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Faculty Biographies

Vincent F. Alexander, CFE is a partner in the Fort Lauderdale, Fla., office of Shutts & Bowen LLP and a member of its Creditors' Rights and Bankruptcy Practice Group. He is an experienced restructuring lawyer, litigator and trial attorney. He focuses his practice on bankruptcy, creditors' rights, out-of-court restructurings, distressed-asset sales and insolvency-related matters. Mr. Alexander regularly represents debtors, creditors, equityholders, trustees and other fiduciaries, individuals, businesses and unsecured creditors' committees in chapter 7, 11 and 15 bankruptcy proceedings and related litigation, including avoidance actions and claim disputes. He also has experience successfully representing clients across a wide range of industries in complex litigation matters, including fraud, trade secret and restrictive covenants, breach of contract, unfair and deceptive trade practices, fiduciary issues, officer and director, sports and entertainment, and judgment domestication and enforcement. He represents his clients in restructuring work and complex commercial litigation cases in state and federal courts throughout Florida and the U.S. Before becoming a lawyer, Mr. Alexander was a linebacker in the NFL with the New York Jets and Arizona Cardinals, and was a mortgage banker for a large national lender. He received his B.A. in economics and commerce in 2003 from the University of Pennsylvania and his J.D. *cum laude* in 2009 from the University of Miami School of Law, where he was a member of the Moot Court Board and the Order of the Barristers.

Paul A. Avron is partner with Berger Singerman LLP in the firm's Fort Lauderdale, Fla., office and practices primarily in the areas of corporate reorganization, bankruptcy law, creditors' rights and appellate litigation, both state and federal. He has been involved in more than 30 appeals before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, many of which related to bankruptcy proceedings. Mr. Avron is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell and has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* annually since 2018. He received his B.A. in political science from Florida Atlantic University and his J.D. from Cumberland School of Law.

Eyal Berger is a partner with Akerman LLP in its Bankruptcy and Reorganization Department in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., where he focuses his practice on complex business reorganizations, out-of-court debt restructuring, the representation of creditors' committees, assignments for the benefit of creditors, corporate dissolutions, Article 9 transactions and the enforcement of creditors' rights. He also protects the interests of financial institutions and lessors as secured and unsecured creditors in myriad insolvency proceedings by assisting them in preserving, liquidating or repossessing their collateral. He has 18 years of experience as an insolvency professional representing debtors-in-possession, trustees, assignees and receivers. Previously, Mr. Berger served as judicial clerk extern to Bankruptcy Judge Michael G. Williamson and Chief Bankruptcy Judge Paul M. Glenn in the Middle District of Florida. In addition, he was a member of NCBJ-NextGeneration, for which he served on its Organizing Committee from 2014-19, and is a member of NCBJ's NextGeneration Class of 2012. Mr. Berger recently assisted a subchapter V debtor client in confirming a prepackaged subchapter V plan in 33 days. He is admitted to practice in all bankruptcy and district courts in Florida, as well as the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals. He also is listed in *Chambers USA* for 2020-23, ranked in Florida (South Florida) for Bankruptcy/Restructuring in *The Best Lawyers in America* for 2020-24, listed in Florida for Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law, and Litigation – Bankruptcy, listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* in 2022 as “Lawyer of the Year” for Litigation - Bankruptcy in Fort Lauderdale, named a “Top Lawyer in Broward County” for Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law in 2022 in *Fort Lauderdale Illustrated*, listed in *Super Lawyers* magazine from 2009-19 as a Florida “Rising Star” for Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights, and named an “Up & Comer” in 2013 in *Florida Trend's* Legal Elite. In ad-

dition, he received a book award in civil procedure. Mr. Berger received his B.A. in criminology and his B.S. in psychology, both *cum laude*, in 1999 from the University of Florida, and his J.D. *magna cum laude* in 2004 from the University of Florida Levin College of Law, where he was admitted to the Order of the Coif.

