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Faculty Biographies

Jonathan E. Aberman is a member of Dykema Gossett PLLC in Chicago and leads the firm's Chicago bankruptcy, insolvency and creditors' rights practice. He represents clients nationwide to solve complex challenges arising from distressed situations. He has helped businesses, banks and nonbank lenders, finance companies, special servicers, and other secured and unsecured creditors enforce their rights and protect their assets and interests in bankruptcy cases, workouts and restructurings, foreclosures, receiverships and assignments for the benefit of creditors. He also has represented buyers and sellers of assets in the distressed marketplace, including § 363 sales and Article 9 sales. For more than 20 years, Mr. Aberman has handled all aspects of complex chapter 11 cases in bankruptcy courts across the country, including debtor-in-possession financing and cash-collateral disputes, auctions and asset sales, plan formation and confirmation, claims and objections, preference actions and fraudulent-transfer suits. He also negotiates and structures the bankruptcy-related aspects of commercial loan transactions, including intercreditor and subordination agreements and unitranche and agreements among lenders. Mr. Aberman has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law (2021), named a Leading Lawyer in Bankruptcy & Workout Law: Commercial by The Leading Lawyers Network (2015-18), and named in *Illinois Super Lawyers* for Bankruptcy: Business Law annually since 2018. He received his B.A. *cum laude* in 1995 from Duke University and his J.D. in 1998 from Northwestern University School of Law.

Hon. James R. Ahler is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Indiana in Hammond, appointed in June 2017. Previously, he served as the judge of the Jasper Superior Court in Jasper County, Ind., from 2007-17. During his tenure as a state trial judge, Judge Ahler presided over hundreds of significant criminal and civil trials, including many jury trials. By appointment of the Indiana Supreme Court, he also served as a hearing officer to preside over attorney misconduct allegations prosecuted by the Indiana Disciplinary Commission. Prior to his judicial service, Judge Ahler was a litigation attorney for approximately 10 years. He also completed two separate federal judicial clerkships, the first for Hon. Michael S. Kanne and the second for Hon. William J. Bauer, both of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. Judge Ahler received his Bachelor's degree from Indiana University-Bloomington and his J.D. from Saint Louis University School of Law.

A. Todd Almassian is a partner with Keller & Almassian, PLC in Grand Rapids, Mich., and focuses his practice in the areas of bankruptcy, reorganization and liquidation law. He represents debtors, creditors and trustees. Mr. Almassian has served as an expert witness for plaintiffs and defendants in various insolvency matters and bankruptcy cases, and he is a frequent lecturer regarding the Bankruptcy Code. He also serves as a qualified mediator for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Michigan and was recently inducted into the American College of Bankruptcy as a Fellow. Mr. Almassian is Board Certified in Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. He is listed in the 2011-15 editions of *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy and Creditor-Debtor Rights Law and as its 2016 Grand Rapids Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law "Lawyer of the Year." Mr. Almassian received his B.A. from Michigan State University in 1993 and his J.D. from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law in 1996.

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 Dis-

trict 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, the ABA, the Chicago Bar Association, IWIRC and NCBJ, and she regularly acts as the presiding judge for the Northern District of Illinois in naturalization ceremonies. Judge Baer earned her B.A. from the University of Wisconsin - Madison and her J.D. from DePaul College of Law.

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 and primarily represents debtors in chapter 7 liquidations and chapter 13 reorganizations, which span from high-net-worth and high-income-earning individuals to individuals seeking to prevent foreclosure or repossession of secured collateral. She also represents both debtors and creditors in divorce-related bankruptcy proceedings, and is a frequent speaker on the intersection of bankruptcy and family law disputes. Ms. Bass has represented individuals reorganizing under chapter 11, including subchapter V, as well as small businesses going through chapter 7 liquidation, and has stopped foreclosures, the stripping of secured liens and the cramming down of loans on collateral for individuals seeking to reorganize under chapters 13 and 11. She also 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, for which she co-chairs its Consumer Bankruptcy Committee. She also is a member of the Detroit Consumer Bankruptcy Association and the Oakland County Bar Association, for which she chairs its Debtor/Creditor Committee. Ms. Bass is Board Certified in Consumer Bankruptcy Law, has been named by *Michigan Lawyer's Weekly* as one of 2019's 30 Women in Law, and has been consistently recognized by *Super Lawyers* as a Rising Star in consumer bankruptcy since 2014. She received her B.A. from the University of Michigan and her J.D. from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law.

Karen M. Bauer is a managing attorney at the Legal Aid Society of Milwaukee, Inc. in Milwaukee, where her practice centers on student loan law, bankruptcy, debt defense and consumer protection litigation. She also manages Legal Aid's groundbreaking Right to Counsel project, Eviction Free MKE. Ms. Bauer is past chair of the Public Interest Law Section of the State Bar of Wisconsin and a former member of the State Bar of Wisconsin's Board of Governors. She is a Fellow of both the Wisconsin Law Foundation and the American Bar Foundation, and has the distinction of being the oldest person to ever win the State Bar of Wisconsin's Outstanding Young Lawyer award. Ms. Bauer authored two articles in *Wisconsin Lawyer* on educational debt and has taught many CLE courses on student loan issues. She is a member of the Association for Women Lawyers, National Association of Consumer Advocates and the State Bar of Wisconsin. Ms. Bauer received her J.D. from the University of Wisconsin Law School, where she was a managing editor of the *Wisconsin Law Review*.

Leslie C. Behaunek is a shareholder with Nyemaster Goode P.C. and a member of its Litigation Department in Des Moines, Iowa, where her practice includes business and commercial litigation, financial institution and bankruptcy litigation, employment law, insurance defense and appellate advocacy. Before joining the firm, she clerked for Hon. Jane Kelly on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit and Hon. James E. Gritzner on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Iowa. Ms. Behaunek currently chairs the Iowa State Bar Association's Federal Practice Committee, is a member of the IWIRC Midwest Network, and has been actively involved in state and federal bar association committees throughout her career. She received her B.A. *summa cum laude* with honors from Cornell College and her J.D. with highest honors from Drake University.

