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Faculty Biographies

Christopher Allman is the Civil Chief Assistant U.S. Attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice in Kansas City, Kan., and oversees a staff of about 30 people. Although the majority of his case work involves defensive cases against the U.S., he represents the U.S. in chapter 7, 11, 12 and 13 cases, including adversary cases seeking discharge of student loan debt. Mr. Allman previously clerked for the Kansas Court of Appeals Central Research Staff for one year before clerking for Federal District Judge Sam Crow for 10 years. He received his J.D. from the University of Kansas School of Law in 1989.

January M. Bailey is a shareholder at Prella Eron & Bailey in Wichita, Kan., where her practice focuses on bankruptcy, primarily representing consumer debtors. She obtained her first job after law school by talking about the movie *Office Space* and the red stapler that her future boss had on his desk; the job involved bankruptcy practice, and since that time, she has been actively involved in the local and state bankruptcy communities. Ms. Bailey chaired the Bankruptcy Committee for the Wichita Bar Association from 2016-22 and serves on the District of Kansas Bankruptcy Bench Bar Committee. She also is the immediate past president of the Wichita Women Attorney's Association and is a member in the Wesley E. Brown Inn of Court. In addition, she was named a "Rising Star" in bankruptcy by *Super Lawyers* in 2019 and was selected to participate in NCBJ's NextGen program in 2018. Ms. Bailey is the editor of ABI's *Best of ABI 2021: The Year in Consumer Bankruptcy*, and she is Board Certified in Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. She received her B.S. in business administration and B.A. in French from the University of Kansas, and her M.B.A. and J.D. from the University of Cincinnati.

G. Matthew Barberich, Jr., CPA, ABV, CFF, CGMA, CIA, CFE, ASA is a director with B. Riley Financial in Kansas City, Mo., and specializes in accounting, damages and lost profit analysis, due diligence, expert witness, forensic accounting, fraud investigation, litigation support, quality of earnings, solvency opinions and valuations, particularly in the advertising and manufacturing industries. He is an accounting and financial professional with more than 18 years of experience. Prior to joining GlassRatner (now d.b.a. B. Riley Financial), Mr. Barberich provided litigation support, business valuation and forensic accounting services for MarksNelson, LLC in Kansas City, Mo., from 2004-18. He was an associate of Taylor, Perky & Parker, LLC in 2003. Mr. Barberich has led numerous litigation support and forensic accounting engagements involving the quantification of losses from alleged embezzlements and other asset misappropriations, accounting irregularities, calculation of lost profits and other economic damages, critiques and rebuttals of lost profits and other economic damages, shareholder and business disputes, statutory and/or regulatory compliance, and whistleblower investigations. Additionally, he has performed hundreds of valuations of closely held companies for estate and gift tax purposes, income tax compliance, estate planning, appraisal review, shareholder agreements, marital dissolutions, shareholder disputes, and dissenting shareholder and minority oppression lawsuits. Mr. Barberich is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Kansas Society of Certified Public Accountants, the Institute of Internal Auditors, the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners and the American Society of Appraisers. In February 2020, he was appointed to serve as a subchapter V trustee for the Western District of Missouri on a case-by-case basis. Mr. Barberich received his B.B.A. in accounting and his M.B.A. with a concentration in accounting from Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, Kan.

Tom R. Barnes is a partner with Stumbo Hanson, LLP in Topeka, Kan., and serves as the city attorney for the cities of Harveyville, Alma, Alta Vista and Mayetta, Kansas. He also has served as the Municipal Court prosecutor for Maple Hill, Perry, Silver Lake, Eskridge and Auburn, and as conflicts prosecutor for the City of Topeka. Mr. Barnes served as the Tribal prosecutor for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation from 2003-08. He presently serves as the Municipal Court prosecutor for the City of Edgerton, Kan. Mr. Barnes is a member of the Topeka Bar Association and Kansas Bar Associations, has served as president and a director of the Topeka Area Bankruptcy Council, and served on the Bankruptcy Bench/Bar Rules Committee from 2007-10. He is the current president of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Section of the Kansas Bar Association. Mr. Barnes was admitted to the bar in 1988 and practices before the U.S. District Court for the District of Kansas, as well as the Kansas State District and Appellate Courts. He received his B.A. summa cum laude in 1985 from Fort Hays State University and his J.D. in 1987 from Washburn University of Topeka, where he served as vice-president of the Washburn Moot Court Council and was an inductee to the Independent Order of Barristers.

Hon. Robert D. Berger is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Kansas in Kansas City, appointed on Oct. 16, 2003, and reappointed on Oct. 16, 2017. Prior to his appointment, Judge Berger practiced law as a bankruptcy and insolvency specialist representing debtors and creditors, and was among the first group of attorneys in Kansas and Missouri to be certified by the American Board of Certification in both consumer and business bankruptcy law. Judge Berger is a member of ABI and the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, and a founding member of the Kansas Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. He also is a chapter author for *Collier on Bankruptcy*, *Collier Bankruptcy Practice Guide*, *Kansas Bankruptcy Handbook* and *Practitioner's Guide to Kansas Family Law*. Judge Berger is a frequent lecturer and he has authored articles for various publications, including *The Washburn Law Journal*, the *ABI Journal* and the *Journal of the Kansas Bar Association*. He received his B.A. in history and political science from the University of Kansas in 1983 and his J.D. from Washburn University School of Law in 1986.