Ceci C. Berman is a shareholder with Brannock Berman & Seider in Tampa, Fla., a 10-lawyer firm dedicated exclusively to appellate practice and trial support, with offices in Tampa and Tallahassee, Fla., and the largest appellate firm in Florida. She has been an appellate specialist for more than 20 years and has been Board Certified for more than 15 of those years. Ms. Berman handles all types of federal and state appeals, with a focus on commercial litigation appeals. She is a frequent lecturer and author on appellate practice topics, ranging from bankruptcy appeals to land use and real estate appeals to family law appeals, among others. Ms. Berman is a past chair of Florida’s Civil Procedure Rules Committee. Likewise, she spent six years on Florida’s Appellate Court Rules Committee, where she chaired its Civil Practice Subcommittee. Ms. Berman is also a past chair of the Florida Bar’s Appellate Practice Section and the Hillsborough County Bar Association’s Appellate Practice Section. She continues to serve on the Executive Council of the Florida Bar’s Appellate Practice Section. Ms. Berman is continuously recognized by *Chambers USA* as a leading lawyer in Florida for appellate practice, *Business Today* listed her as one of the “Top 10 Influential Florida Appellate Lawyers Dominating the 2023 Legal Scene,” and she has been repeatedly named by *Florida Super Lawyers* as being among the Top 100 lawyers in Florida, Top 50 women lawyers in Florida and Top 50 lawyers in Tampa Bay. *Florida Trend* has counted her among its Legal Elite, and in 2023 it named her one of Florida’s Notable Women Leaders in the Law. She also has been named to *The Best Lawyers in America*’s list for Appellate Practice and Commercial Litigation, and *Tampa Magazine* has repeatedly recognized her as being a “Top Lawyer” for appellate practice. Ms. Berman received her undergraduate degree from the University of Florida with honors and her J.D. from the Georgetown University Law Center.

Steven M. Berman is a partner in the Tampa, Fla., office of Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP, specializing in the firm’s bankruptcy and creditors’ rights practice group. He has more than 30 years of bankruptcy experience and focuses his practice on business bankruptcy litigation, representing creditors, investors, distressed-debt lenders, trustees, committees and business entities litigating disputes in bankruptcy court. Mr. Berman is Board Certified by the American Board of Certification in both Creditors’ Rights Law and Business Bankruptcy Law, and he is a member of the Florida, California, District of Columbia, New York, Puerto Rico (Federal) and Texas bars. He is also admitted to practice before the Second and Eleventh Circuit Courts of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court. Mr. Berman serves on the boards of directors for ABI and serves on its Endowment Committee and its Task Force on Veterans and Servicemembers Affairs. He routinely volunteers and speaks at its seminars and other programs. On a local level, Mr. Berman is a member of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association, the Bankruptcy Bar Association of the Southern District of Florida, the Southwest Florida Bankruptcy Professionals Association and the San Diego Bankruptcy Forum. In addition, he guest lectures at the University of Florida College of Law and Stetson University College of Law in their advanced bankruptcy courses. Mr. Berman provides *pro bono* bankruptcy and insolvency services and training for U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General officers and staff, and represents servicemembers and their families in need. He is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell and was listed in *Florida Super Lawyers* from 2013-22. Mr. Berman received his B.S. in multinational business operations in 1987

from Florida State University and his J.D. in 1990 from the University of Florida Levin College of Law.