Hon. James W. Boyd is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Michigan in Grand Rapids, appointed in May 2014, and presides over bankruptcy matters in Grand Rapids and Traverse City. Prior to his appointment, he was a partner in the law firm of Kuhn, Darling, Boyd and Quandt PLC in Traverse City, Mich., where he practiced in the areas of bankruptcy law and commercial litigation. From 1988-2014, he served as a chapter 7 panel trustee and as a chapter 11 operating and liquidation trustee in many cases. While a trustee, he served on the board of directors of the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees from 1999-2013 and was its president in 2010. He has also served as an operating and liquidating receiver under Michigan law for numerous entities. Judge Boyd is a contributing author to ICLE's *Handling Consumer and Small Business Bankruptcies* and is a member of the Federal Bar Association and ABI, as well as a frequent speaker. He received his J.D. from the Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

Michael Brandess is a partner with Husch Blackwell LLP in Chicago, where he represents both healthy and distressed companies and their principals. He has taken clients through complex sales, acquisitions, restructurings and liquidations across the country. Mr. Brandess was named an ABI "40 Under 40" emerging leader in 2021, and he is the 2022 president of the Chicago/Midwest Chapter of the Turnaround Management Association. He has authored numerous articles on matters ranging from family business-related issues to topics related to economic distress. Mr. Brandess regularly speaks on entrepreneurial, bankruptcy and insolvency matters. He has been named an "Illinois Rising Star" by *Super Lawyers* since 2016 and is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell. Mr. Brandess also has been awarded Emerging Leader of the Year by the Chicago/Midwest Chapter of the Turnaround Management Association and The M&A Advisor. He received his J.D. *magna cum laude* from the University of Illinois College of Law.

Kelley L. Callard is a trial attorney in the Office of the U.S. Trustee for the Eastern District of Michigan in Detroit and has been with the U.S. Trustee Program since 2009. She previously worked for a firm specializing in the representation of mortgage creditors. Ms. Callard received her B.A. in economics from Michigan State University with honors in 2000 and her J.D. with highest honors from the University of Tulsa College of Law in 2004.

Kayla D. Britton is a partner with Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP in Indianapolis, where she provides general and transactional representation to mid-sized businesses and publicly held companies in various industries, including financial, agribusiness, manufacturing, distribution, insurance and professional services. She has specific experience advising agribusiness clients in credit workout and transactional matters. She also advises debtors and creditors in and out of bankruptcy,

including representing clients in national chapter 11 bankruptcy cases. Ms. Britton’s experience includes business reorganization, restructuring and liquidation, and representing buyers, sellers and lenders in distressed sales transactions. She represents debtors, creditors, committees and other interested parties in bankruptcy. She also advises companies and boards of directors on pre-bankruptcy contingency planning, working to develop out-of-court solutions while also laying the necessary foundation to a successful bankruptcy proceeding if necessary. Ms. Britton’s experience includes advising chapter 11 debtors in the agribusiness, real estate, for-profit college, finance and manufacturing industries. She also represents clients in defending avoidance actions, advising on debtor-in-possession credit facilities, and working with potential buyers in navigating the § 363 sale process. In addition, she represents creditors in developing workout, reorganization or liquidation strategies designed to maximize recoveries while minimizing risk, and she manages distressed sale transactions, including navigating the unique issues and exigencies presented by a seller’s insolvency and building consensus among multiple constituencies. She also represents clients in the agribusiness, automotive, manufacturing, and professional services industries in the preparation and negotiation of commercial contracts. Ms. Britton was honored as one of ABI’s “40 Under 40” in 2020. She received her B.A. from Purdue University and her J.D. *summa cum laude* from Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law.

Michael J. Burke is the executive director of the Michigan Association on Problem Gambling in Portage, Mich. He is in recovery from alcoholism for 39 years and recovery from gambling for 16 years. Previously, Mr. Burke was a lawyer in a small community for 25 years before he was disbarred in 2001 because he embezzled clients’ funds to feed his gambling addiction. As a direct result of that activity, he served three years in prison and was ordered to repay to his victims the sum of \$1.6 million. Upon his release, Mr. Burke wrote a book about his addiction, “Never Enough: One Lawyer’s True Story Of How He Gambled His Career Away,” published by the American Bar Association. Proceeds from the sales of the book go to his victims. Today, Mr. Burke travels around the U.S. giving talks on gambling, and he has presented in more than 40 states.

Tracy M. Clark is a partner with Steinberg, Shapiro & Clark in Southfield, Mich., where she represents creditors, chapter 7 and 11 debtors, and chapter 7 and 13 trustees. She is admitted to the State Bar of Michigan, the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern and Western Districts of Michigan, the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court. Ms. Clark is a member of the Federal Bar Association, ABI, the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees and the Consumer Bankruptcy Association (Eastern District of Michigan). She is listed in *Super Lawyers* and *The Best Lawyers in America*, and she has written and lectured on the topics of bankruptcy and insolvency. Ms. Clark received her B.A. with distinction from Walsh College and her J.D. *cum laude* from Wayne State University Law School.

Hon. David D. Cleary is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Illinois in Chicago, appointed in December 2019. Previously, he chaired Greenberg Traurig LLP’s Business Reorganization & Financial Restructuring Practice in Phoenix, where he focused his practice on business restructuring and reorganizations, distressed-asset dispositions and financings, debt restructurings and workouts, and litigation. He regularly represented distressed companies, financial institutions, secured and significant creditors, noteholders and bondholders, hotel/resort owner/operators, boards of directors, debtors, official and ad hoc committees, and insurance and surety portfolios. Judge

Cleary is a Master with the Arizona Inns of Court, past co-chair of the American Bar Association's Litigation Section of its Bankruptcy and Insolvency Committee, past chair of the Chicago Bar Association's Rules Sub-Committee of its Bankruptcy Committee, and past co-chair of ABI's Asset Sales and Health Care Committees. He was listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* and in *Southwest Super Lawyers*, and he was a member of the winning team for The M&A Advisor's "Restructuring of the Year (Over \$500mm to \$1 Billion)" award in 2015 for the restructuring of FriendFinder Networks. He is also rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell. Judge Cleary was admitted to practice in Arizona and Illinois, before the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Ninth and Seventh Circuits, and before the U.S. District Courts for the District of Arizona and the Northern District of Illinois. He received his B.A. *cum laude* from Arizona State University in 1984 and his J.D. with honors from DePaul University College of Law in 1987, where he was an article and note editor for the *DePaul Law Review*.