R. Caleb Chaplain is the career law clerk to Hon. Rebecca B. Connelly of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Virginia in Harrisonburg and is an adjunct professor of bankruptcy law at Washington and Lee University School of Law. Prior to career clerking, he was a term law clerk for both Judge Connelly and Hon. Paul M. Black, Chief Judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Virginia. Mr. Chaplain is a coordinating editor for the *ABI Journal* and has authored articles. He also is a 2022 honoree of ABI's "40 Under 40" program. Mr. Chaplain volunteers as a member and current president of the board of directors of Second Home Learning Center, a nonprofit that provides out of school care, education and development opportunities for children in low-income households in Harrisonburg. He received his B.A. from Dartmouth College and his J.D. from Indiana University Maurer School of Law.

Daniel F. Dooley, CTP is a principal and CEO at MorrisAnderson in Chicago and has a national reputation in turnaround management, operations improvement, debt restructuring and assuming C-level positions for clients. Mr. Dooley is a frequent speaker at industry conferences and a regular published author for industry periodicals. He has served multi-year terms on the board of directors of both the Turnaround Management Association (TMA), for which he served as president of its Chicago chapter, and ABI. Mr. Dooley has planned and implemented significant financial improvements

for clients in many industries, including aerospace, agriculture, automotive, capital equipment, distribution, food, health care, metals, oil and gas, restaurants and transportation. Prior to joining MorrisAnderson in 1997, he served as an executive with several Fortune 500 manufacturers, including Illinois Tool Works (ITW), an industrial manufacturer, and Allied Signal, an automotive electronics and aerospace manufacturer. He has served on board of directors and been a key advisor to small and large corporations and nonprofit organizations. Mr. Dooley has successfully managed numerous projects for middle-market companies and assumed dozens of interim-management positions as an independent director, CEO, CRO and CFO for client companies nationwide. During his career, he has negotiated numerous transactions involving debt-restructuring, supplier accommodations and business sales. Mr. Dooley specializes in the development and implementation of cost-reduction and restructuring plans, as well as restructuring negotiations between companies and their creditors. He educates company ownership and management on realistic business plans, implementation of cost and liquidity improvements, and effective end-game strategies for clients. He also collaborates with management on issues related to turnaround, restructuring plans and business sales. Mr. Dooley has achieved results for companies in the automotive, aerospace, agriculture, capital equipment, metals, health care, transportation, food, distribution, oil and gas, and real estate industries. He is also a contributing author to *The Chief Restructuring Officer's Guide to Bankruptcy: Views from Leading Insolvency Professionals* (ABI 2013). Mr. Dooley received his B.B.A. and M.B.A. in finance from the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management.

Hon. Dennis R. Dow is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Missouri in Kansas City, appointed on Nov. 10, 2003, by the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals. Prior to taking the bench, he was a partner with the firm of Shook, Hardy & Bacon LLP, where he represented trustees in chapter 7 cases involving significant assets, individual and corporate debtors in proceedings under chapters 7 and 11, and secured, unsecured and priority creditors and lessors in chapter 7, 11, 12 and 13 cases, and had been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* in the area of bankruptcy law every year since 1995. He also tried numerous adversary proceedings and contested matters, including preference actions, objections to discharge, dischargeability complaints and objections to confirmation of chapter 11 plans. Judge Dow is a member of ABI, the Missouri Bar and the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association. He is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, inducted in March 2013, and was selected in November 2014 to become a conferee of the National Bankruptcy Conference. He also is a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges. Judge Dow is Chief Judge of the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel. He also served a term as chair of the Judicial Conference Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules. Judge Dow has authored and co-authored several articles, including "ERISA-Related Claims in Bankruptcy," *Journal of Bankruptcy Law and Practice*, Vol. 3, No. 1 (Nov/Dec 1993), "Rent to Own Agreements in Bankruptcy: Sales or Leases?," *ABI Law Review*, Vol. 2, No. 1 (Spring 1994), and "Gramm-Leach-Bliley and the Bankruptcy/Collection Attorney," *Norton Bankruptcy Law Advisor* (Feb 2002). He received his B.A. with honors from the University of Wyoming and his J.D. from Washburn University School of Law, where he was notes editor of the *Washburn Law Journal*.

Erin M. Edelman is a partner with Armstrong Teasdale LLP in St. Louis and is a litigator in the firm's Financial and Real Estate Services practice group. She leads the firm's Restructuring, Insolvency and Bankruptcy practice and counsels clients in bankruptcy, commercial and real estate litigation matters. In the business insolvency area, Ms. Edelman represents the interests of debtors, secured lenders and unsecured creditors seeking to maximize their return through bankruptcy or out-of-court restructuring.

