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Consumer Practice Extravaganza

Faculty Biographies

Anerio V. Altman is the supervising bankruptcy attorney at Lake Forest Bankruptcy in Laguna Hills, Calif., and has been an attorney of record on more than 900 bankruptcy cases throughout California under chapters 7, 11 and 13. He has also appeared in numerous bankruptcy trials and contested matters in bankruptcy court and has appeared in four published cases as of December 2012. Mr. Altman sits on the board of the Orange County Bar Association's Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section and on the Orange County Bankruptcy Forum. He also sits on the California Central District Rules Committee for the Bankruptcy Courts. Mr. Altman was admitted to the Southern, Eastern and Northern Districts of California by 2005. He received his J.D. from Case Western University School of Law.

Mary Beth Ausbrooks is the sole owner in the consumer debtor firm of Rothschild & Ausbrooks, PLLC, in Nashville, Tenn. She is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and is a Board Certified in Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification, for which she presently serves as president. Ms. Ausbrooks has served as the Tennessee State chair for the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys and is a member of its board of Directors. She has served as president, vice president and secretary for the Middle Tennessee Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys. Ms. Ausbrooks has been recognized in *Super Lawyers* for many years. She has presented on best practices for consumer debtor attorneys and on other aspects of the consumer debtor practice, and she is admitted to practice in the state of Tennessee, the District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee, the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court. Ms. Ausbrooks received her J.D. in 1996 from the University of Memphis.

Hon. Janet S. Baer is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Illinois in Chicago, appointed on March 5, 2012. She also acts on a regular basis as the presiding judge in the Northern District of Illinois for naturalization ceremonies. Previously, Judge Baer 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 a member of the ABI Board of Directors, the CARE National and Chicago Advisory Boards, and the Chicago IWIRC Network Board, as well as several committees. She also is chair of the NCBJ 2023 Education Committee and a frequent speaker for ABI, TMA, the Chicago Bar Association, IWIRC and NCBJ. Judge Baer received her B.A. from the University of Wisconsin - Madison and her J.D. from DePaul College of Law.

Hon. Martin R. Barash is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Central District of California in Woodland Hills and Santa Barbara, sworn in on March 26, 2015. He brings more than 20 years of legal experience to the bench. Prior to his appointment, Judge Barash had been a partner at Klee, Tuchin, Bogdanoff & Stern LLP in Los Angeles since 2001, where he represented debtors and other parties in chapter 11 cases and bankruptcy litigation. He first joined the firm as an associate in 1999. Earlier in his career, Judge Barash worked as an associate of Stutman, Treister & Glatt P.C. in Los Angeles. He also has served as an adjunct professor of law at California State University, Northridge. Following law school, Judge Barash clerked for Hon. Procter R. Hug, Jr. of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit from 1992-93. He is a former ABI Board member, for which he served on its Educa-

tion Committee and currently serves on its Committee for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and he is a former member of the Board of Governors of the Financial Lawyers Conference. In addition, he is a judicial director of the Los Angeles Bankruptcy Forum and a frequent panelist and lecturer on bankruptcy law. He also is a co-author of the national edition of the *Rutter Group Practice Guide: Bankruptcy*. Judge Barash received his A.B. *magna cum laude* in 1989 from Princeton University and his J.D. in 1992 from the UCLA School of Law, where he served as member, editor, business manager and symposium editor of the *UCLA Law Review*.

Michelle H. Bass is a partner at Wolfson Bolton PLLC in Troy, Mich., where she manages its consumer bankruptcy practice group. She represents both debtors and creditors in consumer bankruptcy proceedings. Ms. Bass has represented individuals reorganizing under chapter 11, including subchapter V, and focuses on stopping foreclosures, stripping secured liens, and cramming down loans on collateral for individuals seeking to reorganize under chapters 13 and 11. She has successfully defended appeals in the Federal Eastern District for the State of Michigan and the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. Ms. Bass is a member of ABI, the Detroit Consumer Bankruptcy Association and the Oakland County Bar Association, and she is Board Certified in Consumer Bankruptcy Law. She has been named by *Michigan Lawyer's Weekly* as one of 2019's 30 Women in the Law, by *Crain's Detroit* as one of 2021's Notable Women in the Law, and by *The Best Lawyers in America* in 2023 for Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law. Ms. Bass was recognized by *Super Lawyers* as a "Rising Star" in Consumer Bankruptcy from 2014-22, as a 2023 *Super Lawyer* in Consumer Bankruptcy, and by *Leading Lawyers* in 2023 for Individual Bankruptcy Law. She received her B.A. from the University of Michigan and her J.D. from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law.

Pam Bassel is the standing chapter 13 trustee in Fort Worth, Texas. She began her career in bankruptcy in 1981 as a law clerk to Hon. John Flowers of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas, Fort Worth Division, from 1981-82, then joined Law, Snakard & Gambill, P.C. in Fort Worth and was the senior partner of its bankruptcy section from 1987-2005, after which she was the senior partner of Bassel & Wilcox, P.L.L.C. from 2005-13. She was appointed as a standing chapter 13 trustee for the Northern District of Texas on Oct. 1, 2013. Ms. Bassel is a frequent speaker on bankruptcy topics, including recent presentations at the NACTT 2023 Mortgage Seminar, the DFW Regional Seminar in 2022, the 17th Annual Conference on Consumer Bankruptcy Practice (UT Law, 2022), the 2022 Northern District of Texas Bankruptcy Bench Bar, the NACTT Mid-winter conference in 2021, the 40th Annual Jay L. Westbrook Bankruptcy Conference, and the University of Texas School of Law Consumer Bankruptcy Webcast in 2020. She received her B.S.F.A. *summa cum laude* from Texas Christian University in 1976 and her J.D. with top honors from the University of Texas School of Law in 1981.

Hon. Suzanne H. Bauknight is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee in Knoxville, appointed on Nov. 10, 2014. She previously served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney and Civil Division Chief, representing federal agencies in a variety of matters including bankruptcy and debt collection. During her term as chair of the DOJ's Civil Chiefs Working Group, she was appointed to the Advisory Committee of U.S. Attorney General Eric H. Holder, Jr. Following law school, Judge Bauknight clerked for South Carolina Court of Appeals Judge C. Tolbert Goolsby, Jr., then was an associate at Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, where she practiced in commercial

and employment litigation. She is a member of the Tennessee, South Carolina and Knoxville Bar Associations, and served as a member of the KBA Board of Governors and as co-chair of the Government and Public Service Sector Lawyers' Section. She also is an Emeritus Master of the Bench and past president of the Hamilton Burnett Chapter of the American Inns of Court. Judge Bauknight teaches as an adjunct professor at the University of Tennessee College of Law and the Lincoln Memorial University Duncan School of Law, and she is an associate editor of the *American Bankruptcy Law Journal*. She received her B.A. with honors and *magna cum laude* in international studies from the South Carolina Honors College at the University of South Carolina, and her J.D. *magna cum laude* from the University of South Carolina School of Law, where she attended as a Carolina Legal Scholar.

Hon. Paul M. Black is Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Virginia in Roanoke, initially appointed in 2014. He previously practiced law in Richmond for several years, then returned to his native Roanoke and joined Spilman Thomas & Battle, PLLC, where he co-chaired its Bankruptcy and Creditor's Rights practice group and focused his practice on commercial litigation, bankruptcy, and banking and finance law. Judge Black was named to *The Best Lawyers in America* in multiple areas related to finance and insolvency, to "Virginia's Legal Elite" by *Virginia Business* magazine in both Civil Litigation and Bankruptcy Law, and as a *Virginia Super Lawyer* in the field of Bankruptcy Law. For many years, he was an active participant in the Boyd-Graves Conference of the Virginia Bar Association, which studies and makes recommendations to the Virginia legislature on improvements to civil practice in Virginia. Judge Black is a past chair of the Litigation Section of the Virginia State Bar, and also chaired the Bankruptcy Section of the Virginia Bar Association. In addition, he served as a member of the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board from 2007-13, and he co-chaired the Legislative Committee of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges. In addition, he is a frequent speaker to insolvency professionals on matters pertaining to bankruptcy, litigation and ethics. Judge Black received his undergraduate degree from Washington and Lee University in 1982, studied at Cambridge University in England, and received his J.D. from the University of Richmond in 1985, after which he clerked for Hon. Blackwell N. Shelley of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia.

Hon. Paul W. Bonapfel is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Georgia in Atlanta and Rome, Ga., appointed in 2002. Prior to his appointment, he practiced law in Atlanta with Lamberth, Bonapfel, Cifelli & Stokes, P.A., now known as Lamberth, Cifelli, Ellis & Nason, P.A. As an attorney, Judge Bonapfel represented all types of parties in bankruptcy cases, including consumer and business debtors in liquidation cases, business debtors in reorganization cases, chapter 7 and 11 bankruptcy trustees, creditors' committees, and creditors in both consumer and business cases. Judge Bonapfel is a co-author of *Chapter 13 Practice and Procedure* (Thomson Reuters). A Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy, he has served as chairperson of the Bankruptcy Sections of the State Bar of Georgia and the Atlanta Bar Association and was a director and president of the Southeastern Bankruptcy Law Institute, which presents an annual seminar on bankruptcy law and procedure. In addition, he teaches a course at Mercer Law School in Macon, Ga., on consumer bankruptcy practice. Judge Bonapfel received his B.A. *cum laude* from Florida State University in 1972 and his J.D. *magna cum laude* from the University of Georgia School of Law in 1975, where he was a notes editor of the *Georgia Law Review*. Following law school, he clerked for U.S. District Judge Wilbur D. Owens, Jr., in Macon.

Sumner A. Bourne is a partner with Rafool & Bourne, P.C. in Peoria, Ill., where he primarily represents debtors in chapter 7, 11 and 13 cases, and has confirmed several subchapter V plans. He also is a subchapter V trustee in downstate Illinois, accepting trustee appointments in the Central and Southern Districts of Illinois. Mr. Bourne has experience in representing chapter 7 trustees in preference and other asset-recovery litigation. He is a past chair of the Illinois State Bar Association's section on Bankruptcy practice, and he is a frequent lecturer on bankruptcy issues, having presented for ABI, the Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA), the office of the Illinois Attorney General and the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees (NABT), among other organizations. Mr. Bourne is a frequent author on bankruptcy issues, most recently focusing on subchapter V, and has been published in the *ABI Journal* and the journal of the NABT. He received his B.S. from the University of Illinois in 1990 and his J.D. *magna cum laude* in 1994 from Boston University School of Law.

Beverly M. Burden has served as the chapter 13 trustee for the Eastern District of Kentucky in Lexington since 1999. She previously clerked for Hon. Joe Lee, and prior to that was an assistant attorney general for the Commonwealth of Kentucky in its Consumer Protection Division, concentrating on consumer fraud litigation. Ms. Burden has served on the faculty of the annual meeting of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, the annual convention of the National Association of Chapter Thirteen Trustees (NACTT), the Judge Joe Lee Biennial Bankruptcy Institute, the UK Biennial Consumer Bankruptcy Law Conference, the Midwest Regional Bankruptcy Seminar, ABI's Southeast Bankruptcy Workshop, and other regional and local CLE programs. She writes a blog for practitioners in the Eastern District of Kentucky at www.ch13edky.wordpress.com and is the chair of the Biennial University of Kentucky Consumer Bankruptcy Law Conference. Ms. Burden is a member of the National Association of Chapter Thirteen Trustees (NACTT) and serves on the board of directors of the NACTT Academy for Consumer Bankruptcy Education (www.considerchapter13.org). She also served on the Chapter 13 Advisory Committee to the ABI Commission on Consumer Bankruptcy. Ms. Burden is a 2017 inductee as a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy. She received her J.D. from the University of Kentucky College of Law and holds a B.B.A. in accounting.

Gregory A. Burrell is the standing chapter 13 trustee in Minneapolis, appointed in 2013, and is a licensed attorney in Louisiana and Minnesota. After graduating from law school, he worked as counsel to a chapter 7 panel trustee and also handled consumer chapter 7 and chapter 13 bankruptcy matters. He then went on to work as staff counsel to a chapter 13 trustee. While he was in his full-time role serving as staff counsel to the chapter 13 trustee, Mr. Burrell started a bankruptcy law clinic at Southern University Law Center, where he taught bankruptcy law to third-year law students. The clinic also gave students the opportunity to get practical experience representing indigent debtors in chapter 7 bankruptcy cases. He is a recipient of the NACTT Tireless Time and Effort Award, the Distinguished Trustee Award, and the Southern University Law Center Distinguished Alumnus of the Year Award. Mr. Burrell is a Fellow of the 34th Class (2023) of the American College of Bankruptcy. He authored "Eliminating Implicit Bias in the Bankruptcy Process," published in the *ABI Journal*. Mr. Burrell serves as a permanent member of the Bankruptcy Rules Practice Committee in the District of Minnesota, is the current vice president of the National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees, and is a member of the National Bar Association, Bankruptcy IDEA Consortium, ABI and the National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees. In addition, he is a frequent speaker both locally and nationally on bankruptcy-related topics, and he mentors career-seeking law students through the Tom Vaughn internship program. Mr. Burrell received his B.A. in political science from Xavier University with a minor in business administration, and his J.D. from Southern University Law Center.