Monette W. Cope is an attorney with Weltman, Weinberg & Reis Co., LPA in Chicago, where she practices exclusively in bankruptcy. She represents banks, financial service organizations and student lenders in Illinois, Wisconsin and bankruptcy courts nationwide in matters involving chapter 7, 11, 12 and 13. Ms. Cope has more than 30 years of experience and began her career in bankruptcy as a staff attorney for a chapter 13 trustee. She is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell and a member of ABI and the Chicago Bar Association, and she is a former president of the Credit Education Coalition, former secretary of the Creditor's Attorney Association and a current board member of Chicago Financial Women. Ms. Cope is admitted to practice in Illinois, Maine and Ohio, and before the U.S. District Courts for the Central, Northern and Southern Districts of Illinois, the Western District of Michigan, the Eastern District of Missouri, the Southern District of Ohio, and the Eastern and Western Districts of Wisconsin. She received her B.A. *cum laude* in English in 1979 from The Ohio State University and her J.D. in 1988 from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law.

James E. DeLine is a member of Kerr, Russell and Weber, PLC in Detroit and has experience in all phases of state and federal litigation, as well as domestic and international arbitrations. He regularly counsels clients in contract and UCC matters, automotive supply chain disputes, injunctions, business torts, shareholder rights, creditor's rights, product-liability claims and appeals. Mr. DeLine recently earned one of the largest annual verdicts in Michigan while representing an international automobile distributor against a global automobile manufacturer, resolved a multi-million dollar contract dispute on behalf of a family-owned manufacturer against a global automotive supplier, and defeated a \$48 million breach-of-contract and fraud claim in an arbitration between foreign and domestic manufacturers. He is admitted to practice before the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern and Western Districts of Michigan, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and the U.S. Supreme Court. Mr. DeLine received his B.A. from the University of Michigan and his J.D. from Wayne State University Law School, where he was on the *Wayne Law Review* and the Moot Court National Team.

Thomas R. Fawkes is a partner at Tucker Ellis in Chicago, where he practices in the areas of bankruptcy, creditors' rights and financial restructuring. He represents official committees, unsecured and secured creditors, debtors, financial institutions, post-confirmation trustees and asset-purchasers in chapter 11 and 7 bankruptcy cases, out-of-court restructurings and liquidation proceedings throughout the U.S. Mr. Fawkes has represented clients in matters including plan confirmations, preference, fraudulent transfer and other bankruptcy litigation, cash collateral and debtor-in-possession financ-

ing, § 363 sale transactions, real estate and equipment leasing disputes, and claims reconciliation. He also assists clients in structuring their commercial transactions to mitigate the risk of future bankruptcy and insolvency issues. Mr. Fawkes has been recognized nationally for his professional accomplishments, particularly his representation of creditors' committees in chapter 11 cases, as well as creditors and other parties in notable bankruptcies. He is recognized by *Chambers USA* as one of the leading bankruptcy and restructuring attorneys in Illinois and was named an "Outstanding Young Restructuring Lawyer" by *Turnarounds & Workouts* in 2013. Mr. Fawkes received his B.A. *summa cum laude* in 1999 from Loyola University Chicago and his J.D. *cum laude* in 2022 from Northwestern University School of Law, where he was admitted to the Order of the Coif.

Marcy J. Ford is a managing partner with Trott Law, P.C. in Farmington Hills, Mich. She is a member of the State Bar of Michigan, the Federal Bar Association, the Oakland County Bar Association, ABI and the National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees, and she is a member and former board representative of the Consumer Bankruptcy Association of the Eastern District of Michigan. She also is active with the USFN, a trade association for mortgage banking attorneys, and served on the USFN board for 11 years and was president from 2012-14. Ms. Ford was honored on *Crain's Detroit Business* "Women to Watch" list, has been recognized as a *dbusiness* magazine "Top Lawyer," and was named as one of *HousingWire's* "Influential Women in Housing." She is a frequent speaker on mortgage issues in consumer bankruptcy. Ms. Ford received her J.D. in 1993 from Wayne State University.

Hon. Catherine J. Furay is Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Wisconsin in Madison. Prior to her appointment, she practiced bankruptcy, commercial law and business litigation. Judge Furay is a frequent lecturer on bankruptcy, commercial law, ethics, marital property and litigation skills. She served as an adjunct faculty member at the University of Wisconsin Law School teaching lawyering skills for 21 years and guest lectures for its bankruptcy course. Judge Furay is a member of the Bankruptcy Judges Advisory Group of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, the bankruptcy judge member of the Advisory Process Review Working Group, and a member of the Advisory Group for the AO's Bankruptcy Case Weighting Study. In 2020, she became a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy. Judge Furay is a contributing author of *Construction Law*, Chapter 16, "Bankruptcy," and is the author of several articles on various bankruptcy, collection, marital property and litigation topics. In 2019, Judge Furay became the editor-in-chief of *Ginsberg & Martin on Bankruptcy*. She is a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, for which she serves as a member of its Elections, Finance, and Online Learning Committees. She has also served as the Seventh Circuit representative on the NCBJ Board of Governors and on the Next-Gen and Technology Committees of NCBJ. Judge Furay is a member of ABI and currently serves on the Education Advisory Committees for the Central States Bankruptcy Workshop and the Hon. Eugene R. Wedoff Seventh Circuit Consumer Bankruptcy Conference. In addition, she is a member of the Turnaround Management Association, a member of the Board of Trustees, past chairman of the board, and past president of the Certification Oversight Committee. Judge Furay has served on the board of governors and various committees of the State Bar of Wisconsin, including its Executive and Finance Committees. In addition to being co-author of *Wisconsin Business Advisors Series: Collections & Bankruptcy Vol. 4* (Pinnacle Books), she co-authored the *Wisconsin Civil Litigation Forms Manual* (Pinnacle Books). Judge Furay received her J.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison Law School.

Rebecca R. Garcia is the standing chapter 12 and 13 trustee in Oshkosh, Wis. She was appointed on Dec. 1, 2014, as the standing chapter 13 trustee and April 1, 2016, as the standing chapter 12 trustee. Prior to her appointment, Ms. Garcia was a staff attorney for Mary B. Grossman, the chapter 13 trustee in Milwaukee from 2002-14. She has been practicing in the area of consumer bankruptcy since 1996. Prior to 2002, she represented debtors in consumer cases. Ms. Garcia is a past member of the board of the Bankruptcy, Insolvency and Creditors Rights Section of the State Bar of Wisconsin and a member of the National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees and of the Association of Chapter 12 Trustees, for which she currently serves as president. She received her B.A. from the University of Wisconsin Platteville in 1992 and her J.D. from Marquette University in 1996.

