A. *cum laude* in 2008 from the University of Tampa and her J.D. *cum laude* in 2011 from Stetson University College of Law, where she received the Judge Alexander L. Paskay Scholarship Award and the William F. Blews Pro Bono Award.

J. Ellsworth Summers, Jr. is a shareholder with Burr & Forman LLP in Jacksonville, Fla., where he practices in the firm's Creditor's Rights and Bankruptcy Practice Group. His practice focuses on assisting lenders in commercial loan litigation in bankruptcy, federal and state courts. Mr. Summers has experience with workouts, business reorganizations and liquidations, distressed-asset acquisitions, special counsel assignments and adversary proceedings. He has represented secured lenders, creditors' committees, local governments, trustees, trade creditors, landlords, unsecured creditors, bondholders, homeowners' associations, § 363 asset purchasers and other stakeholders in a variety of business chapter 11 cases. Mr. Summers has trial experience in federal and state court as a commercial litigator. He represents clients in complex commercial litigation, shareholder and partnership disputes, homeowner association disputes, tax disputes, contract litigation, receiverships, lender liability, commercial evictions, and other real estate-related litigation. In his business practice, Mr. Summers assists clients with purchasing and selling assets, and regularly advises on the impact of insolvency on complex financial transactions. He has appeared before state and federal courts in 13 states, the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court of Virginia. Mr. Summers is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell and has routinely been named in *Florida Super Lawyers*, *Florida Legal Elite* and *Florida Best Lawyers*. Prior to private practice, he clerked for Hon. Stephen C. St. John, Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia. Mr. Summers received his B.A. *cum laude* from Hampden-Sydney College and his J.D. *cum laude* from Stetson University College of Law, where he was a member of the *Stetson Law Review*.

Jayant W. Tambe is the practice leader of Jones Day's newly formed global Financial Markets practice, a team of over 320 lawyers around the world who represent financial institutions, funds, asset managers, fintech companies, issuers and corporates in transactions, litigations and regulatory matters. He is based in New York. Mr. Tambe advises clients on litigations concerning securities, derivatives, credit default swaps, collateralized debt obligations and other financial products. Many of his cases involve cross-border disputes, and he is well-versed in navigating international discovery and judgment enforcement. He has litigated significant claims involving CLOs, CDOs, CLNs and other structured finance investments in the New York state and federal courts, including many precedent-setting CDO litigations. Mr. Tambe routinely provides pre-litigation advice on documentation and risk-mitigation and is a frequent speaker on complex financial products. He received his B.A. in economics with honors in 1989 from the University of Toronto and his J.D. *cum laude* in 1992 from the University of Notre Dame.

Edmund S. Whitson III is a partner with Adams & Reese LLP in Tampa, Fla., and has advised clients throughout the U.S. on complex litigation matters in state, district and bankruptcy courts. He is familiar with the needs of financial institutions with regard to loan document enforcement and restructuring and bankruptcy, and he has experience representing banks, receivers and financial institutions in matters involving asset recovery, asset sales and fraudulent-transfer litigation. Mr. Whitson has also worked extensively with insurance company and private-equity group clients in this area. He represents companies in sophisticated collection/garnishment and judgment-recovery litigation and is experienced in creditors' rights, landlord-tenant, commercial lending, and real estate lending and development issues. His experience includes counseling clients in contract negotiation and preparing legal opinions in connection with nonconsolidation and other credit transactions and Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act financings. In addition, Mr. Whitson has represented a variety of clients, including large hospitals, physician groups and other health care providers in mergers, acquisitions and affiliation transactions. He received his B.S. from the University of Virginia,

McIntire School of Commerce and his J.D. with honors from the University of Florida Frederic G. Levin College of Law.

Hon. Michael G. Williamson is Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida in Tampa, initially appointed as bankruptcy judge in March 2000 and as chief judge on Oct. 1, 2015. He also served as an adjunct professor at Stetson University College of Law, where he taught bankruptcy law, and he co-authors West's *Bankruptcy Law Manual*. Judge Williamson served as a chapter 7 panel trustee from 1977-79 and represented numerous chapter 11 corporate debtors, creditors' committees and trustees in bankruptcy cases throughout Florida for 20 years afterward. He is a past chair of the Committee on Creditors' Rights for the Section of Litigation of the American Bar Association, past chair of the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar and its Bankruptcy/UCC Committee, and a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy. Judge Williamson received his undergraduate undergraduate degree from Duke University in 1973 and his J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center in 1976.