Booker T. Carmichael is vice president and assistant general counsel for JPMorgan Chase & Co. in Plano, Texas, where he supports both bankruptcy and law firm oversight business functions. Prior to joining JPMorgan Chase, he was a trial attorney for the U.S. Trustee Program and was responsible for bankruptcy litigation on behalf of the U.S. Trustee in Region 17. Mr. Carmichael received his B.S. in economics and finance from Grambling State University and his J.D. from Southern University Law Center.

Hon. Donald R. Cassling is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Illinois in Chicago, sworn in on Jan. 18, 2012. Prior to his appointment, he was a partner at Jenner & Block and at Quarles & Brady in Chicago, where he had a national practice in commercial and patent-infringement law, as well as bankruptcy litigation, and represented chapter 11 debtors in possession, creditors' committees, individual creditors and chapter 11 trustees. Upon graduation from law school, he clerked for Chief Judge John R. Brown of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit before returning to Chicago to practice law. Judge Cassling has written and lectured extensively on the UCC, banking law and commercial litigation and has testified as an expert witness on the Illinois UCC. From 2003-11, Judge Cassling wrote "Banking Briefs," a banking litigation column for *The Banking Law Journal*, and served as a member of its board of editors. He has also participated as a faculty member for the National Institute of Trial Advocacy and was selected as an *Illinois Super Lawyer* from 2009-12. Judge Cassling is a member of ABI, the American Bar Association and the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges. He received his A.B. from Duke University and his J.D. from the University of Chicago Law School, where he was an editor of the *University of Chicago Law Review*.

Hon. Scott C. Clarkson is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Central District of California in Santa Ana and Riverside, appointed on Jan. 20, 2011, and has also sat on the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel. Prior to his appointment, Judge Clarkson practiced bankruptcy law and bankruptcy litigation for more than 20 years in Los Angeles, served as chair of the Los Angeles County Bar Association's Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section from 2008-09, and served on the board of directors of the Los Angeles Bankruptcy Forum and the Los Angeles Financial Lawyers Conference. He also previously served as judicial chair of the California Bankruptcy Forum, on the advisory board of ABI's Bankruptcy Battleground West, and for the Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Advisors' National Conference. Judge Clarkson has served as co-chair of the Legislative Committee of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, and he is currently a member of the ABI Task Force on Veterans and Servicemembers Affairs. He has also served on the board of directors of the Orange County Federal Bar Association and the Orange County Bankruptcy Forum. Judge Clarkson was admitted to the bars of Virginia, the District of Columbia and California. He was admitted to the bar of the U.S. Supreme Court in 1988. Beginning in January 1977, Judge Clarkson was a legislative assistant to a U.S. Congressman serving on the Judiciary Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives, where he was a direct observer and participant in the drafting of the Bankruptcy Code of 1978. He also served on the first board of advisors for the *Norton Annual Survey of Bankruptcy Law* (1979). Judge Clarkson has served as a judicial mediator in various cases over the last 12 years, including Exide Technologies, Inc. (Delaware), Ruby's Diners (Los Angeles), Eagen Avenatti, LLC (Orange County) and the City of San Bernardino, California (San Bernardino). He has presided over dozens of other judicial mediations over his career. Judge Clarkson received his undergraduate degree from Indiana University in Bloomington in 1979 and his J.D. from George Mason University School of Law in 1982, where he was a member and an editor of its law review.

Hon. Rebecca B. Connelly is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Virginia in Harrisonburg, appointed in July 2012. Before joining the bench, she was the Standing Chapter 13 Trustee and Chapter 12 Trustee for the Western District of Virginia, and prior to that was in private practice in Virginia and in Washington, D.C. Judge Connelly is chair of the Judicial Conference Advisory Committee on the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure. As a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, she formerly chaired the NCBJ Federal Rules Advisory Committee. Judge Connelly is an adjunct professor of law at Washington and Lee University School of Law (teaching bankruptcy). She also is a conferee in the National Bankruptcy Conference and a frequent speaker for Virginia CLE, an author of two chapters of *Bankruptcy Practice in Virginia* (2004, reprinted 2008, and revised and reprinted 2016), and an active member of ABI since 1994. Judge Connelly has served as a contributing editor and a features author for the *ABI Journal*, and she has been a member of ABI’s Consumer Bankruptcy Committee, as well as a speaker at its Annual Spring Meeting, Winter Leadership Conference, and regional conferences, including Views from the Bench. She also serves on the advisory board and volunteers for Credit Abuse Resistance Education. Judge Connelly formerly served on the board and as a volunteer for Rockbridge Area Hospice. She received her B.A. in 1985 from the University of Maryland and her J.D. in 1988 from Washington & Lee University School of Law.

Hon. Heather Z. Cooper is the Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Vermont in Rutland. Prior to her appointment on March 14, 2022, she began her legal career as a briefing attorney to Justice David L. Richards of the Texas Court of Appeals, Second District. She then entered private practice with the firm of Dunn, Kacal, Adams, Pappas & Law, P.C. in Houston, followed by the firm of Murphy & King, P.C. in Boston. In 2004, Judge Cooper moved to Vermont and clerked for former Bankruptcy Judge Collen A. Brown (her predecessor). In 2006, Judge Cooper joined the firm of Facey Goss & McPhee P.C., a Vermont-based law firm, as an associate and then as a partner. Judge Cooper’s practice focused on litigation with extensive and diverse bankruptcy law experience, with more than 20 years of experience in the financial and restructuring industry, representing individual and corporate debtors and creditors in loan workouts and restructurings, liquidations, foreclosures, litigation seizures and receiverships. During her partnership at Facey Goss & McPhee P.C., Judge Cooper served as managing partner and became certified in Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. She also served as the Bankruptcy Law Section Chair of the Vermont Bar Association from 2014-18 and on various task forces for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Vermont since 2011. Judge Cooper received her B.A. from the University of Houston in 1993 and her J.D. *magna cum laude* from South Texas College of Law in 1998.

Prof. Laura N. Coordes is professor of law at Arizona State University’s Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law in Phoenix. Her research focuses on bankruptcy and financial distress and includes commercial law, large corporate reorganizations, and local government finance and policy. She teaches chapter 11 bankruptcy, advanced bankruptcy, secured transactions (in person and online) and contracts. Prof. Coordes is an active ABI member and was a 202 honoree of ABI’s “40 Under 40” program. She served on the board of the *American Bankruptcy Law Journal* from 2019-22 and is an Honorary Master of the Arizona Bankruptcy American Inn of Court. She also serves on the Education Committee for Credit Abuse Resistance Education (CARE). Prof. Coordes is currently serving as the Reporter for the Uniform Law Commission’s Drafting Committee on Assignments for the Benefit of Creditors. She co-authored *The Law of Bankruptcy* (6th ed.). She also is a contributor to the SLoGLaw Blog and a contributing editor for *Bankruptcy Law Letter*. Before coming to the

College of Law, Prof. Coordes practiced in the Business, Finance and Restructuring Department at Weil, Gotshal & Manges in New York. She received her J.D. with honors from The University of Chicago Law School, where she was a Bradley Fellow and served on *The University of Chicago Law Review*, after which she completed a legal fellowship at the Student Press Law Center.

H. David Cox is the founding member of Cox Law Group PLLC in Lynchburg, Va., and practices bankruptcy law throughout the Western District of Virginia. Prior to entering private practice, he clerked for the late Hon. William E. Anderson. He co-edits the treatise *Bankruptcy Practice in Virginia*, co-authored the fourth edition of ABI's *Consumer Bankruptcy: Fundamentals of Chapter 7 and Chapter 13 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code*, and has lectured at numerous regional and national CLE programs. Mr. Cox is a member of the National Bankruptcy Conference, a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and a faculty member of the mandatory Virginia State Bar Harry L. Carrico Professionalism Course, and he serves on ABI's Board of Directors. He received his B.A. in 1992 from Virginia Tech and his J.D. in 1995 from the University of Richmond - TC Williams School of Law.

Nathan E. Curtis is a senior court attorney and supervising attorney at Geraci Law L.L.C. in Chicago and has filed or reviewed more than 10,000 consumer bankruptcy cases in Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin. His duties include handling all court matters in the Northern District of Illinois Western Division, the detailed review of complicated chapter 7 and 13 matters and being primarily responsible for the firm's bankruptcy appeals. Mr. Curtis has argued at the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals three times and has briefed two other appeals, one as an amicus. He also filed an amicus brief in the Supreme Court case *City of Chicago v. Fulton*. Mr. Curtis is involved in the firm's in-house Continuing Legal Education program, and he has spoken at local, regional and national conferences on consumer bankruptcy matters. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Illinois and his J.D. from the John Marshall Law School.

Alexis M. Daniel is a trial attorney in the Civil Division of the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. She represents the U.S.'s interests in bankruptcy and commercial litigation matters. Prior to joining the Department of Justice, Ms. Daniel clerked for Hon. Sarah Evans Barker in the Southern District of Indiana. She received her B.A. with high distinction in political science from Indiana University, and her J.D. *cum laude* from Indiana University Maurer School of Law.

Thomas D. DeCarlo is an attorney with Osipov Bigelman, P.C. in Southfield, Mich., where he focuses his practice on commercial litigation and bankruptcy. He previously was a staff attorney at the office of David Wm. Ruskin, the standing chapter 13 trustee for the Eastern District of Michigan in Southfield, Mich. He has practiced in the areas of bankruptcy and creditors' rights and has represented debtors, creditors, committees and other parties-in-interest in chapter 7, 11 and 13 bankruptcy proceedings in cases throughout the southeastern U.S. He also has been an adjunct professor of bankruptcy law at the Thomas Cooley School of Law in Ann Arbor, Mich., and previously served as the adjunct professor of bankruptcy law at Ave Maria University College of Law, also in Ann Arbor. Mr. DeCarlo is admitted to practice in the U.S. Bankruptcy and District Courts for the Eastern District of Michigan, the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Michigan, and the Sixth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals. He is a frequent writer and speaker on bankruptcy and related topics for ABI, the Institute for Continuing Legal Education of the State Bar of Michigan, and the National Associa-

tion of Chapter 13 Trustees. Mr. DeCarlo is a member of the State Bar of Michigan, the Consumer Bankruptcy Association of the Eastern District of Michigan, the Federal Bar Association of the Western District of Michigan, ABI and the National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees, for which he is a frequent contributor to the NACTT Academy weekly newsletter (considerchapter13.org), as well as its Facebook page, Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys of Detroit Members. He received his B.G.S. in 1981 from the University of Michigan and his J.D. *magna cum laude* in 1984 from Stetson University College of Law, where he was the editor-in-chief of the *Stetson Law Review*.

Laura L. Donaldson is a chapter 7 and 13 consumer and small business bankruptcy attorney with Law Office of Laura L. Donaldson, LLC in Gladstone, Ore., where she has been practicing since 2002 in the District of Oregon and Western District of Washington. Her practice focuses primarily on assisting debtors with their insolvency issues, restructuring and litigation. Ms. Donaldson focuses on asset and risk analysis, debt negotiation and settlement, dispute resolution, tax analysis, foreclosure defense, trials and consumer rights. She received her J.D. from Lewis and Clark College.

Hon. Brian T. Fenimore is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Missouri in Kansas City, appointed on Aug. 31, 2017. Previously, he was a partner in the Kansas City, Mo., office of Lathrop & Gage LLP for more than 25 years and co-chaired its Banking & Creditors' Rights practice area, representing debtors, creditors and many other parties in interest. He also represented borrowers and lenders in problem loan matters, including loan enforcement, guarantor liability, workouts, reorganizations and bankruptcies throughout the U.S. Judge Fenimore is admitted to practice in Kansas and Missouri, and before the U.S. Bankruptcy Courts for the Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri and the District of Kansas, as well as the U.S. District Courts for the District of Kansas and the Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri. He is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell and has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* every year since 2003, among other listings. He is also a frequent speaker and ABI member. Judge Fenimore received his B.S. *magna cum laude* in 1988 in agricultural economics from the University of Missouri-Columbia and his J.D. in 1990 from the University of Michigan Law School, after which he clerked for Hon. Arthur B. Federman.

Joseph A. Ferrise is the attorney for the Chapter 13 Trusteeship in Akron, Ohio, a position he has held for 15 years. Mr. Ferrise received his undergraduate degrees in political science and history, and his J.D. in taxation, from the University of Akron.