Hon. Laura K. Grandy is Chief Judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Illinois in East St. Louis, appointed in 2010. Previously, she was a principal with the law firm of Mathis, Marifian, Richter & Grandy, where she concentrated her practice in corporate reorganizations, bankruptcy and banking. She also served as a chapter 7 panel trustee for 18 years. While in private practice, she successfully argued a case before the U.S. Supreme Court. Judge Grandy serves as the bankruptcy representative to the Seventh Circuit Judicial Council. She also serves on the Seventh Circuit Judicial Council Space and Facilities Committee and on the Bankruptcy Judges Advisory Group to the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts. Judge Grandy is a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, the Illinois State Bar Association, the Missouri Bar, the St. Clair County Bar Association, BASIL and the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees. She also was a co-producer of a Broadway show that was nominated for a Tony Award. Judge Grandy received her B.A. from Eastern Illinois University and her J.D. from St. Louis University.

Susan N.K. Gummow is a shareholder at Foran Glennon Palandech Ponzi & Rudloff PC in Chicago and concentrates her practice in general commercial matters, including bankruptcy, insurance coverage and commercial litigation. Her experience includes representing insurers with regard to bankruptcies involving environmental, asbestos, sex abuse, mass tort, general liability, first-party property (e.g., complex mortgage and loss-payee issues, business interruption), financial lines, cyber/technology liability, professional liability and director & officer liability (including serving as monitoring counsel). She also advises insurers on deductibles and self-insured retentions, the rights of co-insureds and additional insureds, various settlement and release issues, successor liability issues, and the impact of bankruptcy filings on insurers. Ms. Gummow is the author of the *Bankruptcy and Insurance Law Manual* published by ABI, currently in its Fourth Edition. The *Manual* provides the basics of insurance law for the bankruptcy practitioner and the basics of the bankruptcy law for the insurance practitioner and can be ordered at store.abi.org. Ms. Gummow is a member of the Association for Conflict Resolution, ABI, the Claims and Litigation Management Alliance, the Professional Liability Underwriting Society and The Lawyers Club of Chicago. She received her B.B.A. from Baylor University and her J.D. from Louisiana State University, and she completed the Mediation Skills Training Program at Northwestern University and the Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine University School of Law. She also studied international and constitutional law under the late Chief Justice William Rehnquist at the Universite de Provence Aix-Marseilles in Aix-en-Provence, France.

Hon. G. Michael Halfenger is Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, initially appointed on Jan. 11, 2013, and named Chief Judge on Jan. 1, 2019. Previously,

he was a partner with Foley & Lardner LLP, practicing commercial litigation out of its Milwaukee office. Judge Halfenger received his B.A. *summa cum laude* from Lawrence University and his J.D. with honors from the University of Chicago Law School. Following law school, he clerked for Hon. Frank H. Easterbrook of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit.

Hon. Beth E. Hanan is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin in Milwaukee and Green Bay, appointed in May 2015. Previously, she was an appellate lawyer and litigator in Wisconsin, and served several terms as managing member of a trial practice boutique, Gass Weber Mullins. Judge Hanan was chair of the Wisconsin Judicial Council and president of the Milwaukee Bar Association, and she remains a Fellow in the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers. Since joining the bench, she has been the judicial co-chair of ABI's annual Wedoff Consumer Conference (in 2020 renamed the Consumer Summit) and has served as the bankruptcy representative to the Seventh Circuit Judicial Council (2019-21). She also chairs the Public Outreach committee of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges (NCBJ) and is a member of NCBJ's Ethics and International Judicial Relations committees. Judge Hanan received her undergraduate degree from Marquette University and her J.D. in 1996 from the University of Wisconsin Law School.

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.

Harold D. Israel, CPA is a partner at Levenfeld Pearlstein, LLC in Chicago, where he represents companies and fiduciaries (boards of directors, assignees, trustees and receivers) in workouts (in-court and out-of-court) and reorganizations throughout the U.S. In addition, he represents companies seeking to expand their business base by buying financially troubled companies, parties in mass tort bankruptcies, unsecured creditors, and lenders and equity sponsors in asset-based lending, foreclosure, and debtor-in-possession financing transactions. Mr. Israel has been recognized by *Chambers USA* as a "Recognized Practitioner," has been included in each edition of *The Best Lawyers in America* since 2013 for his work in the practice area of Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law, and has been named an *Illinois Super Lawyer* numerous times. He is a member of the board of directors of Illinois Chapter of Credit Resistance Abuse Education (for which he served as chair) and was on the Turnaround Management Association (TMA) Global Board of Trustees and Executive Committee, and he previously served as president of the Chicago/Midwest Chapter of the TMA and chair of the Bankruptcy and Reorganization Committee of the Chicago Bar Association. Mr. Israel chairs the Governance Committee of the Spertus Institute for Jewish Learning and Leadership and was president of Temple Beth-El, Northbrook, Ill. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan Ross School of Business and his J.D. from the University of Illinois Law School.

Franklind D. Lea, CIRA is the president of Tactical Financial Consulting, LLC in Alpharetta, Ga., and has more than 30 years of professional experience and education in complex business and financial matters. He has broad expertise in commercial finance, insolvency, real estate, real estate finance and valuation. His experiences encompass business and project evaluation, damage claims and lost profits, debt and equity structuring and restructuring, feasibility analysis, financial analysis, investment management, lending and leasing, and valuation. His professional roles have been as an appraiser, commercial lender, credit officer, financial consultant and workout officer. Since the creation of Tactical Financial, Mr. Lea has provided services to companies, investors, lenders and secured creditors, unsecured creditors' committees and law firms. He has acted as an advisor and litigation consultant, and has provided expert witness reports and expert testimony for a number of matters related to damage claims, feasibility, financing, real estate and specialized bankruptcy issues such as the § 1111(b) election, § 1129 confirmation requirements, the indubitable equivalent and *Till* cramdown interest rates. Within these roles, he has participated in more than 200 court hearings and provided testimony through affidavits, depositions and direct examination within the courtroom. Prior to forming Tactical Financial, Mr. Lea was a senior lender at Textron Financial Corp. for 11 years, where he focused on specialty real estate lending and large account workouts for real estate, equipment leasing and commercial lending. During his tenure at Textron Financial, he held several senior roles within its specialty lending divisions and risk-management department. He completed approximately 50 multi-million dollar specialty loan transactions and conducted several multi-year complex workouts and financial restructurings. Mr. Lea sits on ABI's Board of Directors and is an At-Large member of its Executive Committee. He also is a former co-chair of ABI's Asset Sales Committee and sits on the advisory board of ABI's Judge Alexander L. Paskay Memorial Bankruptcy Seminar. Mr. Lea received his B.S. in management and his M.B.A. from Florida State University, and a Master's degree in real estate and urban analysis from the University of Florida.