Edwin M. Boyer is a shareholder with Boyer & Boyer, P.A. in Sarasota, Fla., and has been a Florida Bar board certified elder law attorney since 1998. He focuses his practice areas on estate planning, probate and trust administration, guardianship, special needs trusts, guardianship litigation and nursing home residents rights enforcement. Mr. Boyer is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell and has been listed as a *Florida Super Lawyer* annually since 2006. He received the Manatee County Bar Association Community Service Award and was the first Borchard Foundation Distinguished Professorial Lecturer in Elder Law from 2012-13. He also received the William Reese Smith Jr. Award for public service by Stetson University College of Law in 2010. Mr. Boyer is a past president of both the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys and the Florida Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, and he is a member and Fellow of the Council of Advanced Practitioners of the Academy. In addition, he sits on the board of the Seniors vs. Crime Project of the Florida Attorney General's Office, and he is a member of the Department of Children and Families Select Advisory Panel for Adult Protective Services. Mr. Boyer received his B.A. in 1965 in education, and his M.A. in education and M.S. as an educational specialist in 1975, from the University of South Florida, and his J.D. in 1977 from Stetson University College of Law.

Hon. Jason A. Burgess is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida in Jacksonville, appointed in March 2022. While in private practice, he became a Florida Supreme Court Certified Mediator and the only attorney in North Florida to be Board Certified in both Business Bankruptcy and Consumer Bankruptcy Law. While in law school and for a time following graduation, Judge Burgess practiced in the creditors' rights area, representing many of the nation's largest financial institutions. He later became the managing partner of The Law Offices of Jason A. Burgess, LLC, where he concentrated on chapter 11 bankruptcy cases and complex bankruptcy litigation. He was often called upon as a chapter 11 consultant for complex debtor and creditor bankruptcy cases, and was also appointed as a subchapter V chapter 11 trustee for both the Middle and Northern Districts of Florida. Judge Burgess was honored as a member of ABI's 2021 class of "40 Under 40." He received his LL.M. in business transactions *magna cum laude* from the University of Alabama School of Law.

Gregory A. Champeau is the managing member of Champeau Law, P.A. in Naples, Fla., where he primarily focuses on representing debtors in chapter 13 and chapter 7 consumer cases and related litigation. He has been an active consumer bankruptcy practitioner since 2000, and is licensed to practice in both Massachusetts and Florida. Mr. Champeau is the former president of the Southwest Florida Bankruptcy Professionals Association, and is the recipient of the inaugural Honorable Alexander A. Paskay Professionalism Award. He is also a former Fort Myers representative to the Middle District Local Rules Committee and received the 2016 Outstanding *Pro Bono* Service Award for Collier County, Fla. In addition, he has served on the recently created Middle District Committee and Subcommittee tasked with reviewing and improving chapter 13 practice and procedure. Mr. Champeau received his undergraduate degree from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and his J.D. *cum laude* from Nova Southeastern University.

Hon. Roberta A. Colton is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida in Orlando, appointed in December 2017. Contemporaneously, she was appointed as a member of the judicial

mediation team involved in the Puerto Rico PROMESA cases and served in that capacity until January 2022. Prior to taking the bench, Judge Colton practiced at Trenam Law in Tampa, Fla., where she was a shareholder and a member of the firm's Management Committee. Prior to joining Trenam, she served as a judicial law clerk for Hon. James C. Hill of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. During her more than 30 years in practice, Judge Colton was active in service to the legal profession and has been recognized for her accomplishments. Among others, she was listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights from 1995-2016 and named one of the top 10 *Super Lawyers* in Florida from 2011-16. Judge Colton served as Eleventh Circuit Regent for the American College of Bankruptcy and as chair of the Grievance Committee of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida. She also is the former chair of the Florida Bar Business Law Section's Bankruptcy/UCC Committee, as well as the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association. Judge Colton received her B.A. in commerce with distinction from the University of Virginia in 1979 and her J.D. from William & Mary Law School in 1982, where she served on its law review and was a national moot court finalist.