She handles a variety of complex transactions and litigation related to corporate restructuring, including defending and prosecuting preference and related litigation, negotiating and documenting capital and debt structures, and loan workouts and asset-acquisitions and divestitures. She is also involved in real estate matters, representing utility companies and handling a variety of real estate litigation, including condemnation proceedings and large-scale tax appeals. In the finance industry, Ms. Edelman represents lenders in pursuit of remedies for promissory note and guaranty breaches. In addition, she has experience in a wide variety of civil litigation matters. Ms. Edelman is admitted to practice in Illinois and Missouri, and before the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern District of Missouri and the Southern District of Illinois. Before joining the firm, she was in private practice at another St. Louis firm, where she focused on general civil litigation. While in law school, she served as a judicial extern for Hon. Angela T. Quigless with the Missouri Court of Appeals for the Eastern District. Ms. Edelman is a member of ABI and the Missouri Bar, and she has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* Ones to Watch, Banking and Finance Law (2021-present), and Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law (2022-present), and in *Missouri/Kansas Super Lawyers* as a “Rising Star” since 2018. Ms. Edelman received her B.A. *magna cum laude* in political science, and her B.J. *magna cum laude* in strategic communication, in 2011 from the University of Missouri, and her J.D. *magna cum laude* in 2014 from Saint Louis University School of Law, where she was a staff member and symposium editor of the *Saint Louis University Public Law Review*, served as a legal research and writing teaching assistant, and was admitted to the Order of the Woolsack

Robert E. Eggmann is an attorney with Carmody MacDonald P.C. in St. Louis and practices in the fields of bankruptcy, restructuring, creditors’ rights, commercial litigation and financial transactions. He has experience representing chapter 11 debtors and creditors’ committees. Mr. Eggmann also serves as a chapter 7 panel trustee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Illinois and a Subchapter V trustee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of Illinois. Previously, he had co-founded Desai Eggmann Mason LLC in St. Louis in 2011 after having been a partner with the law firm of Lathrop & Gage LLP. Mr. Eggmann received his B.A. from St. Louis University in 1986 and his J.D. from St. Louis University School of Law in 1989.

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.

Thomas Freeman is an attorney with Fiedler Law Firm, P.L.C. in Omaha, Neb. He has advised and represented individuals, corporations, county governments, the State of Nebraska, and Native Ameri-

can tribes and entities on matters including commercial contracts, litigation and risk management, corporate governance and employment law. Mr. Freeman has litigated cases in both state and federal courts and at the trial and appellate levels. He is licensed to practice in state and federal courts in the State of Nebraska, the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court. Mr. Freeman also is a business law professor at a national university, where he teaches courses on business law, negotiation and litigation. His courses and academic research prepare students for the legal and ethical challenges created by Big Data, artificial intelligence, business analytics, fintech, algorithmic bias and other emerging technologies. In addition, Mr. Freeman routinely publishes articles and commentary and educates other lawyers and law students on these topics. He recently published articles on digital ethics in *CPI TechReg* and *The Nebraska Lawyer*, on algorithmic bias in *The Law-International Edition*, and on the legal implications of algorithmic decision making in *The Nebraska Lawyer*. He also helped lead a team that developed a national high school curriculum on algorithmic bias for the ADL. Mr. Freeman has been published in such legal journals as the *William & Mary Business Law Review* and the *Georgetown Journal of Law & Public Policy*. He is a frequent speaker at academic and legal conferences on topics like algorithmic bias, data science ethics, networking, business law and leadership. In addition, he was elected to the executive board of the Midwest Academy of Legal Studies in Business, and he serves on the editorial board of the *Nebraska Lawyer*. Mr. Freeman is a member of the Academy of Legal Studies in Business and the Nebraska State Bar Association, and is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell. He received his B.A. in liberal arts in 2004 from Bellevue University, his J.D. in 2007 and his M.S. in negotiation and dispute resolution in 2009 from Creighton University School of Law, and his M.B.A. in 2012 from Creighton University College of Business Administration.

Patricia E. Hamilton is a chapter 7 trustee and a partner with Stevens & Brand, L.L.P. in Topeka, Kan., where she practices in the areas of debtor and creditors' rights, commercial law and litigation, and bankruptcy matters. She is a member of the Kansas Bar Association and served as vice president of its Bankruptcy & Insolvency Section from 2003-04, and is a past president of the KBA Bankruptcy & Insolvency Section. Ms. Hamilton also is a member of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court Bench-Bar Committee, Topeka Bar Association, Topeka Area Bankruptcy Council, Kansas City Bankruptcy Bar Association (for which she served as president from 1996-2003), the Kansas Women Attorneys Association, the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees, ABI and the Missouri Bar. She served on the U.S. District Court Bench-Bar Committee from 2019-22 and the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Committee of the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association from 1996-04. She also served as a member of the Local Rules Committee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Kansas. In 2010, Ms. Hamilton served as an adjunct professor at Washburn School of Law teaching a course on debtor/creditor relations. She is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* and was named its 2023 Topeka Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law "Lawyer of the Year," an honor she also received in 2022 and 2018. Ms. Hamilton is frequent speaker at continuing legal education presentations. She received her B.A. *summa cum laude* in 1983 from Washburn University and her J.D. *cum laude* in 1987 from Washburn University School of Law.