Hon. Brett H. Ludwig is a U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, sworn in on Sept. 10, 2020, and a former U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, sworn in on Feb. 27, 2017. He previously was a commercial litigation partner at Foley & Lardner LLP in Milwaukee, where he focused on commercial litigation and dispute resolution and chaired the firm's *pro bono* practice. He has also taught at the Marquette University Law School. Upon graduation from law school, Judge Ludwig clerked for Hon. George G. Fagg on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. He received his B.A. from the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point in 1991 and his J.D. *magna cum laude* from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1994.

Hon. Margaret Dee McGarity is a retired U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, appointed in 1987, reappointed in 2001 and retired in 2016. She served as Chief Judge from 2003-10. Prior to her appointment, she was in private practice, concentrating primarily in the areas of bankruptcy, family law and marital property, and she served on the panel of chapter 7 trustees. Judge McGarity has been a frequent lecturer on various marital property and bankruptcy-related topics, especially on the interrelationships between family law and the Bankruptcy Code, having participated in seminars sponsored by the Federal Judicial Center, National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees, National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees, ABI, State Bar of Wisconsin, Supreme Court of Wisconsin (Judicial Education Division), National Child Support Enforcement Association, National Judicial College, National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys, National Association of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, and various bar associations, among others. She is a co-author of *Marital Property Law*

in Wisconsin, published by the State Bar of Wisconsin; a co-author of *Collier Family Law and the Bankruptcy Code*, published by Matthew Bender/LexisNexis; and a contributing author of *Collier on Bankruptcy*, also published by Matthew Bender/LexisNexis. She has also authored numerous articles dealing with the practical aspects of bankruptcy practice. Judge McGarity is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, ABI, the National Association of Women Judges and the Thomas E. Fairchild Inn, AIC. She received her undergraduate degree Phi Beta Kappa from Emory University and her J.D. in 1974 from the University of Wisconsin Law School.

John W. Menn is a partner in the bankruptcy and insolvency group of Steinhilber Swanson LLP in Oshkosh, Wis., and has built a practice centered primarily around consumer bankruptcy, farm reorganizations and business reorganizations. He represents individual and business debtors in chapter 7, 11, 12 and 13 cases, and he represents debtors in adversary proceedings in bankruptcy, as well as negotiating settlements outside of bankruptcy, as well as negotiating settlements outside of bankruptcy and dealing with debt repayment through Wisconsin's Chapter 128 debt-amortization statute. He also assists clients who are facing foreclosure, helping them defend their foreclosure case and resolve their default through chapter 13, and he has helped many clients obtain home mortgage modifications through the Mortgage Modification Mediation Program, as well as through direct modifications with lenders outside of bankruptcy. In addition to his debtor work, Mr. Menn represents creditors in all chapters of bankruptcy, advising them of their rights, filing claims, negotiating and litigating disputed matters, and pursuing nondischargeability complaints. He has been a speaker at various seminars on topics including exemption issues in bankruptcy, creditors' rights when customers file bankruptcy, chapter 12 farm-reorganization issues, and chapter 13 bankruptcy issues including attorneys' fees, student loans, unfiled claims and dealing with underwater mortgages in chapter 13 cases. Mr. Menn is a member of the State of Wisconsin Bar Association's Bankruptcy, Insolvency & Creditors' Rights Section, Young Lawyers Division, Fox Valley Young Lawyers Association (for which he serves as its treasurer), ABI, Winnebago County Bar Association and the Eastern District of Wisconsin Bar Association. He received his B.A. from Calvin College in 2005 and his J.D. in 2009 from the University of Wisconsin.

Krystal R. Mikkilineni is a shareholder with Dentons in Des Moines, Iowa, and has more than eight years of experience representing clients and collaborating with colleagues on complex commercial reorganizations and restructurings, including in-court and out-of-court workouts. She represents businesses, creditors, trustees and individuals with reorganizations, insolvency matters and chapter 7, 11, 12 and 13 bankruptcies. Ms. Mikkilineni's primary focus is on chapter 11 bankruptcies, and she assists businesses with corporate and transactional work and mergers and acquisitions matters within the bankruptcy. She also has experience with company sales and acquisitions outside of bankruptcy. Ms. Mikkilineni is actively involved in the bankruptcy and restructuring industry and was recently recognized by two national organizations as a rising star in the legal community. The International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation named her one of five 2021 Rising Star Semi-Finalists, and she is a member of ABI's 2021 40 Under 40 class. She also recently participated as one of 40 attorneys in the Next Generation Program of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges in Washington, D.C. Ms. Mikkilineni received her B.A. *magna cum laude* in 2009 from the University of Northern Iowa and her J.D. in 2013 with honors from Drake University Law School, from which she holds a Business Law Certificate.

James E. Morgan is a creditors' rights and restructuring attorney and a bankruptcy and commercial litigator with Howard & Howard Attorneys PLLC in Chicago. He has handled significant litigation in courts and arbitration panels across the country, with an emphasis on cases in U.S. district and bankruptcy courts, ranging from complex commercial disputes to fraudulent-transfer actions. In bankruptcy courts, Mr. Morgan has represented creditors, debtors and financial advisors in all aspects of adversary and contested proceedings, including chapter 11 plan confirmation and § 363 sales. Outside of court, he advises and represents borrowers, lenders and other creditors in workouts, restructurings and liquidations. Mr. Morgan is frequently consulted on transactional risks such as potential fraudulent or preferential transfers, lender liability and bankruptcy exposure. His workout experience includes various types and structures of both debt and equity, including restructuring trust preferred securities (TruPS) and corporate liquidations. Mr. Morgan is a member of ABI, the Turnaround Management Association and the Chicago Bar Association. He received his B.S. with high distinction in 1989 from Indiana University at Bloomington and his J.D. *cum laude* in 1992 from Indiana University at Bloomington Maurer School of Law.