Rachel L. Foley is the founder of Foley Law, PC in Independence, Mo., and handles consumer chapter 7s and 13s in both Kansas and Missouri. She began her bankruptcy career with the United Auto Workers, representing GM and Ford employees in chapter 13 and 7 cases. She was the only bankruptcy attorney for the Missouri auto workers, and it was not unusual for her to manage three to four times the regular attorney caseload at any given time. Ms. Foley previously was a risk manager for Clarkson Regional Health Center and has 20 years of experience in the emergency room as a Registered Respiratory Therapist. She is the inaugural winner of the K. Colleen Nunnally Award by the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys and is recognized by her peers as being the Best of the Kansas City Bar in the area of bankruptcy. She also has been named to the Pro Bono Wall of Fame by the Missouri Bar Association. Ms. Foley frequently speaks nationally and locally on consumer bankruptcy topics. She is a member of the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys, ABI, the Kansas City Bankruptcy Bar Association, the Kansas City Metro Bar

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Association and the International Women's Restructuring & Insolvency Confederation. Ms. Foley received her undergraduate degree in the sciences and medicine from Creighton University and her J.D. from Creighton School of Law.

Kara Gendron is co-owner of Mott & Gendron Law in Harrisburg, Pa. She has been practicing bankruptcy law exclusively since 2001 and focuses her practice on representing individuals, farmers and small business owners in bankruptcy cases. Ms. Gendron is board certified in Consumer Bankruptcy Law and a certified bankruptcy court mediator. In addition to her private bankruptcy law practice, she is a chapter 7 trustee and a chapter 12 trustee. Ms. Gendron is the Membership Relations Director for ABI's Consumer Bankruptcy Committee and is an advisory board member for ABI's 2023 Consumer Practice Extravaganza (CPEX). She also is a board member of the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys (NACBA) and serves as NACBA's chair for the Circuit Leader Committee. Ms. Gendron is a director for the American Board of Certification (ABC), a board member of the Middle District Bankruptcy Bar Association (MDBBA), an advisory board member for the Middle District of Pennsylvania Bankruptcy Court, and an advisory board member for the *American Bankruptcy Law Journal*, published by the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges (NCBJ). She also taught bankruptcy law for several years at the Widener School of Law. Ms. Gendron received her B.A. in 1997 from the University of Pennsylvania and her J.D. in 2001 from Pennsylvania State University Dickinson School of Law.

Jennifer A. Giaimo is a trial attorney with the U.S. Trustee Program in Phoenix, which she joined in November 2009. She previously clerked for U.S. District Judge David Hittner in Houston, served as a trial attorney for the Department of Justice Tax Division in Washington, D.C., then was Assistant Attorney General for the State of Vermont. Ms. Giaimo received her J.D. from St. John's University School of Law in 1992 and her LL.M. in taxation from Georgetown University in 2002.

Heather M. Giannino is the managing attorney of the Bankruptcy Department at Heavner, Beyers & Mihlar, LLC in Decatur, Ill., where she oversees secured creditors' rights in bankruptcy, foreclosure and related matters. She is a member of ABI and the Bankruptcy Association of Southern Illinois (BASIL), the National Association of Chapter Thirteen Trustees (NACTT), the American Legal and Financial Network (ALFN), and the Illinois State, Decatur and Missouri Bar Associations. Ms. Giannino currently co-chairs ABI's Consumer Committee. She previously served as co-chair of the Hon. Eugene R. Wedoff Seventh Circuit Consumer Bankruptcy Conference; Education Director, Special Projects Leader and Communications Manager of ABI's Consumer Committee; co-chair of ALFN's BKPG Events, Content & Social Media Subcommittee, coordinating editor for the Consumer Point-Counterpoint Column of the *ABI Journal*, member of the Loan Modification Mediation subcommittee of the Northern District of Illinois Bankruptcy Court Liaison Committee and member of the planning committee for ABI's Consumer Practice Extravaganza. Ms. Giannino is licensed to practice in Illinois, Missouri and Indiana. She received her B.S. in accounting and finance *summa cum laude* from Millikin University and her J.D. *cum laude* from Chicago-Kent College of Law.

Matthew T. Girardi is a senior staff attorney for Robin Wiener, Chapter 13 Trustee, in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. He has been licensed to practice bankruptcy law for 13 years. Mr. Girardi received his J.D. from Florida State University College of Law.

Hon. Mary P. Gorman is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Central District of Illinois in Springfield, appointed in September 2005 by the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals. She served as Chief Judge from January 2013 until August 2019. Prior to her appointment to the bench, she was in private practice, concentrating in bankruptcy and commercial transactions and litigation, and she was admitted to practice in the Illinois Supreme Court, the Northern and Central Districts of Illinois, the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, the U.S. Tax Court and the U.S. Supreme Court. Judge Gorman is a past president of the Winnebago County Bar Association and has been active on the Illinois State Bar Association's Task Force on the Unauthorized Practice of Law and the Commercial, Banking, and Bankruptcy Section Council. From 1999-2003, she was an adjunct professor of bankruptcy law at the Northern Illinois University College of Law. Judge Gorman is a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, ABI, and the Illinois State, Winnebago County and Sangamon County Bar Associations. She has served on the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts' Bankruptcy Judges Advisory Group and on the Administrative Office's Budget and Finance Advisory Council. Judge Gorman recently completed seven years of service as one of the five bankruptcy judge representatives on the Judicial Conference Committee on the Administration of the Bankruptcy System. During her service on the Bankruptcy Committee, she served as a liaison to the Judicial Conference Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules and the Judicial Conference Budget Committee's Economic Subcommittee. She also was a member of the task force created by the Bankruptcy Committee to review current policies, rules and regulations regarding unclaimed funds, and she currently serves as a member of the Administrative Office's Judiciary Data Working Group. Judge Gorman received her undergraduate degree with honors from Rosary College (now Dominican University) and also attended the University of Fribourg, Switzerland. She received her J.D. with high honors from the University of Illinois College of Law, where she served as a member of its law review and the Order of the Coif.

Hon. Christine M. Gravelle is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of New Jersey in Trenton, named to the bench in 2013. Previously, she was a partner at the law firm of Markowitz Gravelle, LLP in Lawrenceville, N.J., where she focused on commercial litigation and bankruptcy, representing individual and commercial debtors, creditors, trustees and committees. Judge Gravelle served as president of the Mercer County Bar Association in 2011 after serving nine years as an officer and trustee for the Association. She was a member of the Lawyers Advisory Committee to the Board of Judges of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Jersey from 2008-13, having chaired the committee in her last year of service. She currently serves as the judicial liaison for the committee. She also served as a trustee of the Bankruptcy Section of the New Jersey State Bar Association, and she served on the Board of Trustees of Central Jersey Legal Services as a member and officer. She served on the board of trustees of Central Jersey Legal Services as a member and officer, and she is a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges. Ms. Gravelle received her undergraduate degree *magna cum laude* from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and her J.D. *magna cum laude* from Suffolk University Law School in Boston, after which she clerked for Hon. Donald F. Shea on the Supreme Court of Rhode Island.

Rachel A. Greenleaf is a career law clerk for Hon. Kevin R. Huennekens of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia in Richmond. After graduating law school, she spent a year as a term law clerk for Hon. Kevin R. Huennekens. Upon completing her clerkship, Ms. Greenleaf practiced law at Hirschler, primarily focusing on restructuring and insolvency, before returning to the court in 2018. Ms. Greenleaf received her undergraduate degree *magna cum laude* in philosophy from Randolph-Macon Woman's College and her J.D. with honors from The George Washington

University Law School, where she served as editor-in-chief of *The Federal Circuit Bar Journal*, the official publication of the Federal Circuit Bar Association.

Hon. John T. Gregg is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Michigan in Grand Rapids, appointed on July 17, 2014. Previously, he was a partner with the law firm of Barnes & Thornburg LLP, where he focused on corporate restructuring, bankruptcy and other insolvency matters. Judge Gregg served as chair of the education committee of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges for 2022, serves on the ABI's Board of Directors, was recently inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, and is a member of the American Law Institute. He is a frequent writer and speaker on bankruptcy and other commercial issues, and he has written and co-edited numerous secondary sources, including *Collier Guide to Chapter 11*, published by LexisNexis; *Strategies for Secured Creditors in Workouts and Foreclosures*, published by ALI-ABA; *Issues for Suppliers and Customers of Financially Troubled Auto Suppliers*, published by ABI; *Michigan Security Interests in Personal Property*, published by the Institute of Continuing Legal Education; *Handling Consumer and Small Business Bankruptcies in Michigan*, published by the Institute of Continuing Legal Education; *Interrupted! Understanding Bankruptcy's Effects on Manufacturing Supply Chains*, published by ABI; and *Receiverships in Michigan*, published by the Institute of Continuing Legal Education. Judge Gregg received his B.A. in 1996 from the University of Michigan and his J.D. in 2002 from DePaul University College of Law.

Hon. Elizabeth L. Gunn is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Columbia in Washington, D.C., appointed on Sept. 4, 2020. A COVID-era selection and appointment, she was sworn in by Zoom from her living room. Prior to her appointment, Judge Gunn served as an Assistant Attorney General for the Commonwealth of Virginia as the bankruptcy specialist for the Division of Child Support Enforcement. She also practiced law in Richmond, Va., at Sands Anderson PC and McGuire-Woods LLP. In 2017, Judge Gunn was honored as a member of ABI's inaugural class of "40 Under 40." In 2022, she was recognized by the Bar Association of the District of Columbia as its Judicial Honoree and recipient of the BADC's Suzanne V. Richards Foundation Grant. Judge Gunn serves on the advisory board of the *American Bankruptcy Law Journal* and is a coordinating and associate editor of the *ABI Journal*. In addition, she sits on the boards of the Federal Bar Association Bankruptcy Section, International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation, American Bar Association, National Conference of Federal Trial Judges and the Chesapeake Chapter of the Turnaround Management Association. She also is a member of the Walter Chandler Bankruptcy Inn of Court and is Board Certified in Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. Judge Gunn received her B.A. *cum laude* from Willamette University and her J.D. *cum laude* from Boston College Law School.

Krista Hale is a bankruptcy analyst and regional auditory supervisor with the U.S. Trustee Program for Region 19 in Denver.

Prof. Sally M. Henry is the John E. Krahmer Endowed Professor of Banking and Commercial Law at the Texas Tech School of Law in Lubbock, Texas. She is a 2022 recipient of the Texas Tech University Chancellor's Council Distinguished Teaching Award, the highest award given by Texas Tech University for teaching. Moreover, she has been designated "professor of the year" multiple times by the Texas Tech Hispanic Law Students Association and the Texas Tech Black Law Students Associa-

tion. Before joining academia, Prof. Henry was a partner at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, LLP, where she represented a diverse group of clients, including debtors-in-possession, secured and unsecured creditors, financially troubled companies and chapter 11 trustees, as well as entities that acquire financially distressed companies. She has spoken on restructuring issues throughout the world, including in South America and Europe. Her *pro bono* work has included asylum cases, public housing cases, wage-theft cases and debtor/creditor work. She won a New York City-wide award from the Legal Aid Society for her *pro bono* work. Prof. Henry is the author or co-author of various articles on acquisitions of the assets of secured transactions, troubled companies, municipal bankruptcies, debtor/creditor concerns of officers and directors, cross-border restructurings, security interests, the absolute priority rule and other bankruptcy-related issues, and she is the editor of each annual edition of the *Portable Bankruptcy Code and Rules* (Business Law Section, ABA) and co-author of *Ordin on Contesting Confirmation* (Wolters Kluwer, 1998), updated semi-annually. She received her B.A. from Duke University and her J.D. from New York University School of Law.

Prof. Ingrid M. Hillinger is a professor of law at Boston College Law School in Newton, Mass., where she teaches a variety of commercial law/bankruptcy courses, including Contracts, Secured Transactions, and Business Bankruptcy. She was named one of the 26 “best law teachers” in the country by the authors of *What the Best Law Teachers Do* (Harvard University Press 2013), and was the 2002 winner of the Boston College Distinguished Teaching Award. Prof. Hillinger is a co-editor of *Chapter 11 Theory & Practice: A Guide to Reorganization*, a multi-volume bankruptcy treatise, and a co-author of an Article 9 case book, *Commercial Transactions: Secured Financing: Cases, Materials & Problems*, which adopts a problem-solving approach to teaching transactional law. She has taught at a variety of schools during her nearly 40-year teaching career, including College of William & Mary, the University of Texas at Austin, Emory University, Northeastern University School of Law and the University of Connecticut School of Law. While at William & Mary, she received an Outstanding Teacher Award from the Virginia Council on Higher Education. Prof. Hillinger is the faculty advisor to the *Uniform Commercial Code Reporter Digest*, a LexisNexis publication that annotates important UCC cases. She received her A.B. from Barnard College and her J.D. from the College of William & Mary.