Hon. Mitchell L. Herren is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Kansas in Wichita, appointed in July 2020. His 33 years prior to the bench included practice with a litigation firm in Kansas City, serving as in-house litigation counsel for a large energy company, then returning to private practice for 18 years with a Wichita-based firm, where he served for seven years as managing member and represented clients ranging from individuals to large companies, with a focus on com-

mercial litigation. Judge Herren is a Fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America and the American Bar Foundation. He received his J.D. from the University of Missouri at Kansas City School of Law.

Jerry L. Jensen is the Acting U.S. Trustee for Region 13 (Arkansas, Missouri and Nebraska) in Omaha, Neb., appointed on Aug. 1, 2023. He has been with the U.S. Trustee Program since 1989. Mr. Jensen had been appointed as Assistant U.S. Trustee in the Omaha office in 2017 and was a trial attorney in the Omaha office prior to that. Before joining the U.S. Trustee Program, Mr. Jensen clerked for Hon. William Edmonds in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Iowa. He received his J.D. in 1987 from Creighton University School of Law and his LL.M. in 1988 from the University of Arkansas School of Law.

Hon. Brian S. Kruse is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Nebraska in Lincoln, appointed on March 17, 2020. Before joining the bankruptcy court, he practiced law for 20 years at Rembolt Ludtke LLP in Lincoln and was managing partner from 2013-19. Judge Kruse is a member of the Nebraska State Bar Association and the Nebraska State Bar Foundation. He received his B.S. in 1995 from the University of Nebraska—Lincoln College of Business Administration and his J.D. with high distinction in 2000 from the University of Nebraska College of Law, where he was admitted to the Order of the Coif and served as editor-in-chief of the *Nebraska Law Review*.

David P. Leibowitz is founder and managing member of the Law Offices of David P. Leibowitz, LLC in Chicago. He also has been a chapter 7 trustee in the Northern District of Illinois for over 30 years. Mr. Leibowitz represents debtors in consumer and business bankruptcy cases under all chapters of the Bankruptcy Code. He is responsible for precedential decisions in the bankruptcy courts, the Northern District of Illinois and the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, as well as the Illinois Supreme Court. Mr. Leibowitz served on the boards of directors of ABI and the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees, and as co-chair of the ABI task force studying individual chapter 11 cases. He also has co-chaired of ABI's Consumer Bankruptcy Committee and Commercial Fraud Committee. Mr. Leibowitz is an author and editor of the ABI's *Commercial Fraud Manual* and many articles in the *ABI Journal*. He is a frequent speaker at national, regional and local conferences. Mr. Leibowitz is Board Certified in both Consumer Bankruptcy Law and Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. He received ABI's Annual Service Award for having originated and organized the first two years of its annual virtual conference for consumer practitioners, the Consumer Practice Extravaganza (CPEX). Mr. Leibowitz received the Liberty Bell Award in 2010 from the Judges of the 19th Judicial Circuit, Lake County, Ill., for "Outstanding Commitment and Service" for his work in organizing that court's mortgage foreclosure help desk and producing mortgage foreclosure information videos. He also received the Excellence in Pro Bono Service Award in 2006 from the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois and the Chicago Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. Mr. Leibowitz received his B.A. in economics from Northwestern University and his J.D. *cum laude* from Loyola University of Chicago School of Law, where he was note editor of its law review.

James A. Lodoen is a partner in the Minneapolis office of Spencer Fane, where he represents lenders, debtors, committees, trustees, receivers, and buyers of assets in bankruptcy cases, receiverships and workouts. He has been involved in many high-profile insolvency matters, including his work representing the chapter 11 trustee and the receiver in the legal fallout related to discovery of the

Petters \$3.8 billion Ponzi scheme. This included the unwinding of the scheme, litigating billions of dollars of clawback claims, liquidating assets, selling Polaroid and obtaining confirmation of a chapter 11 plan of liquidation. He also has been involved in representing buyers and sellers of distressed assets in numerous bankruptcy § 363 sales, receiverships, and assignments for the benefit of creditors throughout the Midwest and U.S. Mr. Lodoen has advised clients in real estate, manufacturing, health care, biotechnology, life sciences, retail, agribusiness and farm, ranch, and related agriculture industries. His farm and ranch background provides a practical understanding of issues pertinent to the challenges facing the agriculture sector. A Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, Mr. Lodoen is also a frequent lecturer and author on various bankruptcy, debtor/creditor and agriculture issues. He received his B.S. in agricultural economics and animal science from North Dakota State University and his J.D. in 1985 from the University of North Dakota School of Law.