Brittany S. Ogden is a partner at the Madison, Wis., office of Quarles & Brady LLP and is the national co-chair of its Bankruptcy, Restructuring & Creditor's Rights Practice Group. With her commercial litigation and bankruptcy practice in state and federal courts throughout the country, she focuses on creditors' rights work and regularly represents financial institutions, equipment-finance companies, and secured and unsecured creditors. She is commonly involved with chapter 7, 11, 12 and 13 bankruptcy proceedings and receiverships, including chapter 128 cases. She also routinely represents clients in the agricultural industry. Ms. Ogden is admitted to practice law in the state of New York, the state of Wisconsin, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of New York, and the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern and Western Districts of Wisconsin. She is a member of the American Bar Association, ABI, the Turnaround Management Association, IWIRC and the James E. Doyle American Inns of Court. She is an active member of the Equipment Leasing and Finance Association as co-chair of its Amicus Brief Committee and as a member of its Service Provider's Committee. Ms. Ogden received her undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1996 and her J.D. from Syracuse University College of Law in 1999.

Andrew Perry is a partner at Foran Glennon Palandech Ponzi & Rudloff PC in Denver and concentrates his practice in the areas of bankruptcy, insurance coverage and commercial litigation. His experience includes representing insurers in bankruptcy cases involving environmental, mass tort, sex abuse and personal-injury liabilities. He also represents insurers in recovering unpaid premiums and other obligations in bankruptcy courts nationwide. Mr. Perry advises insurers on first-party property issues in bankruptcy cases and receiverships and the impact of bankruptcy on insurers' rights. Prior to joining Foran Glennon, he clerked for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina and the Tenth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel. Mr. Perry received his B.A. in 2008 in journalism and mass communication from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and his J.D. with honors in 2011 from the Charlotte School of Law.

Steven L. Rayman is senior counsel at CBH Attorneys & Counselors, PLLC in Kalamazoo, Mich., where he focuses his practice on bankruptcy, insolvency and reorganization matters, both business and consumer. At one time, he filed more than 25% of all chapter 11s in Western Michigan. Mr. Rayman is a frequent lecturer and writer on bankruptcy and reorganization topics, and he is Board

Certified by the American Board of Certification in both Business and Consumer Bankruptcy Law. He was the founder of the Western Michigan Bankruptcy Pro Bono Program and has also been active in legislative affairs, having chaired the State of Michigan House of Representatives' Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel and being integral in the passage of the previous Michigan bankruptcy exemptions. Mr. Rayman received his B.A. in 1976 from Albion College and his J.D. in 1979 from the University of Toledo College of Law.

Linda S. Schmidt is a commercial litigator with Godfrey & Kahn, S.C. in Madison, Wis., helps clients resolve disputes, particularly in the areas of insurance and constitutional law. She has successfully represented clients in a variety of venues, including before the state and federal courts of Wisconsin and courts in Arizona, Illinois, New York, North Dakota, Utah, Washington, D.C. and elsewhere. Ms. Schmidt represents a variety of insurers, including in complex coverage matters involving significant bodily injury, construction defect, environmental contamination, employee benefits liability, employment practices liability, directors and officers liability, and professional liability claims. She also represents insurance companies in cases alleging bad faith or improper industry- or company-wide claims-handling practices. Ms. Schmidt has submitted briefs and argued before state and federal appellate courts in precedent-setting insurance cases, and she has reviewed and advised insurance clients on proposed legislation before the Wisconsin legislature. In recent years, she has successfully defended a commercial liability insurer against claims for breach of contract and bad faith after it declined to defend a fast-food restaurant franchise owner in six New York-based class actions alleging that the owner underpaid delivery drivers and withheld tips. She obtained a no-coverage decision for claims arising out of an insured manufacturer's provision of faulty component parts for a power plant's ductwork, and she successfully argued before the Wisconsin Supreme Court on behalf of the Wisconsin Insurance Alliance, as *amicus curiae*, that an insured's hosting of an underage drinking party, at which one attendee assaulted another, was not an "occurrence" or accident for purposes of liability coverage. In addition, she has represented and advised religious institutions throughout the state, particularly with respect to their rights under the Wisconsin and U.S. Constitutions and the Religious Freedom Restoration Act. Committed to *pro bono* service, Ms. Schmidt helped draft Godfrey & Kahn's *pro bono* policy and recently served as a trustee on the Dane County Bar Association's *Pro Bono* Trust Fund, including five years as chair. She has also represented several clients *pro bono*, including in a ground-breaking case before the Wisconsin Court of Appeals that established what procedures a state court should follow and what interests to weigh when evaluating a petition by the State to force feed a prisoner. Prior to joining the firm, Ms. Schmidt worked in the government affairs practice group of a Washington, D.C.-based firm. She also spent a summer during law school in Azerbaijan researching barriers to and advocating for freedom-of-association rights. In addition, she lived in Germany for several years and is fluent in German. Ms. Schmidt received her B.A. *magna cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa from the University of California, Santa Barbara, her M.A. from Georgetown's School of Foreign Service in 1998, and her J.D. from Columbia University School of Law in 2003.

Brian L. Shaw is a member of Cozen O'Connor in Chicago, where he focuses his practice on financial restructuring, bankruptcy, and other in- and out-of-court distressed solutions, along with attendant litigation, representing debtors, creditors and other parties-in-interest in proceedings throughout the country. Over the past three decades, he has guided chapter 11 debtors, chapter 7 and 11 trustees, creditors' and noteholders' committees, assignees, landlords, liquidating trustees, labor organizations, preference and fraudulent conveyance defendants, receivers, and secured and

unsecured creditors through all aspects of bankruptcy, insolvency and restructuring. A Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, Mr. Shaw has served as ABI's president, chairman and vice president of membership, and previously chaired the Chicago Bar Association's Bankruptcy and Reorganization Section. He has received accolades from *Chambers USA*, *Super Lawyers* (Top 100 in Illinois for 2020), *The Best Lawyers in America*, *Lawdragon* (Top 500 Bankruptcy Lawyers) and *Marquis Who's Who in America*, and he is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell. Mr. Shaw chaired ABI's inaugural Professional Development Program and regularly serves on the faculty of ABI's Litigation Skills Symposium. He is admitted to practice in the State of Illinois, as well as the U.S. District Courts for the Northern District of Illinois, Central District of Illinois, Eastern District of Wisconsin, Western District of Michigan and Northern District of Indiana, the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Third, Seventh and Eighth Circuits, and the U.S. Supreme Court. He is also admitted to the Federal Trial Bar for the Northern District of Illinois. Mr. Shaw received his B.A. from Tufts University and his J.D. *magna cum laude* from the University of Illinois College of Law.