Thomas H. Hooper is a chapter 13 standing trustee for the Northern District of Illinois in Chicago, appointed on Oct. 1, 2021. He began his bankruptcy career in North Carolina, where he represented debtors in chapter 7 and 13 cases. Following his experience as debtors’ counsel, Mr. Hooper served as a staff attorney to both Russell Simon, chapter 13 standing trustee for the Southern District of Illinois, and Joseph Bledsoe, chapter 13 standing trustee for the Eastern District of North Carolina. He has been a frequent speaker on issues affecting chapter 13 administration at bankruptcy seminars and workshops. Mr. Hooper received his B.B.A. from Ohio University and his J.D. from Ohio Northern University.

Patrick Hruby is a senior associate attorney at Brock & Scott, PLLC in its Tampa, Fla., office. His practice focuses on creditor-side bankruptcy matters in all Florida and Ohio bankruptcy courts. Mr. Hruby has a broad understanding of bankruptcy from his creditor representation in all chapters, and from having served as a judicial law clerk in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Ohio and serving chapter 7 trustees for several years. He writes frequently for industry publications and is currently serving as the Editor of ABI’s Consumer Committee Newsletter. Mr. Hruby received

his undergraduate degree *summa cum laude* in 2006 from Cleveland State University and his J.D. *cum laude* in 2009 from Case Western Reserve University School of Law.

Hannah W. Hutman is a partner at Hoover Penrod, PLC in Harrisonburg, Va., where she represents businesses and individuals in bankruptcy proceedings and creditor negotiations. Her practice areas include bankruptcy, debtor and creditor rights, and general corporate work. In addition to representing businesses and individuals in bankruptcy proceedings, Ms. Hutman has represented national and regional banks in all aspects of commercial collections, including restructuring obligations, asset liquidations and dispositions, and foreclosure. She also is a member of the panel of chapter 7 trustees for the Western District of Virginia, a frequent presenter on a wide variety of insolvency-related topics, and co-author of a chapter in *Bankruptcy Practice in Virginia*. She has been active in the Virginia network of the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation and is a past chair of the Board of Governors for the Bankruptcy Law Section of the Virginia State Bar. Ms. Hutman is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell, has routinely been listed in *Super Lawyers* as a "Rising Star" and selected as a member of Virginia's "Legal Elite," and was honored as one of ABI's "40 Under 40" in 2018. Ms. Hutman received her B.A. *summa cum laude* from Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, Md., and her J.D. from the Marshall Wythe School of Law at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Va.

Hon. Meredith A. Jury is a retired U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Central District of California in Riverside, appointed from 1997-2018 by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. She also served on the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel (BAP) from 2007-17. Since her retirement, she has been writing *pro bono* appellate briefs for consumer debtors or amicus for NACBA. Prior to her appointment to the bench, Judge Jury had spent her entire attorney career as a civil, municipal and bankruptcy litigator for the law firm of Best, Best & Krieger in Riverside, joining as the first woman associate in 1976 and becoming its first woman partner in 1982. She has participated in innumerable panels about various aspects of bankruptcy law at local and Ninth Circuit programs. As a member of the BAP, Judge Jury was lead author of *In re Vallejo*, 408 B.R. 280 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2009), primarily concerning the eligibility of a city to file chapter 9. She received her B.A. *cum laude* from the University of Colorado, where she was elected Phi Beta Kappa, and her J.D. from UCLA. She also received Masters degrees in economics and English/education from the University of Wisconsin.

Hon. Benjamin A. Kahn is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of North Carolina in Greensboro, sworn in on Feb. 3, 2014. He also is the chair of the Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Judge Education for the Federal Judicial Center, for which he serves as one of the instructors for Phase I and Phase II Orientation for Newly Appointed Bankruptcy Judges. Judge Kahn is a member of the U.S. Judicial Conference Advisory Committee on the Bankruptcy Rules, and is chair of its Forms Subcommittee. In addition, he is a conferee of the National Bankruptcy Conference, for which he previously served on the Executive Committee and currently serves as chair of the Committee on the Court System and Bankruptcy Administration and on the Nominating Committee. Judge Kahn is a contributing author and member of the board of editors for *Collier on Bankruptcy* and served as the judicial chair of ABI's Southeast Bankruptcy Workshop from 2019-23. Prior to his appointment, he was a member of Nexsen Pruet PLLC and clerked for Bankruptcy Judge Jerry G. Tart of the Middle District of North Carolina. Judge Kahn is Board Certified in Business and Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification, for which he served as a member of its board of direc-

tors until his appointment to the bench. Prior to joining the bench, Judge Kahn was a certified mediator in North Carolina and was recognized as among the Top 10 North Carolina *Super Lawyers* across all practice areas for the two years immediately preceding his appointment, elected to the Legal Elite Hall of Fame by *Business North Carolina Magazine* in 2014 as the category winner in North Carolina for Bankruptcy, and was included among Band 1 bankruptcy practitioners in North Carolina in *Chambers and Partners USA*. He received his B.A. in political science and history in 1990, and his J.D. with honors in 1993, from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Hon. Elizabeth D. Katz is Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Massachusetts in Springfield, initially appointed on March 13, 2017, and assigned to the Western and Central Divisions, then named Chief Judge on Sept. 10, 2022. On April 17, 2018, she was appointed to the First Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel. From 1995-2007, Judge Katz was an assistant district attorney for the Northwestern District Attorney's Office, and she was chief of the District Court Prosecutors from 2000-07. She also was an associate at the firm of Katz, Argenio and Powers, PC from 2007-08 and later became an associate at the Ostrander Law Office from 2008-13, where she concentrated her practice on bankruptcy law. At Ostrander Law Office, she represented a chapter 7 trustee in adversary proceedings, counseled individuals and businesses in financial distress, and represented clients in bankruptcy cases. In 2013, she formed and operated The Law Office of Elizabeth D. Katz, focusing on criminal defense and bankruptcy law. Immediately prior to her appointment, she had been a founding partner at Rescia, Katz & Shear, LLP since 2015. An active member of the Hampshire County, Hampden County and Massachusetts Bar Associations, Judge Katz served as president of the Hampshire County Bar Association from 2012-14. She also was co-chair of both the Massachusetts Bar Association's Western Massachusetts Bankruptcy Symposium and the Western Division of the M. Ellen Carpenter Financial Literacy Program. In 2016, Judge Katz was awarded the Massachusetts Bar Association's Community Service Award. In addition, she has been a frequent panelist and lecturer on the topics of both criminal and bankruptcy law. Since 2019, Judge Katz has taught consumer bankruptcy at Western New England University School of Law. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Vermont in 1991 and her J.D. from Boston University School of Law, where she received the Edward F. Hennessey Award in 1994.

Hon. Brian F. Kenney is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia in Alexandria, appointed on Sept. 1, 2011. Prior to his appointment, he was a principal in the Tysons, Va., office of Miles & Stockbridge. He had represented creditors, debtors and bankruptcy trustees for 28 years. Judge Kenney is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. He served two terms as president of the Northern Virginia Bankruptcy Bar Association, and most recently has been serving on its board of directors. He also had served two terms on the board of directors of the Virginia State Bar Bankruptcy Section. Judge Kenney received his undergraduate degree in 1980 from Virginia Commonwealth University and his J.D. in 1983 from the University of Virginia School of Law.

Ari D. Kunofsky is a trial attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice's Tax Division in Alexandria, Va. He previously was an Honor's Program attorney with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC). Mr. Kunofsky received his Bachelor's degree in 2002 in political science and government from The University of Texas at Austin, and his J.D. in 2005 from The University of Texas School of Law.

Patrick S. Layng is the U.S. Trustee for Region 11, covering the Northern District of Illinois and the Eastern and Western Districts of Wisconsin, and is based in Chicago. He previously was a regional criminal coordinator for the U.S. Trustee Program (USTP), with responsibility for prosecuting bankruptcy-related cases as a special assistant U.S. attorney, providing consultation and guidance for law enforcement and USTP personnel on criminal bankruptcy fraud issues, and lecturing extensively on bankruptcy crimes, mortgage fraud and related topics. Prior to that, Mr. Layng was an assistant U.S. attorney in the Northern District of Illinois for more than 14 years. From 1987-89, he clerked for Hon. Stanley J. Roszkowski in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois (retired). Mr. Layng has tried nearly 40 federal criminal trials and argued 14 cases before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. He received his undergraduate degree *magna cum laude* from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign College of Commerce and his J.D. *cum laude* from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Law School.

Jon J. Lieberman is a partner at Sottile & Barile LLC in Cincinnati, where he primarily represents mortgage lenders and servicers as head of the firm's national bankruptcy litigation and appellate practice. Nationally, he is very active with ABI, the Federal Bar Association and the Turnaround Management Association. Mr. Lieberman serves as both an associate editor and a coordinating editor of the *ABI Journal* and co-authored ABI's *Thorny Issues in Consumer Bankruptcy Cases, Second Edition*. He is former co-chair of ABI's Consumer Bankruptcy Committee, for which he was designated Committee Person of the Year; a former co-chair of ABI's Legislation Committee; and a former Education Director of ABI's Commercial and Regulatory Law Committee. He currently serves as Special Projects Leader of ABI's Bankruptcy Litigation Committee. A former Air Force Officer, Mr. Lieberman is co-chair of Outreach for ABI's Veterans and Servicemembers Task Force, and he served a term on ABI's 40 Under 40 Selection Committee. He currently serves on the editorial board of *The Federal Lawyer*, the journal of the Federal Bar Association, and is secretary of the FBA's national Bankruptcy Law Section. Locally, Mr. Lieberman is former co-chair of the Consumer Bankruptcy Subcommittee of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Ohio Attorney Advisory Committee, and is currently a member of its Chapter 11 Subcommittee. He also is a board officer of the Southern District of Ohio Bankruptcy Bench-Bar Conference and a former leader of the Southern District of Ohio's American Bankruptcy Law Forum. Mr. Lieberman is a former member of the Board of Trustees of the Cincinnati Bar Association and a former chair of the CBA's Real Property Law Committee. He is a Louise Taft Semple Classics Scholar, Phi Beta Kappa, *summa cum laude*, distinguished military graduate of the University of Cincinnati and received his J.D. from the University of Cincinnati College of Law in 1990.

Hon. Keith M. Lundin is a retired U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Tennessee in Nashville, having served from 1982-2016, and currently maintains a Bankruptcy Workshop website called LundinOnChapter13.com in Pittsburgh. He also served on the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the Sixth Circuit from 1997-99. Judge Lundin is on the faculty of the Federal Judicial Center. In addition to teaching as an adjunct professor at Vanderbilt Law School, he taught at the University of New Mexico, where he was the Weihofen Distinguished Visiting Professor of Law in 2006, at Emory University School of Law and on numerous seminar and institute faculties. Judge Lundin is the author of LundinOnChapter13.com and has been a managing editor for the *Norton Bankruptcy Law Adviser* (West Group) since 1982. Following law school, he clerked for Chief Judge Harry Phillips of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. While in private practice, he served as standing chapter 13 trustee for the Middle District of Tennessee. Judge Lundin teaches Effective Legal Writing for the

Real World, Marijuana and Bankruptcy, Discharge and Dischargeability, and Chapter 13. He received his J.D. from Vanderbilt University Law School.

Hon. Brian D. Lynch is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Washington in Tacoma, sworn in on June 1, 2010. He served as Chief Bankruptcy Judge from Oct. 1, 2014, to Sept. 30, 2019, and as chair of the Conference of Ninth Circuit Chief Bankruptcy Judges in 2017. Prior to his appointment, Judge Lynch served as the Standing Chapter 13 Trustee for the Portland Division of the District of Oregon, and as the Standing Chapter 12 Trustee for the District of Oregon. In 2018, he was awarded the National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees Hon. Ralph Kelley Award. Judge Lynch received his J.D. in 1975 from Georgetown University Law Center.

M. Christine Maggard is a senior associate attorney in the Bankruptcy Division of Brock & Scott, PLLC in Virginia Beach, Va., where, in addition to representing the interests of creditors in bankruptcy, she serves on the firm's Diversity Equity and Inclusion committee. She is licensed to practice in all state and federal courts within the Commonwealth of Virginia. Ms. Maggard began her legal career at the Office of the Virginia Attorney General in the Division of Debt Collection. With the exception of a stint working in the Office's Correctional Litigation Section, her practice has focused on debtor/creditor relationships. Ms. Maggard is a former president of the Virginia Creditors Bar Association and a past seminar chair and past president of the Tidewater Bankruptcy Bar Association, and she serves as the secretary for the Virginia Network of the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation. She also is a member of the American Legal & Financial Network's Women in Legal Leadership's Social Media and Events Committee, secretary for ALFN's IDEA Committee, a member of the Virginia State Bar's Diversity Conference, and an adjunct faculty member for Virginia Commonwealth University's Paralegal Studies Program. She also serves on a consumer advisory subcommittee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia. Ms. Maggard is a frequent speaker at seminars and conferences regionally and nationally on matters including bankruptcy and diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging. She volunteers as a judge for college and high school mock trial competitions and donates her time to provide *pro bono* legal services in conjunction with the Virginia Equality Bar Association's Gender Marker Clinic. Ms. Maggard received her undergraduate degree in English and rhetoric and communications studies from the University of Virginia in 1986 and her J.D. from George Mason University School of Law in 1991.