Patrick C. Maxcy is a partner in Dentons' Restructuring, Insolvency and Bankruptcy practice group in Chicago, where he leads the firm's insurance and mass tort practice. He regularly represents insurers and other interested parties in the country's largest and most complex mass tort chapter 11 bankruptcy cases, including bankruptcy cases driven by asbestos, sexual abuse, opioids and other torts. He litigates with debtors, creditors' committees, ad hoc tort claimants groups and others. In addition, Mr. Maxcy represents insurers in the protection of their rights and pursuit of claims against chapter 11 debtors, including the pursuit of billions of dollars of subrogation claims in natural disaster-related mass tort bankruptcies. He also regularly represents other interested parties and stakeholders in bankruptcy cases and out-of-court restructurings. Mr. Maxcy has particular experience representing professional services providers in chapter 11 bankruptcies and restructurings, including in matters related to their retention. He also has represented numerous parties in chapter 15 bankruptcy proceedings and other cross-border insolvency matters. Mr. Maxcy is a member of ABI and the Turnaround Management Association. He is admitted to practice in Illinois and Maine, and before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, and the U.S. District Courts for the District of Maine and the Northern District of Illinois. Prior to joining Dentons, Mr. Maxcy clerked for Chief Judge Mark W. Vaughn in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Hampshire. He also is a past director of the University of Maine School of Law Alumni Association. Mr. Maxcy received his B.A. in 1993 with high distinction from the University of Maine, and his J.D. *cum laude* in 1999 from the University of Maine School of Law.

Bradley D. McCormack is a partner with The Sader Law Firm in Kansas City, Mo., where he focuses his practice on bankruptcy, including chapter 11 bankruptcy, as well as commercial real estate and commercial litigation. He has litigation experience in state and federal courts. Mr. McCormack has appeared in bankruptcy courts throughout the states of Missouri and Kansas, before the Eighth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel, and before the Missouri Western District Court of Appeals, the Eastern District Court of Appeals and in state courts in approximately 30 counties throughout western Missouri and Kansas. He has litigated both as a debtor and creditor in these jurisdictions. Mr. McCormack was listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* in 2023 and 2024 for Litigation – Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization for Kansas City, Mo. He has assisted hotels, restaurants, apartment complexes, wholesale suppliers and transportation companies. He also has experience helping small businesses under Subchapter V, and he has defended numerous companies and individuals in preference actions and fraudulent transfers lawsuits associated with national, large chapter 11 bankruptcies. Mr. McCormack served as counsel for the General Unsecured Creditors' Committee in bankruptcies filed in the Kansas City Metro Area. He became Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification in October 2017. Mr.

McCormack received his bachelor's degree in 2000 from Rockhurst University and his J.D. in 2003 from Saint Louis University.

Hon. Terrence L. Michael is Chief Judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma in Tulsa and a member of the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel of the Tenth Circuit. He has authored more than 170 published opinions, as well as articles in the *Tulsa Law Review*, *Texas Tech Law Review* and *Creighton Law Review*. Upon graduation from law school, Judge Michael joined the firm of Baird, Holm, McEachen, Pedersen, Hamann & Strasheim in Omaha, Neb., where he was a member of the firm's bankruptcy and creditors' rights practice group. His practice included all types of bankruptcy matters and general civil litigation. While at Baird, Holm, Judge Michael chaired the Bankruptcy Section of the Nebraska State Bar Association and was a member of the local rules committee responsible for drafting local rules in chapter 12 cases. He also authored and presented numerous papers at various continuing legal education seminars. Judge Michael has taught courses for the American Banker's Association School of Agri-Finance and Metro Technical Community College. On June 9, 1997, he began his career as a bankruptcy judge, and on June 7, 2000, he was appointed to the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel of the Tenth Circuit, a position he still holds. As a member of the BAP, Judge Michael chaired the committee charged with revising the local rules of that court. He has authored more than 170 opinions, is an associate editor of the *American Bankruptcy Law Journal* and an adjunct professor of law at the University of Tulsa, and has served as a speaker at various seminars presented by the Federal Judicial Center, the Eighth Circuit Judicial Conference, the Tenth Circuit Judicial Conference, ABI, the Nebraska State Bar Association, the Oklahoma Bar Association, the Tulsa County Bar Association, the West Texas Bar Association and the Southwest Regional Turnaround Management Association. Judge Michael is a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, having served on various committees and the Board of Governors. He received the President's Award for Distinguished Service to the Conference in 2018. Judge Michael is an emeritus member of the Council Oak/Johnson-Sontag American Inn of Court, which awarded him the John A. Athens Leadership Award in 2004, and the Nebraska State Bar Association. He was part of a multi-state select choir, which sang in Carnegie Hall in 1999, and recorded his first studio album in collaboration with Oklahoma Music Hall of Fame member and Grammy winner David Teegarden in 2018. Judge Michael received his B.A. *magna cum laude* in history from Doane College in 1980 and his J.D. from the University of Southern California's Gould School of Law in 1983.