Hon. Paul E. Singleton is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Indiana in South Bend. After graduating from law school in 2009, he worked at Indiana Legal Services, where he practiced family and landlord/tenant law. He then joined the Family Justice Center of St. Joseph County, where he handled cases involving civil protective orders. Judge Singleton's professional experience includes private practice in employment law at Faegre Baker Daniels (now Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP) and serving as assistant city attorney for the City of South Bend. He also served as Magistrate Judge for the St. Joseph Superior Court, where he presided over criminal and civil cases. Judge Singleton received his Bachelor's degree with honors from Wake Forest University and his J.D. with *Pro Bono* Distinction from the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University. Before attending law school, he taught social studies for Teach for America at National Academy Foundation High School in Baltimore.

Catherine L. Steege is a partner with Jenner & Block LLP in Chicago and co-chairs the firm's Bankruptcy and Restructuring practice group. She is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and a member of the National Bankruptcy Conference, and she has been a member of the panel of trustees for the Northern District of Illinois since 1987. In addition to a traditional bankruptcy practice, Ms. Steege has represented numerous parties in complex bankruptcy litigation matters, including her representation of defendants in the *Tribune* fraudulent-conveyance litigation and the *Sentinel Management Group* litigation trustee, the *Magnatrax* litigation trust, the *NKK* litigation trust and the trustees of Emerald Casino Inc. and Consolidated Industries Corp. She has an active appellate practice and argued in the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of Wellness International Network in *Wellness International Network v. Sharif*. She also represented the petitioner in *Law v. Siegel* and the respondent in *City of Chicago v. Fulton*. In addition, she represented the examiner in the *Lehman Brothers* chapter 11 case and authored the sections of the Lehman Brothers Examiner's Report that considered potential avoidance actions against various financial institutions. Ms. Steege received her J.D. in 1982 from DePaul University.

John J. Stockdale, Jr. is a member of Schafer & Weiner, PLLC in Bloomfield Hills, Mich., where he focuses on business bankruptcies and transactional matters. Prior to joining the firm in 2008, he ran a publishing company specializing in business valuation and damage computation law. Mr.

Stockdale received his undergraduate degree from The Citadel and his J.D. *summa cum laude* from Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

Marc N. Swanson is principal and Bankruptcy Group Leader at Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, P.L.C. in Detroit and specializes in representing debtors, lenders, creditors, equityholders and unsecured creditors' committees in bankruptcy cases and related litigation in Michigan and throughout the country. He has experience in the municipal, energy, automotive, banking and building supply industries. In 2021, *Crain's Detroit Business* selected Mr. Swanson as one of its "40 Under 40," and he is a member of ABI's 2019 class of "40 Under 40." He has been consistently recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization and by *Michigan Super Lawyers* as a rising star in business bankruptcy. Mr. Swanson co-chairs the Debtor/Creditor Rights section of the State Bar of Michigan and is president of the Turnaround Management Association's Detroit Chapter. In his role as counsel to the City of Detroit in its bankruptcy case, he argued and won two bankruptcy appeals at the U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals for the City. One of these appeals sought to unravel the City's entire bankruptcy plan and Grand Bargain, and the other appeal challenged the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department's ability to collect past due bills and set its rates. He also successfully represented the City at the U.S. Supreme Court in the appeal of its bankruptcy plan. Mr. Swanson frequently speaks at restructuring conferences and seminars and publishes articles on insolvency-related topics. He received his B.A. in 2004 from the University of Michigan and his J.D. in 2007 from the University of Minnesota Law School.

Amy J. Swedberg is a partner at Maslon LLP in Minneapolis and has more than 20 years of experience as a financial services attorney. Her practice focuses primarily on assisting lenders and other commercial creditors, asset-purchasers, adversary proceeding defendants and indenture trustees with creditor rights and bankruptcy issues — bringing vital insight and counsel to companies and individuals in times of uncertainty and stress. An experienced litigator in the bankruptcy courts in Minnesota and throughout the U.S., Ms. Swedberg is admitted to the U.S. District Court in Minnesota, the Western District of Wisconsin, and the Eighth and Ninth Circuit Courts of Appeals. She has represented Delta Air Lines, Petters Co., Barney's, Granite City, Polaroid, Essar Steel, Gander Mountain, Toys "R" Us, Interstate Bakeries, Premier Entertainment and United Homes in major chapter 11 bankruptcies. Ms. Swedberg was honored among the 2021 Top Women in Finance by *Finance & Commerce* magazine in Minneapolis. She was also among just six Twin Cities attorneys selected for inclusion in the 2022 *Lawdragon 500 Leading U.S. Bankruptcy and Restructuring Lawyers*. Ms. Swedberg received her B.A. *summa cum laude* in 1993 in economics from the University of St. Thomas and her J.D. *magna cum laude* in 1996 from the University of Minnesota Law School, where she was admitted to the Order of the Coif and Phi Kappa Phi.

Hon. Keshia 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 Min-

nesota 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 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 London School of Economics and received her J.D. from Cardozo School of Law.

Julie B. Teicher is a shareholder with Maddin, Hauser, Roth & Heller P.C. in Southfield, Mich., and a member of the firm's Bankruptcy, Restructuring and Debtor-Creditor Rights Practice Group and the its Financial Services and Real Property Litigation Group. She concentrates her practice on business-related insolvency and bankruptcy matters, handling cases in bankruptcy, district and state court proceedings. Her clients include debtors, creditors, receivers, purchasers and parties in interest in bankruptcy and receivership matters in both state and federal courts. Ms. Teicher has served as a court-appointed receiver and as the trustee of a liquidating trust established pursuant to Delaware law. She has worked on many hospital bankruptcy matters over the years, representing a variety of clients in various cases. Ms. Teicher has experience representing creditors in consumer chapter 11, 13 and 7 cases, including various financial institutions, real estate companies, title companies, landlords and trustees. She also has represented clients in bankruptcy matters in Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Texas and Ohio, and she serves as local counsel for out-of-state attorneys who have matters in Michigan courts, including state, federal and bankruptcy courts. Ms. Teicher is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell, is listed in *DBusiness* magazine as a Top Lawyer in bankruptcy, and she has been recognized as a Michigan Leading Lawyer in *Bankruptcy & Workout Law: Commercial and Creditor's Rights/Commercial Collections Law*. She also has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law and Litigation-Bankruptcy since 2010, and since 2018 for her work in Commercial Litigation. In 2019, she was inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy. A Certified Bankruptcy Court Mediator, Ms. Teicher has been an adjunct professor at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law at various times since 2006. She also has been a presenter at many seminars, including ABI's Central States Bankruptcy Workshop and Hon. Steven W. Rhodes Consumer Bankruptcy Conference. Ms. Teicher received her B.A. with honors in 1978 from James Madison College, Michigan State University and her J.D. in 1982 from the University of Detroit.