Hon. Caryl E. Delano is Chief Judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida in Tampa, initially appointed on June 25, 2008, and named Chief Judge on October 1, 2019. She also was appointed Presiding Judge of the Fort Myers Division in July 2012. In 2022, Judge Delano was appointed by the Eleventh Circuit to a second 14-year term as a bankruptcy judge. In 2022, she was appointed to the Bankruptcy Judges Advisory Committee to the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts for a three-year term beginning in 2023. On July 6, 2023, the district court reappointed her as Chief Judge for another four-year term beginning on Oct. 1, 2023. Previously, Judge Delano practiced before the bankruptcy courts of the Central District of California for 14 years. In 1994, she returned to Tampa and most recently practiced law with the firm of Addison & Delano, P.A., where she concentrated her practice on bankruptcy and commercial litigation. Judge Delano has represented debtors and creditors in numerous chapter 11 cases and related adversary proceedings. She served as the liaison judge to the Middle District of Florida's Local Rules Lawyers' Advisory Committee from 2011-20 and is a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges Federal Rules Advisory Committee. In 2017, Judge Delano received the Southwest Florida Bankruptcy Professionals Association's Alexander L. Paskay Professionalism Award. In addition, she is a former executive director and past-president of the J. Clifford Cheatwood American Inn of Court. Judge Delano received her B.A. in English *cum laude* in 1976 from the University of South Florida and her J.D. in 1979 from Indiana University School of Law, having completed her final year of law school at Emory University School of Law.

Kathleen L. DiSanto is a shareholder with Bush Ross, P.A. in Tampa, Fla., where she focuses her practice on bankruptcy and insolvency matters. She also is an experienced litigator in state and federal courts throughout Florida. Ms. DiSanto began her career as the first law clerk to Chief Judge Caryl E. Delano of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida. Prior to joining Bush Ross, she practiced at boutique bankruptcy firm in Tampa. Ms. DiSanto regularly represents debtors and assists them in navigating the complexity of business bankruptcies. She has helped more than 30 chapter 11 debtors successfully reorganize, including many closely held family businesses and individuals. She also is experienced in representing creditors and trustees in the bankruptcy process and has specialized expertise in defending trustees on *Barton* doctrine issues. Ms. DiSanto has been Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification since 2014 and has held an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell since 2015. She also was the youngest president of

the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association. Ms. DiSanto received her B.S. in 2005 from the University of Virginia and her J.D. in 2008 from Stetson University College of Law. During law school, she interned with Hon. Alexander L. Paskay.

Mariane L. Dorris is a partner with Shuker & Dorris, P.A. in Orlando, Fla., and practices in the areas of bankruptcy and creditors' rights. She has been advising corporate debtors, creditors and distressed investors in all parts of the capital structure for more than 20 years. Ms. Dorris primarily represents chapter 11 debtors in bankruptcy cases, both corporate and individual. In addition to corporate chapter 11 work, she also has represented chapter 11 trustees in large fraud or Ponzi scheme cases, including Evergreen Security, Ltd. and IPS Worldwide. As part of her chapter 11 trustee representation, she has successfully prosecuted numerous fraudulent transfer cases with multimillion-dollar judgments. Ms. Dorris is a member of the Executive Council of the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar, and is an officer and member of the board of directors of the Florida Association for Women Lawyers (FAWL). She received her B.A. with distinction from Purdue University in 1994, her M.A. in organizational communication from Purdue University in 1996, and her J.D. from the University of Florida College of Law in 1999.

Kristina E. Feher is the managing member Feher Law, P.L.L.C. in St. Petersburg, Fla., and has practiced in the areas of bankruptcy, family law and small business matters. She serves as the president of the St. Petersburg Bar Foundation and previously served as secretary for the Florida Association for Women Lawyers Board of Directors (FAWL), having served as a Chapter Representative, representing Pinellas County, on the FAWL board of directors from 2019-20. Ms. Feher served as president of the Pinellas County Chapter of the Florida Association for Women Lawyers from 2018-19. She also previously served on a Sixth Circuit Grievance Committee. Ms. Feher served as a Sixth Circuit Representative for The Florida Bar Young Lawyers' Division Board of Governors. In 2019, she received the Sixth Judicial Circuit *Pro Bono* Award and the Community Law Program Volunteer of the Year Award. Ms. Feher is an adjunct professor for St. Petersburg College's Paralegal Studies Program. She received her B.S. in criminology with honors from Barry University and her J.D. from Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