Steven R. Wirth is a partner with Akerman LLP in Tampa, Fla. He is a commercial litigator who focuses a large percentage of his practice on bankruptcy matters representing debtors, creditors, examiners, trustees, corporate monitors, committees, secured and unsecured creditors' groups/individuals, state and federal court receivers, distressed investors and asset-buyers, and parties to bankruptcy-related litigation. Mr. Wirth has participated in many of the largest bankruptcy cases in the U.S., including WorldCom, Enron Corp., Global Crossing Limited, Refco, Inc., Lehman Brothers, Bernard Madoff Investment Securities, Lyondell Chemical Co. and Winn Dixie Stores, Inc. He is admitted U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit and the U.S. District Courts for the Middle, Northern and Southern Districts of Florida, the District of New Jersey, and the Eastern and Southern Districts of New York. Mr. Wirth is a member of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association's board of directors, ABI, the American Inns of Court, Ferguson-White Inn, the Florida Bar Association's Business Law Section, the New York City Bar Association and the Tampa Chapter of the Turnaround Underground, of which he is a founding member. He clerked for Chief Judge George L. Proctor of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida. Mr. Wirth received his B.A. in 1995 from Ursinus College and his J.D. from St. John's University School of Law in 1998, where he was on the dean's list, was a senior member of the *ABI Law Review*, and was a member of the senior board of the St. John's Moot Court Honor Society.

Mark J. Wolfson is a partner with Foley & Lardner LLP in Tampa, Fla., and has been a practicing commercial litigation and bankruptcy lawyer for more than 37 years. He has experience in out-of-court loan workout and restructuring matters, as well as broad experience in all types of insolvency and bankruptcy cases, representing secured creditors, indenture trustees, creditors' committees, buyers of assets in chapter 11, equityholders, bondholders, and parties to contracts such as landlords and franchisors. His experience includes health care, hotel, golf course, manufacturing, telecommunication, technology, automotive and agriculture insolvency cases. Mr. Wolfson is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell and has been recognized by *Chambers USA: America's Leading Business Lawyers* since 2003. He also was selected for inclusion in the 2006-17 *Florida Super Lawyers* lists and in *The Best Lawyers in America* since 2007 for Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights Law. Mr. Wolfson regularly lectures on lender liability, fraudulent transfer, and complex bankruptcy matters. He also is co-author of the chapter titled "The Impact of Bankruptcy" for the Florida Bar manual

Florida Construction Law and Practice, recently edited in 2018. Mr. Wolfson has been an active participant in Hillsborough County's *Pro Bono* Legal Aid Programs. He was awarded the 2017 "Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Outstanding *Pro Bono* Service by a Lawyer Award" in the Tampa Bay Area. As chair of the Tampa office's *Pro Bono* efforts, he accepted the Outstanding Law Firm Commendation for *Pro Bono* Service from the Chief Judge of the Florida Supreme Court in February 2019. Mr. Wolfson was the 2005-06 chair of the Florida Bar Business Law Section and is a member of the Section's Executive Council. He also has served as the chair of the Business Law Section's Bankruptcy/UCC Committee and as the lead representative to the Florida Legislature for the Business Law Section in connection with the enactment of Revised Article 9 in Florida in 2001. In addition, he was the primary draftsman of the Florida non-uniform default and remedies provisions. Mr. Wolfson was a member of the advisory board for ABI's Caribbean Insolvency Symposium for more than eight years and has been a member of the advisory board for ABI's Alexander L Paskay Bankruptcy Conference for more than five years. He received his bachelor's degree with high honors from the University of Tennessee in 1979, where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Omicron Delta Kappa, and his J.D. from the University of Florida in 1982, after which he served a judicial clerkship to the Florida Second District Court of Appeals.

Julia Tarver Mason Wood is a partner in the Litigation Department of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP in New York and has experience litigating a wide array of complex commercial matters, including securities, bankruptcy, class action, product-liability and antitrust litigation. She has also done extensive *pro bono* work in the area of the death penalty, among others. Ms. Wood has tried multiple jury, bench and arbitration cases to verdict in federal and state courts around the country, while helping to settle others on the eve or in the midst of trial. In addition, she has argued complex appellate matters before U.S. courts of appeals. Ms. Wood is a former secretary of the New York City Bar Association's Committee on Capital Punishment. In 2000, she received the New York State Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers' Gideon Award for her representation of attorneys in a lawsuit challenging New York's capital counsel fees. Ms. Wood received her B.A. in 1993 Phi Beta Kappa from Rhodes College and her J.D. in 1996 from Columbia Law School, where she was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar, served as managing editor of the *Columbia Law Review* and was awarded Columbia Law School's two highest prizes for trial advocacy. Following law school, she clerked for Hon. Sonia Sotomayor of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York.