Anne R. Vanderkamp is a director with AlixPartners, LLP in Chicago and provides financial advisory, litigation support and investigative services for boards of directors, law firms, general counsel, debtors, and court-appointed examiners and trustees. She has experience in calculating damages in expert-witness assignments with regard to construction claims, fraud allegations, lost profits, postmerger and acquisition disputes, and shareholder disputes. Ms. Vanderkamp also leads forensic investigations in bankruptcy-related litigation, including investigations involving allegations of fiduciary breaches and fraudulent transfers, analysis of related-party and other intercompany transactions, analysis of third-party asset transfers and quantification of damages. She has provided expert reports and trial testimony in federal and state courts. Most recently, Ms. Vanderkamp was a managing director at Baker Tilly and Mesirow Financial. She received her B.B.A. in finance from the University of Notre Dame.

Neema T. Varghese, CIRA is managing director of NV Consulting Services in Chicago and a seasoned financial advisor and independent director in complex situations. She advises clients through liquidity management, transaction advisory services, turnarounds, and protecting creditor interests. Ms. Varghese has served a number of industries, including health care, retail, financial services, oil/gas, pharma, manufacturing and transportation, and she typically has direct reporting responsibilities to C-suite executive teams, boards of directors and debt/equity investor groups. She has more than 15 years of experience in corporate finance advisory and has advised clients (both debtors and creditors) in bankruptcy situations, turnarounds, forensic accounting, asset divestiture, joint ventures, debt restructuring, and transaction advisory services through buy-side and sell-side merger-and-acquisition analysis and post-merger integration. Ms. Varghese has aided companies through cash-management issues, worked through receiverships, prepared entities for liquidations and going-concern sales of parts or entire businesses, and guided secured lenders and private-equity firms through healthy and troubled portfolio companies. In 2019, she was appointed by the Department of Justice to serve as a subchapter V trustee. Ms. Varghese represented the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. (FDIC) in assessing damages resulting from a \$2.5 billion bank failure engaged primarily in mortgage-backed securities. Previously, she was a portfolio manager with Merrill Lynch's Special Assets group, working with a \$100MM+ portfolio, consistently maximizing recovery and minimizing chargeoff exposure. Ms. Varghese is a board member of the Turnaround Management Association, a volunteer tax-preparer with LadderUp and a 2016 winner of The M&A Advisor's Emerging Leader Award. She received her B.S. in accountancy from the University of Illinois at Urbana – Champaign.

Ariel Weissberg is the managing partner and founder of Weissberg and Associates, Ltd. in Chicago and concentrates his practice in the areas of business and commercial litigation, transactional matters and all aspects of insolvency and financial distress, including bankruptcy, loan workouts and foreclosures. He founded the firm in July 1984 and has built a clientele comprised of small to medium-sized to publicly traded businesses, as well as individuals. Mr. Weissberg specializes in complex business and financial planning, especially relating to credit facilities and crisis-management, as well as high-risk litigation. He also is an expert witness in legal malpractice cases involving claims emanating from real estate and bankruptcy-related matters. Mr. Weissberg serves as general counsel in senior management to a number of businesses, including well-established businesses engaged in real estate finance and development. His practice is concentrated in real estate matters, particularly real estate litigation and transactional work, with an emphasis in financially distressed real estate and insolvency. A trial lawyer, Mr. Weissberg has litigated in state, federal and bankruptcy courts in Illinois relating to legal malpractice; industrial espionage and patent infringement; alter-ego, piercing-the-corporate-veil and fraudulent-conveyance litigation; bankruptcy discharge and dischargeability litigation; residential, commercial and industrial foreclosures; real estate reorganizations and hospitality reorganizations; real estate mortgage fraud actions; landlords matters relating to residential and commercial forcible entry and detainer actions and other lease disputes; breaches of real estate contract actions; mechanics' lien foreclosure actions; residential and commercial lease disputes, including evictions; and representing creditors and debtors in post-judgment remedies. In addition to practicing in Illinois, he has litigated in federal courts and bankruptcy courts in Indiana, Wisconsin, Michigan, Delaware, Florida and Missouri, and he is currently a member of the Chicago Bar Association, Federal Bar Association and Decalogue Society. Mr. Weissberg received his B.S. from Washington University in St. Louis in 1976 and his J.D. in 1979 from St. Louis University, where he was the co-managing editor of the *St. Louis University Law Journal* and received from the American

Bar Association a Silver Gavel Award for his legal reporting on KSD Radio on the trial of Benjamin Goins, a prominent St. Louis political figure.

Hon. Mary Ann Whipple is Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Ohio in Toledo, appointed as bankruptcy judge in 2001 and serving her second term. She also served a term on the Sixth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel. Before her appointment as a bankruptcy judge, she practiced law for 20 years as a commercial, bankruptcy and employment litigator with Fuller & Henry Ltd. in Toledo. Judge Whipple is admitted to practice in Ohio and Michigan and before the U.S. Supreme Court, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and the U.S. District Courts for the Northern District of Ohio and the Eastern District of Michigan. In addition, she taught creditor/debtor law as a part-time faculty member at the University of Toledo College of Law for 20 years. Judge Whipple received the 2008 Toledo Bar Association Community Service Award and the Toledo Women's Bar Association's Arabella Babb Mansfield Award in 2016, and is also a master and past president of The Morrison R. Waite Chapter of the American Inns of Court Foundation. She received her A.B. in Russian studies from the University of Michigan in 1977 and her J.D. from Stanford Law School in 1981.