Hon. Bruce A. Markell is the Professor of Bankruptcy Law and Practice and the Edward Avery Harriman Lecturer in Law at Northwestern University's Pritzker School of Law in Chicago. From 2013-15, he was the Jeffrey A. Stoops Professor of Law at Florida State University School of Law, and before that he was a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Nevada, a position he had held since 2004. After law school, he clerked for then-judge Anthony M. Kennedy on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Before taking the bench, he practiced bankruptcy and business law in Los Angeles for 10 years (where he was a partner at Sidley & Austin) and was a law professor for 14. He is the author of numerous articles on bankruptcy and commercial law, and a co-author of four law school casebooks. Prof. Markell has been a visiting professor at, among other schools, Peking University School of Law in Beijing and Harvard Law School. He contributes to *Collier on Bankruptcy*, and is a member of *Collier's* editorial advisory board. He also is a conferee of the National Bankruptcy Conference, a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, a founding member of the International Insolvency Institute, and a life member of the American Law Institute. Prof. Markell

served as a commissioner for ABI's Commission on Consumer Bankruptcy, where he served as the chair of its Case Administration and the Estate Committee. He received the Commercial Law League of America's Lawrence King Award in 2022, and in 2016, he completed a project redrafting Kosovo's bankruptcy law. He has consulted with the International Monetary Fund on insolvency-related issues (having been part of the IMF's missions to Ireland, Bosnia, Montenegro, Serbia, Belarus, Georgia and Greece). Prof. Markell received his J.D. in 1980 from the University of California at Davis, where he was editor-in-chief of its law review and a recipient of the School of Law Medal.

Richard A. Marshack is a founding partner of Marshack Hays Wood LLP in Irvine, Calif., and has been an attorney since 1982. He serves as an attorney and as a professional fiduciary. As an attorney, his focus is on commercial matters arising in bankruptcy proceedings, such as representing debtors/businesses and creditors/creditor committees in reorganization proceedings and representing bankruptcy trustees. After completing law school, Mr. Marshack clerked for Hon. Folger Johnson, Chief Judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Oregon from 1982-84. He has been in private practice since 1984, working primarily on bankruptcy and commercial law issues. Mr. Marshack is a frequent lecturer and presenter of seminars (over 50) on bankruptcy and commercial law issues. Additionally, he has authored more than 20 articles and materials relating to the practice of law. Mr. Marshack received the 2016 Hon. Peter M. Elliott Award by the Orange County Bankruptcy Forum, and he has been listed as a Super Lawyer. He taught at the University of California at Irvine from 1985-92 and was an adjunct professor of bankruptcy law at Western State College of Law. Mr. Marshack is admitted to practice in California and before the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and the U.S. District Courts for the Central, Eastern, Northern and Southern Districts of California. He received his B.A. in 1979 from the University of California, Irvine and his J.D. *magna cum laude* from California Western School of Law. Following law school, he clerked for Hon. Folger Johnson, Chief Judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Oregon.

David A. Mawhinney is the subchapter V trustee for Region One in Sudbury, Mass., and the standing chapter 13 trustee for the Central and Western Divisions of the District of Massachusetts. He began his career clerking for Hon. Frank J. Bailey of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Massachusetts, and he was an associate in the restructuring and insolvency group at K&L Gates LLP in Boston and the bankruptcy, restructuring and workout group at Bowditch & Dewey LLP in Framingham. Mr. Mawhinney is a board member of the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees, and he is a member of the National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees and the Boston and Worcester County Bar Associations. In 2019, he was honored as one of ABI's "40 Under 40." He was also named one of *Super Lawyers*' 2020 and 2021 "Rising Stars" for Bankruptcy: Business, and he was part of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges 2018 Next Generation Program. Prior to entering law school, Mr. Mawhinney worked as a professional actor in New York City. He is a graduate of the American Repertory Theater Institute in Cambridge, Mass., and of Boston College, holds an M.F.A. from the Moscow Art Theater in Russia, and received his J.D. from Boston College Law School.

Hon. Jil Mazer-Marino is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of New York in Brooklyn, sworn in on Oct. 23, 2020. She previously was a partner at Cullen and Dykman LLP's Bankruptcy and Creditors' rights department, where her practice was nearly entirely bankruptcy-focused. Judge Mazer-Marino has chapter 11 experience representing debtors, creditors and creditor committees in chapter 11 business reorganizations. She also served as a chapter 7 panel trustee for the Southern

District of New York for 10 years. Before joining Cullen and Dykman in 2019, Judge Mazer-Marino practiced with Meyer, Suozzi, English & Klein, P.C. from 2008-19, Rosen Slome Marder LLP from 2003-08 and Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP from 1991-99. She also clerked for former EDNY Chief Bankruptcy Judge Conrad B. Duberstein. Judge Mazer-Marino received her undergraduate degree from the State University of New York at Albany and her J.D. from St. John's University School of Law.

Hon. Peter C. McKittrick is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Oregon in Portland, appointed in 2015. Before his appointment, he was a partner in the law firm of McKittrick Leonard, LLP. Judge McKittrick served as a panel chapter 7 trustee from 2005-15 and was appointed as a chapter 11 trustee and receiver in many cases. Prior to starting McKittrick Leonard, he practiced law with Farleigh Wada Witt PC for 27 years. His law practice emphasized the representation of trustees and other fiduciaries, chapter 11 debtors and committees, and small business workouts. Judge McKittrick received his B.S. from Lewis and Clark College in 1981 and his J.D. *cum laude* from Willamette University College of Law in 1985.

Adam E. Miller has been a trial attorney with the U.S. Trustee's office in Kansas City, Mo., since 2007, where he currently serves on multiple nationwide working groups. In 2010, he served on a detail in the Consumer Unit of the Office of General Counsel for the Executive Office of U.S. Trustees in Washington, D.C., where he assisted in providing policy and litigation guidance on all aspects of consumer cases to the 95 field offices of the U.S. Trustee Program. Before joining the U.S. Trustee Program, Mr. Miller was in private practice with the consumer bankruptcy firm of Morgan, Allen and King in Oklahoma City, Okla., and clerked for Hon. Yvonne Kauger on the Oklahoma Supreme Court. Mr. Miller received his B.A. from Oklahoma State University, his J.D. *summa cum laude* from Oklahoma City University, where he served as the acting managing editor of the *Oklahoma City University Law Review*, and his LL.M. from the Morin Center for Banking and Financial Law at the Boston University School of Law, where he served as the graduate editor of the *Review of Banking and Financial Law*.

Michael A. Miller is a supervising attorney at the Semrad Law Firm, LLC in Chicago, where he focuses on consumer bankruptcy. He also founded and runs the firm's *pro bono* appellate practice, and has argued three times in front of the Seventh Circuit. Mr. Miller is currently an adjunct professor at The University of Illinois Chicago Law School. He is a former co-chair of the Bankruptcy Court Liaison Committee for the Northern District of Illinois, and he is currently the Seventh Circuit Leader for the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys. Mr. Miller received his undergraduate degree with honors from Roosevelt University and his J.D. from The John Marshall Law School, during which time he was an extern for the U.S. Trustee's Office.

Hon. Mindy A. Mora is U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of Florida in West Palm Beach, appointed on April 6, 2018. She practiced in the areas of bankruptcy, commercial finance, and securitized real estate finance and litigation from 1982-2018 prior to her appointment to the bench by the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Mora is a Fellow of both the American College of Bankruptcy and the American College of Commercial Finance Attorneys. She previously chaired the Business Law Section of The Florida Bar, which represents the interests of more than 5,000 business lawyers within the State of Florida. Throughout much of her legal practice, she has been active in

the development of Florida's commercial laws, most recently as a member of The Florida Bar Business Law Section task force that prepared draft Florida legislation adopting a modified version of the Uniform Commercial Real Estate Receivership Act. Judge Mora is a member of NCBJ (National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges) and has served on its Technology, New Member and Education Committees. She is actively involved in the Business Law Section of The Florida Bar by serving as the judicial co-chair of both the Bankruptcy/UCC Committee and the Long-Range Planning Committee. From 2018-20, Judge Mora served as the judicial chair of the Bankruptcy Court's Local Rules Committee, which promulgated amendments to the Local Rules, which were adopted by the bench of the Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida. Since 2021, she has served as the judicial chair of the Bankruptcy Court's *Pro Bono* Committee, which promotes *pro bono* service by lawyers appearing in the court and facilitates ongoing communication with various legal aid organizations throughout South Florida. Judge Mora regularly lectures on commercial law and bankruptcy topics to lawyers and other judges throughout the U.S. 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.

Hon. Cecelia G. Morris is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of New York in Poughkeepsie, appointed on July 1, 2000. She served as Chief Judge from 2012-22. Prior to her appointment to the bench, Judge Morris clerked for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York starting in December 1988. Prior to that, she clerked for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Georgia from February 1986 until she moved to New York. Before her career with the court, Judge Morris had a private law practice in Macon, Ga., from May 1981 until February 1986. She served as an Assistant District Attorney and as the administrator of the Civil Division Child Support Recovery Unit, Griffin Judicial Circuit in Griffin, Ga., from September 1979 until May 1981. She also had a private law practice in Griffin from October 1977 until January 1978 and clerked at Seay Sims & Park (now Bolton & Park) in Griffin in 1976. Judge Morris has participated as a trainer in many mediation/arbitration programs sponsored by the Federal Judicial Center, the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, the National Association of Security Dealer Regulation and Bankruptcy Court, Endispute Inc. and the Center for Public Resources, Inc. She has successfully mediated many disputes in some of the most prominent cases pending before the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York. Judge Morris is an active participant in many bar outreach programs and has been honored to be the keynote speaker at several events, including the Federal Judicial Center's Clerk of Court and Chief Deputies Conference and Weil Gotshal and Manges' Women@Weil program. She has authored several articles on electronic filing, including a chapter on electronic case filing in *Collier on Bankruptcy*, and has published articles on loss-mitigation, mediation, the consumer credit counseling requirement in bankruptcy and cross-border insolvency cases under chapter 15 of the Bankruptcy Code. Judge Morris has testified before Congress and served on the Bankruptcy Judges Advisory Board to the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts. She also has taught bankruptcy ethics at St. John's University's LL.M. in Bankruptcy program and is a member of the Barry Zaretsky Roundtable Steering Committee at Brooklyn Law School, sits on the advisory board of the *ABI Law Review*, and is a member of the International Insolvency Institute, American College of Bankruptcy, National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges and the Global Restructuring Organization's Scientific Committee, headquartered in Modena, Italy. Judge Morris received the Annual Conrad B. Duberstein Memorial Award for Excellence and Compassion in the Bankruptcy Judiciary and the *New York Law Journal* Impact Award for pioneering the use of e-filing in federal court. She received her B.S. from West Texas State University and her J.D. from the John Marshall Law School.

Matthew J. Murtland is a regional partner with LOGS Legal Network in Norwood, Ohio, where he serves Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri and Ohio. He joined the firm as an associate in 2012 and was named managing attorney in 2020. Mr. Murtland has over eight years of experience specializing in creditors' rights law in multiple states. He also is an attorney with Shapiro, Van Ess, Phillips & Barragate, LLP in Louisville, Ky. Mr. Murtland received his J.D. in 2011 from Northern Kentucky University Salmon P. Chase College of Law.

Hon. Mina Nami Khorrami is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of Ohio in Columbus and was appointed on Sept. 10, 2021, by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. She began her career in St. Louis, Mo., where she practiced bankruptcy law and litigation as an associate with the firms of Vogler & Associates and then with Compton, Wells & Hamburg. While she practiced in St. Louis, she successfully argued a case before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. In 1991, Judge Nami Khorrami relocated to Columbus to open her own firm. Her practice focused on more complex chapter 7 and 13 bankruptcies, including arguing before the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. She also handled general civil litigation, foreclosure defense, and issues relevant to small businesses. Prior to her appointment to the bench, she also served as a chapter 7 panel trustee. Judge Nami Khorrami has served on numerous committees of the Columbus Bankruptcy Bar and was a frequent speaker at CLE programs. She has long been committed to bankruptcy *pro bono* service in the Columbus community, and in 2013 she received the Columbus Bar Association and Foundation Award for her involvement in the implementation of the chapter 7 bankruptcy *pro bono* project in Columbus. Judge Nami Khorrami also served as vice-chair of the court's Attorney Advisory Committee and as co-chair of its Consumer/Small Business subcommittee. She is a past co-chair of the Columbus chapter of the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation (IWIRC) and a past co-chair of the Bankruptcy Law Institute's (BLI's) Planning Committee. She also served on the board of trustees for the Credit Education Coalition (CEC) and was a member of the Chapter 13 Liaison Committee. Judge Nami Khorrami received her B.S. in business administration from the University of Missouri-St. Louis and her J.D. from Valparaiso University School of Law.