Jill A. Michaux is a partner and co-founder of Neis Michaux Law Office in Topeka, Kan., and has helped several thousand individuals and small business proprietors obtain debt relief. Since the late 1980s, she has done consumer bankruptcy work for individual and small business debtors almost exclusively. Ms. Michaux was the first Kansas attorney to be Board Certified in Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification and one of seven Kansas attorneys so certified today. She advocates for the rights of consumer debtors as a charter member of the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys, for which she served on its board of directors. Ms. Michaux served on the Advisory Committee on Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure to the Federal Judicial Conference of the United States from 2012-18. She was appointed to two terms on the committee by Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr. Ms. Michaux has represented consumer debtors and small proprietors in chapter 7 and 13 bankruptcy cases for more than four decades. She was a founding member of the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys (NACBA) and currently serves on the board of directors of the National Consumer Bankruptcy Rights Center (NCBRC), the nonprofit amicus brief appeals project. Ms. Michaux was a founder of the Topeka and Kansas bankruptcy bar

associations and has served as president of both. She and her husband merged their law practices in 1984 to form the Neis Michaux Law Office. Ms. Michaux received her B.S. in journalism from the University of Kansas in 1977 and worked as a newspaper reporter for the *Topeka Capital-Journal*, then did public relations work for a trade association, before receiving her J.D. with Dean's Honors in 1982 from Washburn University Law School.

Prof. Robert W. Miller is an assistant professor of law at the University of South Dakota Knudson Law School in Vermillion, S.D., and teaches debtor/creditor rights, secured transactions, financial institutions and other related courses. His current research interests include the restructuring of heavily regulated entities (such as institutions of higher education and hydrocarbon producers) and the related conflicts between federal insolvency law and substantive state/federal law, and debtor-in-possession financing and exit financing in chapter 11 cases. Prof. Miller previously was a partner in the corporate restructuring department of Manier & Herod, P.C. in Nashville, Tenn., where his practice focused on the representation of insurance companies in large national and international insolvency matters, as well as chapter 11 trustees and unsecured creditors' committees in regional cases. He also taught a business associations class at the Nashville School of Law. Prior to practicing law, Prof. Miller clerked for Hon. William L. Stocks of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of North Carolina. He received his J.D. from Emory University School of Law.

Pamela Nix is a bankruptcy specialist for the Internal Revenue Service in Lee's Summit, Mo. She has worked for the IRS for 19 years and in bankruptcy for 10 years. Ms. Nix specializes in chapters 13, 7, 11 and 12 bankruptcies. She received her Bachelor's degree from the University of Missouri and her Master's degree from Central Missouri State University.

Hon. Cynthia A. Norton is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Missouri in Kansas City. Prior to her appointment on Feb. 1, 2013, she was a founding partner of Grimes & Rebein, LC in Lenexa, Kan., where she focused on consumer and business bankruptcy, creditors' rights, commercial workouts and related fields. She also clerked for Hon. John E. Rees of the Kansas Court of Appeals and Hon. James A. Pusateri of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Topeka, Kan., and was previously an associate with Stinson, Mag & Fizzell, an associate and then partner with Lewis, Rice & Fingers, and Of Counsel with Levy & Craig, and established her own law firm in 1995. She has published an annual column reviewing Eighth Circuit bankruptcy cases of interest for *Norton's Bankruptcy Law Advisor* and has authored numerous articles, book chapters and seminar papers on bankruptcy-related topics, is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy and a member of various bankruptcy organizations. She also is the recipient of the Michael R. Roser Excellence in Bankruptcy Award and the Robert L. Gernon Award for Outstanding Contribution to CLE, as well as the NCBJ Excellence in Education Award. Judge Norton received her B.A. in French and art history Phi Beta Kappa and *summa cum laude* from Kansas University in 1981, and her J.D. from the Kansas University Law School in 1984, where she was associate editor of its law review.

Jill D. Olsen is a solo practitioner at The Olsen Law Firm, LLC in Kansas City, Mo., practicing primarily in the areas of bankruptcy, collections and commercial litigation. She represents both creditors and debtors and is a chapter 7 panel trustee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Missouri. Ms. Olsen is admitted to practice in Missouri, Kansas, the Western District of Missouri and the District of Kansas, as well as in the Eighth and Tenth Circuits. She was on the Bankruptcy

Bench-Bar Committee for the District of Kansas and the Ac-Hoc Advisory Committee for the Western District of Missouri Bankruptcy Court. Ms. Olsen is a member of multiple local and national bar associations, and she was the past chairperson for the Kansas City Women's Bankruptcy Association and ABI's Midwestern Bankruptcy Institute. She received her J.D. with honors in 2000 from the University of Missouri at Kansas City School of Law.

Patrick M. Patino is the owner of Patino King LLC in Omaha, Neb., where he assists debtors and creditors with consumer and commercial bankruptcy and nonbankruptcy solutions. He also owns an attorney-coaching business called Newfangled Legal and hosts The Newfangled Lawyer Podcast, on which he regularly presents on topics regarding well-being, work/life integration, technology, and having fun while practicing law. Mr. Patino has served on the Nebraska State Bar Association's Bankruptcy Committee and currently serves on the advisory board of ABI's Midwestern Bankruptcy Institute. He was named to the 2021-23 "Great Plains Rising Stars" lists and as the 2021 "Readers' Choice Best of the Big O: Best Law Firm – Bankruptcy." Mr. Patino received his J.D. with honors from the University of Illinois College of Law, where he was awarded the CALI Award for Excellence in Bankruptcy and Small Firm Practice.