Nicole M. Noel is a shareholder at Kass Shuler, P.A. in Tampa, Fla., where she has been practicing in the fields of bankruptcy, creditors' rights and insolvency, real estate, consumer and business litigation since 2009. She heads the Bankruptcy practice group for the firm and handles cases throughout the state of Florida in all districts. Ms. Noel is a member of ABI, the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association (TBBBA), The Florida Bar and the American Legal and Financial Network. She formerly chaired the Bankruptcy Practice Group for the American Legal and Financial Network (ALFN) and the Case Law Update Subcommittee for the Real Property Finance and Lending Committee of the Real Property Probate and Trust Law Section of the Florida Bar. Ms. Noel is the vice president for the TBBBA for the 2023-24 Bar year. She recently authored a chapter on bankruptcy in *Florida Foreclosure Law*, published by Fastcase. Ms. Noel is active in the community and is an adjunct professor at Stetson University College of Law, St. Petersburg College and Hillsborough Community College, teaching bankruptcy, real property finance, business law and civil litigation. She participated in the 2016 NextGeneration program, held during the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges (NCBJ), and she was honored to become a Fellow for the Florida Bar Leadership Academy. In addition, she has been named one of ALFN's Junior Professionals and Executives Group (JPEG)'s standout young professionals to watch in 2016 and most recently received the 2023 Industry Achievement Award for the ALFN. Ms. Noel

received her undergraduate degree from Florida State University and her M.B.A. and J.D. from Stetson University School of Business Administration and Stetson University College of Law, respectively.

Hon. Charles D. Novack is Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of California in Oakland, initially appointed on May 13, 2010. He regularly lectures on a variety of bankruptcy topics, is a Rutter Group guest lecturer on bankruptcy family law issues, and is a panel member on the Bay Area Bankruptcy Forum's popular Consumer Update annual program. Judge Novack maintained his own bankruptcy practice in Oakland, Calif., during the five years preceding his appointment, representing chapter 7 trustees, and debtors, creditors and other interested parties in chapter 7, 11 and 13 cases. From 1994 until 2005, he was an associate and then a partner at the Oakland bankruptcy boutique firm of Kornfield, Paul & Nyberg. Judge Novack served as an associate professor at California State University, East Bay for several years and at Hastings College of the Law during the 2017-18 school year. He received his bachelor's degree with honors in 1980 from Rutgers College and his J.D. *cum laude* in 1983 from the University of California at Hastings College of the Law.

Nicole P. Novak is an attorney with the Sirody & Ruben Bankruptcy Center in Baltimore. She is licensed to practice law in Maryland (2018) and Ohio (2006). Ms. Novak has worked for debtors, creditors and trustees. Her current practice focuses on debtor representation with an emphasis on chapter 13. While practicing in Ohio, Ms. Novak actively volunteered on committees for the Bankruptcy Section of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association and co-chaired The William J. O'Neill Great Lakes Regional Bankruptcy Institute. She serves as contributor to the Maryland section of the *Bankruptcy Exemption Manual*, published by Thomson Reuters, and is a frequent author for the NACTT Academy. Ms. Novak is a current member of the National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees, the NACTT Academy, the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys, the Maryland State Bar Association and its Consumer Bankruptcy Section, and the Maryland Bankruptcy Bar Association. She received her J.D. *magna cum laude* from Cleveland State University College of Law.

Randy Nussbaum is an attorney with Sacks Tierney P.A. in Scottsdale, Ariz., and has assisted individuals and businesses with complex bankruptcy protection (debtor and creditor), transaction and litigation matters for more than 40 years. He has represented secured and unsecured creditors, surety companies, creditors' committees, lessors, professional athletes, doctors, lawyers, and trustees in chapter 5, 7, 11 and 13 proceedings, including adversary actions (bankruptcy litigation). The cases have involved such diverse matters as real estate, construction, manufacturing, trucking, asset-based lending, bankruptcy related to divorce, and high-value and complex individual bankruptcies. Mr. Nussbaum is a Certified Bankruptcy Specialist by the Arizona Board of Legal Specialization and is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. He has been named to the *Super Lawyers* "Top 50" list of Arizona attorneys multiple times and has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* annually since 2010; he was selected as its "Lawyer of the Year" (Scottsdale) for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights in 2019 and for Bankruptcy Litigation in 2021. Mr. Nussbaum is a 1990 graduate of Scottsdale Leadership and has volunteered for the organization for nearly 30 years, serves on its advisory board, and is a recipient of the prestigious Frank W. Hodges Alumni Achievement Award. He also served as a Sterling Awards Jurist for the Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce and received the Chamber's Volunteer of the Year Award for 2017. In 2018, he was inducted into the Scottsdale History Hall of Fame. Mr. Nussbaum received his B.A. *cum laude* and in 1977 his J.D. in 1980 from Arizona State University, graduating in the top 25 percent of his class.

Sean A. O’Keefe is principal of O’Keefe & Associates Law Corporation, P.C. in Irvine, Calif., and is recognized by his peers as one of Southern California’s most skilled bankruptcy and insolvency strategists. He has represented lenders and other creditors in complex chapter 11 cases, assignments for the benefit of creditors, and a broad range of commercial litigation. Mr. O’Keefe’s experience in real estate insolvency encompasses the entire asset spectrum — from raw land and large residential developments to retail, industrial, office and other commercial property portfolios. He also is an experienced federal appellate court practitioner. Mr. O’Keefe is licensed to practice law in New York (1984), California (1986), Virginia (2017), the District of Columbia (2018) and Texas (2021). He is admitted to practice before the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Second and Ninth Circuits, all U.S. District and Bankruptcy Courts in California, the U.S. District Courts for the Southern District of New York, Eastern District of Virginia, and Northern and Southern Districts of Texas, and the U.S. Bankruptcy Courts for the Southern District of New York, Eastern District of Virginia, and the Northern and Southern Districts of Texas. Mr. O’Keefe specializes in counseling clients in the real estate, manufacturing, retail, service and health care industries. He also represents some of California’s largest shopping center owners in tenant bankruptcy proceedings, and he aggressively represents both buyers and sellers of distressed business entities. Mr. O’Keefe is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell, and he has been recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America* for the past seven years and by *Super Lawyers* for over a decade. He has written and spoken on bankruptcy and insolvency matters for more than 20 years and is a past chairman of the Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section of the Orange County Bar Association. Mr. O’Keefe received his B.A. in 1980 from Dartmouth College and his J.D. in 1983 from Fordham University School of Law.

Marianne T. O’Toole is the founding member of O’Toole + O’Toole PLLC in Bedford Hills, N.Y., and practices primarily in the areas of bankruptcy, creditors’ rights and other insolvency matters. She has practiced law since 1989, previously as an assistant U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York and Chief of Tax and Bankruptcy, and as a clerk for then-Chief Judge for the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. During her tenure with the U.S. Attorney’s Office, Ms. O’Toole represented the U.S. and its agencies in all phases of civil litigation, including trials and appeals in both federal and state court. She was responsible for a range of cases involving commercial law, tax, bankruptcy, fair housing, employment law, constitutional law, environmental law and tort law. Since 2006, Ms. O’Toole has served as a chapter 7 panel trustee in the Southern District of New York. She also has been appointed as a chapter 11 trustee, plan administrator, distribution agent, special master in multi-district litigation, and as guardian *ad litem*. Ms. O’Toole is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy and a member of the New York State Bar Association, the New York City Bar, the District of Columbia Bar Association, the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees and ABI. She received her B.A. *cum laude* in 1986 from Pace University and her J.D. in 1989 from Pace University School of Law, where she was managing editor of the *Pace Law Review*.

Hon. Jerry C. Oldshue, Jr. is Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of Alabama in Mobile. Prior to taking the bench in October 2015, he was a shareholder in the firm of Rosen Harwood, P.A in Tuscaloosa, Ala., where he served as the managing shareholder of the firm’s creditor’s rights department. While in practice, Judge Oldshue was admitted to practice before the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals, all U.S. District Courts in Alabama, and all Alabama state courts. His memberships included the Alabama State Bar (where he served as chairman of its Bankruptcy and Commercial Law Section), the Tuscaloosa County Bar, ABI (for which he served as a member of its Commercial Fraud Task Force, Unsecured Trade Creditors Committee and Consumer Bank-

ruptcy Committee), the Conference on Consumer Finance Law and the Commercial Law League of America. In 2001, Judge Oldshue became one of only seven attorneys in the state to achieve Board Certification in Creditors' Rights Law. He received his B.S. in mechanical engineering in 1985 from the University of Alabama, after which he worked as a manufacturing engineer for General Motors and a design engineer for BellSouth before continuing his educational pursuits at The University of Alabama in 1992. He received his J.D. and M.B.A. as one of only two people invited to participate in the school's joint degree program.

Hon. Cathleen D. Parker is Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Wyoming in Cheyenne, appointed on June 2, 2015. Prior to her appointment, she was an attorney with the Wyoming Attorney General's Office for 16 years, where she primarily represented the Wyoming Departments of Revenue and Audit in front of administrative tribunals, the Wyoming State Courts and the Wyoming Supreme Court. At the time of her appointment, she was the supervisor of the Revenue Section of the Civil Division and was the head of the Attorney General's Bankruptcy Unit. Prior to joining the Office of the Attorney General, Judge Parker worked as an attorney in private practice in Colorado, handling both civil and criminal matters. She also sits on the Tenth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel. Judge Parker received her J.D. with honors from the University of Wyoming College of Law in 1998.

Hon. Tiara N.A. Patton is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Ohio in Youngstown, appointed in 2020. She previously served with the Office of the U.S. Trustee as a trial attorney in Cleveland and Wilmington, Del. Before joining the Office of the U.S. Trustee, Judge Patton worked as an attorney in private practice at Calfee, Halter & Griswold LLP in Cleveland with a practice focused on bankruptcy, and at LeBeouf, Lamb, Greene and MacRae LLP in New York, with a practice focused on business restructuring. She also clerked for Hon. Burrell Ives Humphreys (ret.) of the New Jersey Superior Court in Passaic County, and Judges Novalyn L. Winfield (ret.), Donald H. Steckroth (ret.) and Morris Stern of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Jersey, Hon. Cornelius Blackshear (ret.) of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York, and Hon. Randolph Baxter (ret.) of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Ohio. Judge Patton is a member of ABI and the Mahoning County Bar Association, The Nathaniel R. Jones American Inn of Court, and the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges's (NCBJ's) Public Outreach and The Honorable Cornelius Blackshear NCBJ Presidential Fellowship Committees, and she is a lifetime member of the Central State University Alumni Association. She received her Bachelor's degree from Central State University and her J.D. from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law.

Misty Perry Isaacson is an attorney with Pagter and Perry Isaacson, APLC in Santa Ana, Calif., where she focuses her practice on bankruptcy and insolvency matters. She is certified by the State Bar of California as a Certified Bankruptcy Specialist, and has more than 25 years of experience in bankruptcy matters. Ms. Perry Isaacson has represented debtors, creditors, chapter 7 and 13 trustees, the U.S. Trustee, plaintiffs and defendants to lawsuits in bankruptcy adversaries, and assists clients in nonbankruptcy financial workouts. She is admitted to practice before all California Courts, the Central, Southern, Northern, and Eastern District Courts, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Ms. Perry Isaacson is the former chair for the Ninth Circuit Lawyer Representatives Coordinating Committee and a former co-chair of the Central District of California Lawyer Representatives to the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference, and she serves as an advisor on the Insolvency Law Committee for the Business Law Section of the State Bar of California, a board member for the Central

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District of California's Attorney Admission Fund, president-elect of the Inland Empire Bankruptcy Forum, and as a member of the Orange County Bankruptcy Forum and the Orange County Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Sections. She received the Hon. William J. Lasarow Award for Outstanding *Pro Bono* Service to the Community and the Orange County Bankruptcy Forum's Hon. Peter M. Elliott Memorial Award. Ms. Perry Isaacson is often requested to speak at bar association functions and organizations regarding the practicalities of a bankruptcy law practice and recent case law developments. She received her B.A. in political science from California State University, Long Beach and her J.D. from Southwestern University School of Law.

Ronald R. Peterson is a Of Counsel in the law firm of Jenner & Block in Chicago, where he counsels debtors, trustees, creditors, committees, landlords and secured lenders in chapter 11 cases. He also advises clients on transactional issues such as corporate restructurings. Mr. Peterson's distinguished career has been highlighted by presiding over high-stakes complex commercial cases, including that of the country's 10th largest commodities house and a \$1.7 billion Ponzi scheme. A Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, Mr. Peterson is a prolific lecturer and writer on bankruptcy and commercial law issues. He served on the panel of the chapter 7 trustees for the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division, from 1989-2021. He also served on ABI's Commission to Study the reform of Chapter 11, which submitted its report to Congress in 2014, for which he co-chaired its Avoidance Action Committee. Mr. Peterson is a member of INSOL (International Association of Restructuring, Insolvency & Bankruptcy Professionals) and, in the past, served on the board of the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees. He recently completed his term as governor of the Commercial Law League of America. Mr. Peterson received his A.B. *cum laude* in speech and political science from Ripon College in 1970 and his J.D. in 1973 from the University of Chicago Law School.