Kathryn Reid is assistant general counsel, Litigation and Compliance, at Ag Resource Management in Dallas, a specialty finance company offering farmers a range of financial and risk-mitigation solutions, from operating lines of credit and crop insurance to real estate finance and equipment-leasing services. She helps serve farmers across the Midwest, Southern and Western United States. Ms. Reid provides legal, compliance and transactional support to ARM management and operating groups, and oversees the company's DIP loan program and litigation matters. Prior to joining ARM, she was in private practice for 13 years at a Dallas-based firm, where she represented bankruptcy trustees, receivers and other parties in commercial bankruptcy and litigation matters. Ms. Reid is an advocate of local and sustainable food systems and is an active food bank volunteer with Empowering the Masses, a nonprofit with a mission to end hunger and food insecurity in the community. She received her J.D. from Southern Methodist University and is currently pursuing an advanced law degree in the LL.M. Food and Agricultural Law program at the University of Arkansas.

Hon. Bianca M. Rucker is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Arkansas in Fayetteville, appointed on April 26, 2021. Prior to her judicial appointment, she was a chapter 7 panel bankruptcy trustee and attorney representing creditors and debtors in consumer and business bankruptcy matters at Rucker Law PLLC, in Fayetteville. Before working as a trustee, Judge Rucker was a partner at Wright, Lindsey & Jennings, LLP (WLJ), where her practice focused on bankruptcy, commercial litigation and insurance defense. She also served as a staff attorney to Hon. Richard D. Taylor (2006-07) and Hon. Ben T. Barry (2007-11) of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern and Western Districts of Arkansas. Judge Rucker has served as president of the Northwest Arkansas Debtor and Creditor Bar Association, and she is an adjunct professor at the University of Arkansas School of Law, where she teaches alcohol beverage law. She received her B.A. in political science in 2003 from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and her J.D. with honors in 2006 from the William H. Bowen School of Law.

Carole J. Ryczek is a trial attorney with the Office of the U.S. Trustee in St. Louis. Previously, she clerked for Hon. Michael Mihm of the U.S. District Court for the Central District of Illinois, then spent

four years as an associate in the litigation department of Katten Muchin & Zavis in Chicago. After leaving private practice, Ms. Ryczek spent 12 years as an assistant U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Illinois. She received her Bachelor's degree and her J.D. from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Teresa Schreffler is a career law clerk for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Kansas in Topeka, currently clerking for Chief Judge Dale Somers. She previously litigated for the Department of Justice's Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch, and clerked for Judge Briscoe in the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals and Judge Belot in the District of Kansas. Ms. Schreffler is the current chair of the board of editors of the *Kansas Bar Journal* and has been an active member of that board for more than 10 years. She received her J.D. from the University of Kansas School of Law.

Kathryn E. Sheedy is an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Kansas in Topeka, where she serves as coordinator for the office's Financial Litigation Program, which enforces criminal and civil debts owed to the U.S. Prior to joining the U.S. Attorney's Office in 2019, she worked in private practice, primarily representing debtors in bankruptcy. Ms. Sheedy received her J.D. in 2006 from Washburn University School of Law.

Hon. Anita L. Shodeen is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of Iowa in Des Moines, appointed on Aug. 26, 2009. Upon graduation law school, she clerked for Hon. Jerry Larson of the Iowa Supreme Court. As a practicing lawyer, Judge Shodeen focused primarily on bankruptcy, debtor/creditor and transactional issues. She also served as a chapter 7 trustee and chapter 12 trustee for the Southern District of Iowa. She currently serves on the Eighth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel and is an associate editor for the *American Bankruptcy Law Journal*. Judge Shodeen previously served on the Board of Governors for the National Association of Bankruptcy Judges and for two terms as a member of the Judicial Resources Committee of the Judicial Conference. She has also been an adjunct professor at Drake University Law School. Her professional memberships include the American College of Bankruptcy, ABI, the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges and the Federal Bar Association. Judge Shodeen received her J.D. in 1985 from Drake University Law School.

Hon. Dale L. Somers is Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Kansas in Topeka, initially appointed in September 2003. He hears cases in Topeka, Kansas City and Wichita. Previously, he was in private practice for 32 years and a partner in the law firms of Eidson, Lewis, Porter & Haynes and Wright, Henson, Somers, Sebelius, Clark & Baker. Judge Somers was appointed to the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit in March 2010. He served as a member of the Judicial Resources Committee of the Judicial Conference of the United States. Judge Somers served on the Board of Governors for the Kansas Bar Association from 1988-98 and as president from 1995-96. He is a Fellow of the of the American College of Bankruptcy and of the American Bar Association. Judge Somers received his undergraduate degree from Kansas State University in 1968 and his J.D. from the University of Kansas School of Law in 1971.