Krista M. Preuss is the standing chapter 13 trustee for the Eastern District of New York in Jericho, appointed on Oct. 1, 2021. Prior to that, she was the chapter 13 standing trustee for the Southern District of New York from Feb. 1, 2018, through May 31, 2023. Prior to her 2018 appointment, she was the staff attorney for Chapter 13 Trustee Marianne DeRosa for more than 12 years. Ms. Preuss has lectured on chapter 13 bankruptcy issues at numerous law school classes and seminars. She is a member of the Hudson Valley, Nassau County, Suffolk County and Westchester County Bar Associations and ABI. Ms. Preuss serves on the Consumer Lawyers Advisory Committee for both Brooklyn and Central Islip for the Eastern District of New York. She also is a board member of the National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees, for which she also serves on its Public Relations Committee and Mortgage Committee. Ms. Preuss received her J.D. from Albany Law School, where she was president of its tax law society.

Hon. Patrick G. Radel is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of New York in Albany, appointed on June 1, 2023. He previously was a partner at Getnick Livingston Atkinson & Priore, LLP, in Utica, N.Y. Prior to joining the firm in 2004, Judge Radel clerked for Hon. William M. Skretny of the Western District of New York. He has bankruptcy law and litigation experience, and has represented creditors in a broad range of commercial and consumer cases. In addition to his bankruptcy practice, Judge Radel maintained a special education practice, representing students with disabilities at Committee on Special Education (CSE) meetings, administrative due process proceedings and in federal court. A frequent panelist and speaker at bankruptcy law-related courses, he is a past president of the Central New York Bankruptcy Bar Association, and a founding member of the

Standing Local Rules Committee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of New York. Judge Radel received his undergraduate degree *summa cum laude* from the University at Buffalo and his J.D. *summa cum laude* from the University at Buffalo School of Law.

William J. Rochelle, III is ABI's editor-at-large, based in New York. He joined ABI in 2015 and writes every day on developments in consumer and reorganization law. For the prior nine years, Mr. Rochelle was the bankruptcy columnist for Bloomberg News. Before turning to journalism, he practiced bankruptcy law for 35 years, including 17 years as a partner in the New York office of Fulbright & Jaworski LLP. In addition to writing, Mr. Rochelle travels the country for ABI, speaking to bar groups and professional organizations on hot topics in the turnaround community and trends in consumer bankruptcies. He earned his undergraduate and law degrees from Columbia University, where he was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar.

Igor Roitburg is a managing director with Stretto in New York and has more than 25 years of combined legal, bankruptcy industry and technology proficiency. Prior to joining Stretto, he served as COO at Default Mitigation Management LLC (DMM), acquired by Stretto, where he co-created the DMM Portal, the industry's leading technology platform specifically designed to facilitate mortgage and student loan debt resolution. Mr. Roitburg is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day development and integration of the DMM Portal. He directs a team of subject-matter experts who are focused on expanding the adoption of both the mortgage and student loan modification programs with the goal of making debt-resolution a more simplified process for an increased number of nationwide borrowers. Mr. Roitburg has a thorough understanding of the consumer bankruptcy process and the administrative hurdles both lawyers and their clients must navigate to ensure a successful resolution. He received his J.D. from Cornell Law School.

Keith L. Rucinski, CPA is an attorney and the chapter 13 trustee for the Northern District of Ohio in Akron, appointed in October 2008. He has served as an expert witness in bankruptcy for private attorneys, state prosecutors and the U.S. Department of Justice. Mr. Rucinski has taught more than 30 graduate and undergraduate courses in taxes, financial statement analysis, accounting and business law, and he has published several articles in the areas of bankruptcy and accounting. In addition, he has been a seminar speaker for numerous local and national organizations. Mr. Rucinski is a member of ABI and the National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees, Ohio State Bar Association, Ohio Society of CPAs, Akron Bar Association and Federal Bar Association, and he is a life member of the Sixth Circuit Judicial Conference. He received his B.S. in business administration with a concentration in finance from the University of Akron and his J.D. from the University of Akron School of Law.

Hon. Deborah J. Saltzman is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Central District of California in Los Angeles and San Fernando Valley, appointed on March 18, 2010; she also hears cases in the Northern Division in Santa Barbara. As a member of the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Education Committee, she welcomes the opportunity to participate in bankruptcy education programs. She also currently serves on the Ninth Circuit Wellness Committee. Prior to her appointment to the bench, Judge Saltzman practiced bankruptcy law in Los Angeles, representing debtors, secured and unsecured creditors, asset-purchasers, creditors' committees and landlords in chapter 11 and out-of-court restructurings, as well as related financing transactions and litigation. She received her B.A. in 1991 from Amherst College Phi Beta Kappa and her J.D. in 1996 from the University of Virginia School of Law.

Hon. Gregory R. Schaaf is Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Kentucky in Lexington, initially appointed on Oct. 1, 2012, and named Chief Judge on Oct. 1, 2019. Prior to his appointment, he practiced in the areas of commercial reorganizations, including bankruptcies and workouts, and commercial transactions, including energy-related matters. He represented debtors, creditors' committees, trustees and individual creditors. Judge Schaaf is a CPA and worked as a solicitor in London from 1997-99, handling corporate matters and real estate transactions for English, Russian and American clients. He is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and is Board Certified in Business and Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. Judge Schaaf received his B.B. in accounting and his B.S. in law enforcement administration from Western Illinois University in 1984 with high honors, and his J.D. in 1991 from the University of Kentucky College of Law, where he was a member of the Order of the Coif and participated in its national moot court team and on its moot court board, as well as on the school's *Journal of Mineral Law and Policy*.

Tim Shadoan is a sales account specialist with NextChapter in Delaware, Ohio, and takes on many roles for customer accounts. He often leads webinars and schedules private demos so clients can better understand how the application will help them succeed. Mr. Shadoan previously was an associate operations manager for Fortitude Systems. He received his Bachelor's degree in economics management from Ohio Wesleyan University.

Hon. Brendan L. Shannon is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware in Wilmington, appointed in 2006. He manages a full chapter 11 docket and also handles all chapter 13 consumer bankruptcy cases filed in Delaware. He served as Chief Judge from 2014-18. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Shannon was a partner with Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor, LLP in Wilmington, Del., where he primarily represented corporate debtors and official committees in chapter 11 cases. He is an adjunct professor in the Bankruptcy LL.M. Program at St. John's University School of Law in New York, and at Widener School of Law in Delaware. He also serves on the board of editors of *Collier on Bankruptcy* (16th ed.) and is a contributing author for *Collier Forms* and for several chapters covering the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure. In addition, he serves on the editorial board of the *American Bankruptcy Institute Law Review*. In 2011, Judge Shannon was appointed to serve as a member of the National Bankruptcy Conference. In 2020, he was inducted as a member of the American College of Bankruptcy. Judge Shannon is a member of the Delaware State Bar Association, the American Bar Association, ABI and the Rodney Inns of Court in Wilmington, Del. He is also a member of the board of directors of the Delaware Council on Economic Education. Judge Shannon received his undergraduate degree from Princeton University and his J.D. from the Marshall-Wythe School of Law at the College of William and Mary.

Brendon D. Singh is a founding partner of Tran Singh LLP in Houston, where he focuses on consumer and corporate restructuring and litigation. His experience includes the representation of debtors in chapter 7, 11 and 13 bankruptcies and out-of-court workouts. Mr. Singh is Board Certified in Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. He was recognized as a "Texas Super Lawyer" in the category of Consumer Bankruptcy by *Texas Monthly* from 2022-23 and as a "Texas Rising Star" from 2018-22. He also was selected by *Houstonia* magazine as a "Houston Top Lawyer" from 2018-22 in the category of Bankruptcy, and he was named in *The Best Lawyers in America* as one of the "Ones to Watch" in the category of Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law from 2022-24. In 2020, Mr. Singh was appointed by the U.S.

Trustee to serve as a subchapter V trustee, and he is appointed to small business cases filed in the Southern District of Texas. Recently, he was appointed to serve on the Small Business and Subchapter V Rules Committee. Prior to his partnership at Tran Singh LLP, Mr. Singh interned for Hon. Judge Vanessa Gilmore in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas-Houston Division and was a summer associate at Liskow Lewis, LLP in Houston. He received his B.S. *cum laude* in 2007 from the University of Houston and his J.D. *summa cum laude* in 2011 from Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law, where he participated in the annual Duberstein Bankruptcy Moot Court Competition from 2009-11; since 2013, he has continued his involvement with the competition as a coach for his alma mater.

Daryl J. Smith is the chapter 13 trustee for the Western District of Louisiana in Shreveport. He previously served as a staff attorney for the case trustee, prosecutor, litigator, lecturer and public servant. Mr. Smith is a 2021 honoree of ABI's "40 Under 40" program, a 2021 Blackshear Presidential Fellow, and a 2023 Just the Beginning 5 under 40 member. He is admitted to the Tennessee and Mississippi bars, and in the Federal Court of the Western District of Tennessee. Mr. Smith received his B.S. in political science at Murray State in 2008 and his J.D. at Mississippi College School of Law in 2012.

Sarah Stevenson is a staff attorney at the U.S. Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the Ninth Circuit in Culver City, Calif. She has been with the BAP for more than 20 years. Ms. Stevenson received her undergraduate degree from Wellesley College and her J.D. from USC Gould School of Law.

Rachael A. Stokas is with the Office of the Illinois Attorney General in Chicago. She previously was a managing attorney at Codilis & Associates P.C. in Burr Ridge, Ill., and has more than 20 years of bankruptcy and creditors' rights experience. Ms. Stokas previously oversaw bankruptcy operations in multiple bankruptcy districts throughout the U.S. She is active member in ABI, the Illinois Bar Association and Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity. Additionally, she has been on Bench Bar Committees in both Illinois and Wisconsin. Ms. Stokas is currently admitted to practice in Illinois and Missouri and is admitted into the U.S. District Courts in Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri, Texas, Michigan and Indiana. She received her B.A. from Emory & Henry College and her J.D. from the University of Dayton School of Law.

Hon. Kathy A. Surratt-States is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri in St. Louis, initially appointed on March 17, 2003, and served as Chief Judge from Feb. 1, 2013, until June 30, 2022. She began her legal career as law clerk to now-retired Bankruptcy Judge James J. Barta. In 1993, Judge Surratt-States was an associate at Campbell & Coyne, P.C., where her work focused on bankruptcy, commercial litigation and foreclosures. She then moved to Ziercher & Hocker, P.C. in 1998, where she became partner. The firm later merged with Husch Blackwell, where she was a partner in its insolvency practice group until her appointment to the bankruptcy court. In 1997, Judge Surratt-States was appointed to the Panel of Bankruptcy Trustees for the Eastern District of Missouri, and in 1999, she served as the chapter 7 trustee for Family Company of America, then the third-largest grocery store chain in St. Louis. Judge Surratt-States served on the Board of Catholic Charities of St. Louis and is a member of Altrusa International, Inc. of St. Louis, an international association of professionals dedicated to serving their community. She also is a member of the Missouri Bar, the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis, the Mound City Bar Association, the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, ABI and the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation

(IWIRC). Judge Surratt-States received her B.A. *cum laude* from Oklahoma City University in 1988 and her J.D. from Washington University School of Law in 1991.

Hon. Kesha L. Tanabe is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Minnesota in St. Paul, appointed on Jan. 7, 2022, and the first Asian-American woman on the federal bench in Minnesota. She previously was a bankruptcy attorney with Tanabe Law in Minneapolis and is licensed in North Dakota, Minnesota and New York. Judge Tanabe started her career as an assistant attorney general in New York. Prior to starting her own firm, she was a partner at ASK LLP, Maslon LLP and Faegre Baker Daniels. Additionally, she was a subchapter V trustee in Region 12 and taught bankruptcy law at the University of St. Thomas School of Law. Judge Tanabe is a board-certified business bankruptcy specialist, a former member of the Bankruptcy Practice Committee for the District of Minnesota and a former co-editor in chief of the *MSBA Bankruptcy Bulletin*. She is a frequent lecturer on bankruptcy topics nationwide, and she is a member of several legal and community organizations, including the Japanese American Citizens League, International Women’s Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation, Minnesota Asian Pacific American Bar Association and Minnesota Lavender Bar Association. She also served as a Special Projects Leader for ABI’s Bankruptcy Litigation Committee. Judge Tanabe is a graduate of the University of St. Thomas and the London School of Economics, and she received her J.D. in 2005 from Cardozo School of Law.