Kristina M. Stanger is an attorney and shareholder with Nyemaster Goode, P.C. in Des Moines, Iowa, the state's largest firm, and focuses her practice on creditors' rights and bankruptcy. Her experience spans such industries as agriculture, retail, commercial real estate, bioenergy, health care,

construction and manufacturing. Ms. Stanger advocates for secured and unsecured creditors in a variety of contexts, including cases under chapters 7, 11 and 12 of the Bankruptcy Code, out-of-court workouts, acquisitions, state court actions and receiverships. She is a nationally known speaker and member of a number of esteemed boards and organizations, such as the American Bankruptcy College, ABI, the Iowa State Judicial Nomination Commission and CREW Iowa. In addition to her legal practice, Ms. Stanger is a combat-experienced and decorated U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel. She recently retired after serving more than 25 years as an enlisted soldier, commander and operational planner for state, national and international operations. Ms. Stanger was a member of the 2016 Next Generation Class for the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges (NCBJ), is a 2018 ABI “40 Under 40” honoree, and chairs IWIRC’s Midwest Network. She is admitted to practice in all state, federal and bankruptcy courts in Iowa and the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals. Following law school, she interned for Hon. Ronald E. Longstaff of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Iowa and clerked for the Iowa Academy of Trial Lawyers U.S. Army Command and General Staff College in 2014. Ms. Stanger graduated with distinguished honors from the 185th Military Regional Training Institute’s Officer Candidate School in 2000, received her B.A. *magna cum laude* from Central College the same year, and received her J.D. with high honors from Drake University in 2006, where she was a member of the Order of the Coif, worked on the *Drake Law Review* and was active in its moot court program.

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 named Chief Judge from Feb. 1, 2013, to 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 serves 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.

Donald L. Swanson is a shareholder with Koley Jessen P.C., L.L.O. in Omaha, Neb., and has been practicing bankruptcy law since 1980. He grew up on a livestock farm in Nebraska’s Sandhills, became Nebraska State FFA President (1973-74), and achieved FFA’s “American Farmer Degree.” During the 1980s farm crisis, Mr. Swanson represented debtors in more than 40 chapter 12 cases, achieving a confirmed plan and discharge in all but one. In Delaware’s \$1.5 billion ethanol bankruptcy (*In re VeraSun*), he held an *ex officio* seat on the creditors’ committee as counsel for the ad hoc committee of grain suppliers. Mr. Swanson is a subchapter V trustee in the District of Nebraska and serves on ABI’s Subchapter V Task Force. He also is a member of the Nebraska Delegation to the Uniform Law Commission and serves on its Drafting Committee for a uniform law on assignments for benefit of creditors, is a court-approved mediator in both the U.S. District and Bankruptcy Courts

of Nebraska, and is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. He has been recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America* and *Super Lawyers*, and he is ranked by Martindale-Hubbell. Mr. Swanson received his A.A. from Grace University in 1976, his B.S. in political science from the University of Nebraska - Omaha in 1977, and his J.D. from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln in 1980, where he was an associate editor of the *Nebraska Law Review*.

Stanley Tate is a sole practitioner with Tate Esq. LLC in St. Louis, Mo., and focuses on student loan law. His law firm offers a variety of student loan debt solutions, from eliminating defaults, negotiating settlements, defending lawsuits, lowering monthly payments to pursuing discharges in bankruptcy. Previously, Mr. Tate was a paralegal with the U.S. Army. He received his B.S. in management in 2004 from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale and his J.D. in 2013 from Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law.

Lynda K. Walker is president and CEO of The Tax Council in Washington, D.C., and the Tax Council Policy Institute (TCPI). The Tax Council is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, membership-based organization promoting sound tax and fiscal policies and is comprised of Fortune 500 companies, leading accounting and law firms, and major trade associations. The Tax Council Policy Institute is a nonprofit and nonpartisan public policy research and educational organization with the goal to provide better understanding of the impact significant tax policies may have on the economy and business through careful study, thoughtful evaluation and open discussion. Through symposia and other means, TCPI promotes and facilitates candid dialogue among all stakeholders. Immediately prior to joining TTC and TCPI, Ms. Walker served as international tax counsel to the United States Council for International Business, representing member views to the U.S. government and in various international forums, including the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). While there, she served as a delegate to numerous technical consultations and on numerous working groups, and provided leadership as a vice chair of the OECD's Business Industry and Advisory Committee's (BIAC) Taxation and Fiscal Policy Committee. With experience as a public policy attorney, Ms. Walker served as tax counsel and finance advisor to Senator John Heinz, who was a member of the U.S. Senate Finance, Banking, and Aging Committees. Upon leaving government service, she formed McKay Walker, a legislative strategic consulting practice specializing in federal tax and financial policy that focused on issues of market competitiveness and fairness. Over her career, Ms. Walker has advised trade associations, policy groups, and some of the largest U.S. businesses on a range of legislative and regulatory matters. She began her career as in-house counsel at a major regional financial institution and formerly headed the tax practice at a federal legislative law firm, serving as counsel on taxation and financial policy, and providing strategic advice to Fortune 100 companies, national industry groups and governments. Ms. Walker is a member of the U.S. Supreme Court, American, District of Columbia and Alabama Bar Associations; The Tax Coalition (for which she served as chair); and the boards of the Hugo Black Foundation and the Public Leadership Education Network. She received her B.A.Sc. in engineering/industrial management from Auburn University and her J.D. from Samford University Cumberland School of Law.