Jolene Tanner is an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Tax Division of the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Los Angeles, where she primarily handles bankruptcy tax litigation in the Central District of California. She also serves as the Office’s Criminal Bankruptcy Fraud Referral Coordinator. Ms. Tanner is frequently sought after as a bankruptcy tax expert to present at bar events and to train others, including law students, the IRS and other federal agencies, as well as chapter 7 trustees, chapter 13 trustees, subchapter V trustees, other AUSAs and private practitioners, on important bankruptcy matters. In addition, she has taught multiple courses on bankruptcy-related matters at the National Advocacy Center. Within her office, she takes an active mentorship role and assists in training the externs in the Tax Division. Prior to joining the U.S. Attorney’s Office, Ms. Tanner was a judicial law clerk for Hon. Mark D. Houle and Hon. Deborah J. Saltzman in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California. She was Judge Houle’s law clerk when he sat *pro tem* on the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel. Ms. Tanner is a Certified Specialist in Bankruptcy Law by the California Board of Legal Specialization, State Bar of California. She was selected by the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges as a “Next Generation” attorney in 2020, and she is a 2021 honoree of ABI’s “40 Under 40” program. She received her B.A. *cum laude* from the University of California, Santa Barbara and her J.D. from Loyola Law School.

Hon. Laura S. Taylor is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of California, appointed in January 2008. She ended a seven-year term as Chief Judge in October 2019. In January 2013, Judge Taylor was appointed to a seven-year term on the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel; she was reappointed Dec. 31, 2019, and concluded her service on December 31, 2022. From August 2019 to July 2022, she served as Chief Judge. In March 2019, Judge Taylor was inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy. She served as the Conference Chair for the 2012 Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference and as Program Chair for the 2011 Conference. She previously served on the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Judges Education Committee and the Ninth Circuit *Pro Se* Committee. She also served on the Federal Judicial Center’s Chief Judge Education Committee. Judge Taylor

actively participates in educational programs in the area of bankruptcy law and most recently participated in programs sponsored by the American College of Bankruptcy, the Federal Judicial Center, the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, the San Diego County Bar Association, the San Diego Bankruptcy Forum, the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys, the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees and the State Bar of California. She also provides legal education to judges and lawyers in Brazil as a guest lecturer, via Zoom, at Pontificia Universidae Católica Paraná in Curitiba, Brazil, and at programs sponsored by the Brazilian National School of Judges. Judge Taylor is a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, and previously served as chair and a member of the U.S. Trustee Liaison Committee. She also is a Master in the Louis M. Welsh Inn of the American Inns of Court. From 1983-95 and from 1998-2007, Judge Taylor was an associate and partner at Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP, where she practiced in its Finance and Bankruptcy practice group. From June 2005 to November 2007, she served as the San Diego office's Administrative Partner. From January 1995 to February 1998, Judge Taylor practiced *pro bono* law. She was the founder of the San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program's Special Education Project, which provided *pro bono* legal services to disabled foster youth and low income families with disabled children. In connection with her *pro bono* service, she received the San Diego Bar Association's Public Service Award for 1996, the San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program's Attorney of the Year Award for 1997 and the State Bar President's Pro Bono Service Award for 1997. Judge Taylor received her B.A. with highest honors from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and her J.D. with honors from Duke University.

Hon. Deborah L. Thorne is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Illinois in Chicago, appointed on Oct. 22, 2015. Prior to joining the bench, she was a partner in the Chicago office of Barnes & Thornburg LLP, where she was a member of its Financial Insolvency and Restructuring Department. Her practice included the representation of creditors and other parties in insolvency proceedings, and she frequently served as a federal equity receiver in commodity fraud cases brought by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. In addition, she co-chaired the Women's Initiative for the firm. Judge Thorne is past chair of the Chicago Bar Association Bankruptcy and Restructuring Committee and past chair of the Bankruptcy Committee for the Seventh Circuit Bar Association. She previously served as ABI's Vice President-Communications and Information Technology and is the author of ABI's *The Preference Defense Handbook: The Circuits Divided* and a co-author of its *Interrupted! Understanding Bankruptcy's Effects on Manufacturing Supply Chains*. Judge Thorne is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy. She served as Education Committee chair for the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges from 2019-20 and as its president from 2021-22. Judge Thorne is included in *The Best Lawyers in America* in the area of bankruptcy and creditor/debtor rights law, is recognized as a Leading Lawyer in Illinois, and has been recognized by *Illinois Super Lawyers* every year since 2003. For seven years, she chaired Women Employed, a Chicago nonprofit policy organization focused on improving the lives of low-wage women through enhancing access to post-secondary education and improving job quality. Judge Thorne received her B.A. from Macalester College, her M.A.T. from Duke University and her J.D. with honors from Illinois Institute of Technology Chicago-Kent College of Law.

Tara Twomey is the director of the Executive Office for U.S. Trustees in Washington, D.C. She previously was executive director of the National Consumer Bankruptcy Rights Center and Of Counsel to the National Consumer Law Center in Carmel, Calif. She previously focused on bankruptcy and consumer credit issues, with an emphasis on home mortgage origination and servicing and, more re-

cently, student loans. She has taught numerous programs in these areas, served as an expert witness, and testified before Congress on mortgage-servicing problems. Ms. Twomey is a contributing author of several books published by the National Consumer Law Center, including *Mortgage Servicing and Loan Modifications* (2019) and *Home Foreclosures* (2019). She is a conferee of the National Bankruptcy Conference, a contributing author to the *Collier Bankruptcy Practice Guide*, and served as a commissioner for the ABI's Commission on Consumer Bankruptcy. Ms. Twomey has been a lecturer in law at Stanford Law School, Harvard Law School and Boston College Law School. In addition, she is a former clinical instructor at the Hale and Dorr Legal Services Center of Harvard Law School, where her practice focused, in part, on sustainable homeownership for low- and moderate-income homeowners. This practice area included foreclosure prevention and chapter 13 bankruptcy. Ms. Twomey received her undergraduate degree from the University of California, San Diego and her J.D. *summa cum laude* from Boston College Law School, after which she clerked for Chief Justice Herbert P. Wilkins of the Massachusetts Supreme Court. Subsequently, Ms. Twomey received a two-year Skadden Fellowship to work at the Legal Services Center.

Maurice B. VerStandig is the managing partner of The Belmont Firm in Washington, D.C., and focuses his practice on counseling individuals and companies in all manner of bankruptcy cases. The majority of his practice is focused on representing individuals and companies in the federal bankruptcy courts. Mr. VerStandig has recovered tens of millions of dollars for clients through the formation of consensual plans of reorganization, through contested stay-relief and conversion proceedings, and through adversary claims brought against third parties. He serves as outside bankruptcy counsel to some of the largest and most respected private lenders in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area, while also maintaining a smaller creditor-focused practice in Florida and Nevada. When not advising secured creditors, Mr. VerStandig has counseled multiple law firms in connection with their own insolvency proceedings, helped a mid-size manufacturing company efficiently liquidate through the chapter 11 process, guided the owner of a historic apartment complex through bankruptcy, and represented trustees in complex adversary proceedings. He also takes on *pro bono* clients and regularly advises charities at no cost. Mr. VerStandig is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell, is listed as a "Rising Star" by *Super Lawyers* and sits on the local rules committee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Columbia. He regularly appears in courts throughout the U.S. Mr. VerStandig received his B.A. with honors in 2006 from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and his J.D. *cum laude* from the University of Miami School of Law in 2009.

George M. Vogl, IV is a managing director with Stretto in Chicago and has more than 15 years of experience as a former bankruptcy and consumer rights attorney. He works with law firms to streamline their procedures and implement industry best practices. After nearly 10 years of general business, accounting and financial-analysis experience, Mr. Vogl brings a diverse perspective to the unique challenges facing bankruptcy attorneys and utilizes that strong understanding to outline practical solutions that meet individual firm objectives. Working closely with Stretto's Product Development and Product Management Teams, he offers clients consultative guidance on new tools and resources that maximize productivity while compiling feedback in an effort to continually improve technology solutions. Mr. Vogl is active in the bankruptcy community serving as a member of the Illinois State Bar Association and NACBA, while also presenting webinars and other training courses. He received his B.A. in business administration from Temple University, his J.D. from Temple's Beasley School of Law and his M.B.A. from Temple's Fox Business School.

Hon. Madeleine C. Wanslee is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Arizona in Phoenix, sworn in on March 17, 2014. Previously, she was an associate and then partner at Gust Rosenfeld, PLC, where she was active in the firm's management committee and co-chaired the firm's Bankruptcy Practice Group. Her practice focused on bankruptcy and creditors' rights, and she represented small businesses, financial institutions, corporations and state agencies. While in private practice, Judge Wanslee was a certified bankruptcy specialist. She also argued a number of appeals, including *United Student Aid Funds Inc. v. Espinosa* before the U.S. Supreme Court. Judge Wanslee serves on the Ninth Circuit Conference Executive Committee (currently as program chair) and on various committees of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges. She is a frequent presenter and helps to train new judges through the Federal Judicial Center. Judge Wanslee is a former chair of the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Judges Education Committee, the Ninth Circuit Lawyer Representatives Coordinating Committee and the Arizona State Bar's Bankruptcy Section. She helped to charter and is past president of the Arizona Bankruptcy American Inn of Court. Judge Wanslee began her legal career as a law clerk for Hon. Robert Clive Jones of the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel. She received her B.F.A. and B.A. from the University of Arizona and her J.D. from Gonzaga University School of Law, where she served as a writer and executive editor of the *Gonzaga Law Review*. Following law school, she clerked for Chief Bankruptcy Judge Robert C. Jones of the District of Nevada.

Hon. David M. Warren is Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina in Raleigh, initially appointed on Oct. 4, 2013, and appointed Chief Judge on July 28, 2021. He previously was a partner at Poyner Spruill LLP in Raleigh and Rocky Mount, N.C., for nearly 30 years and concentrated his practice in the areas of bankruptcy and commercial law. Following law school, Judge Warren began a two-year clerkship with the late Hon. Thomas M. Moore, who, with Hon. A. Thomas Small, drafted legislation that became chapter 12 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. He served on the panel of chapter 7 bankruptcy trustees for the Eastern District of North Carolina for 24 years and is a past chair of the Bankruptcy Law Section of the North Carolina Bar Association. In addition, he served on the Local Rules Committee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina for more than 10 years and served as chair for more than seven years. Judge Warren is Board Certified in Business and Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the North Carolina State Bar Board of Legal Specialization and the American Board of Certification. While in private practice, he was recognized as a Tier 1 attorney in the Bankruptcy/Restructuring area for North Carolina by *Chambers USA* from 2009-13, as a "Legal Elite" in the area of Bankruptcy Law by *Business North Carolina* magazine in 2006, 2008, 2010-12 and 2014, and in *Super Lawyers* from 2009-14. He also was recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America* in the area of Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization law in 2013 and 2014. Judge Warren is a former national president of Kappa Alpha Order, a national college fraternity headquartered in Lexington, Va. He also serves as a trustee of the Kappa Alpha Order Educational Foundation, chair of the Turner W. Battle Scholarship Trust and as a director of DiabetesSisters, a national nonprofit organization supporting women with diabetes. Judge Warren received his B.A. *cum laude* from Wake Forest University and his J.D. from the Wake Forest University School of Law.

Laurie K. Weatherford is the chapter 13 standing trustee for the Middle District of Florida in Orlando. Prior to her appointment in 1996, Ms. Weatherford was Of Counsel with the law firm of McGuire, Voorhis & Wells, representing primarily debtors and creditor committees in chapter 11 cases, and was a chapter 7 panel trustee. She tried a jury trial in the *In re Braniff* case and helped develop the Mortgage Modification Mediation Program for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Orlando. Ms. Weath-

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erford frequently lectures on mortgage modification, student loan and various chapter 13 issues. Ms. Weatherford is a member of the National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees and serves on its Mortgage Committee. She also has served on the board of directors of the Central Florida Bankruptcy Law Association and is a past chairman of the Bankruptcy Committee of Orange County, Fla. Ms. Weatherford received her B.A. with honors from the University of Florida and her J.D. with honors from Cumberland School of Law, where she was an honor court justice, a member of the International Law Moot Court Team and copy editor for the *Cumberland Law Review*.

Kristi S. Williams is a partner at Lefkoff, Rubin, Gleason, Russo & Williams, P.C. in Atlanta, where she specializes in creditors' rights law. For 11 years, she has represented creditors in bankruptcy, real and personal property foreclosures, collection matters and real estate closings. Before representing creditors, Ms. Williams represented consumer debtors. She is a member of the bankruptcy and creditors' rights sections of the State Bar of Georgia and the Atlanta Bar Association. Ms. Williams is an advisory board member of ABI's Southeast Bankruptcy Workshop and is an active member of the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation and the National Creditors Bar Association. She received her B.B.A. in accounting with honors from Georgia Southern University and her J.D. with honors from Georgia State University College of Law.

Nicole M. Zollars is a bankruptcy analyst with the U.S. Trustee Program for Region 19 in Denver.