Heidi A. Feinman is the Assistant U.S. Trustee for the Miami office. She began as a trial attorney with the UST Program in the Atlanta office in 1992 and moved to the Miami office in 1998. Although she has overseen cases in all divisions in the Southern District of Florida and appeared before most of the judges, Ms. Feinman regularly appeared in the West Palm Beach division. She also was the Bankruptcy Fraud Criminal Referral coordinator for the Miami office and is the liaison with the U.S. Attorney's Office and other federal agencies. Ms. Feinman is a member of the SDFL Transnational Elder Fraud Strike Force and the Securities and Investment Task Force. In 2002, she was appointed a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney in Miami, assisting in the prosecution and conviction of Thomas Warmus for bankruptcy fraud. She is a member of several government fraud working groups and has lectured on bankruptcy fraud to the U.S. Attorney Program, the court, the bankruptcy bar and other agencies. Ms. Feinman serves on several U.S. Trustee Program working groups. Locally, she has been a member of the Lawyers Advisory Committee since its inception in 2018 and previously served on the Local Rules Committee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida. Ms. Feinman is a DOJ ambassador to several Florida law schools and a DOJ mentor. She has spoken at numerous seminars over the years both within the Department of Justice and to vari-

ous bankruptcy bars and associations. She is a member of both the Florida Bar and the State Bar of Georgia. Ms. Feinman received her B.S. in accounting in 1986 from the University of Florida and her J.D. from the University of Florida Levin College of Law in 1990.

Jeffrey S. Fraser is a partner at Albertelli Law in Lake Worth, Fla., and focuses his representation on secured creditors and ensuring that their interests are protected in all Bankruptcy Code chapters. He handles contested litigation, including valuation hearings, adversary proceedings, sanction hearings, and any and all other disputed matters in bankruptcy court. As partner over his firm's national bankruptcy department, Mr. Fraser works closely with each state's managing attorneys as it relates to training, legal strategy, and all facets of the firm's bankruptcy practice. He is an active participant in the Southern District of Florida's bankruptcy bar and was the 2019 chair of the Local Rule Committee and an inaugural member the district's Lawyer Advisory Committee (LAC), serving as the committee's chair in 2020 and 2021. Through these roles, he has worked closely with South Florida bankruptcy judges and lawyers in reviewing local practices and rules; participating as a panelist for various district programs; assisting with the drafting of the district's Model Chapter 13 Plan and Mortgage Modification Mediation procedures and guidelines; and addressing other matters or concerns for the South Florida bankruptcy community. Mr. Fraser is a past president of the Jamaican-American Bar Association and has helped the organization create mentorship relationships with local law students. He also served as a panelist at a commercial law seminar in Kingston, Jamaica, discussing the 2014 Jamaican Insolvency Act, and he has organized foreclosure and bankruptcy workshops, spoken on numerous CLE panels, and guest-appeared on South Florida radio. Mr. Fraser was selected by *Super Lawyers* as one of its "Florida Rising Stars" for 2019, 2020 and 2021. In addition, he was named a 2017 Blackshear Fellow by the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges (NCBJ) and a 2020 ABI "40 Under 40" honoree, and he has published articles on consumer bankruptcy issues in the *American Legal & Finance Network* and *Default Servicing News*. Mr. Fraser has the highest rating by Martindale-Hubbell. He received his B.A. in 2007 from the University of Miami and his J.D. in 2010 from the University of Miami School of Law.

Robert C. Furr is a partner with Furr & Cohen, P.A. in Boca Raton, Fla., and serves as a panel trustee for the U.S. Department of Justice in the Southern District of Florida. He is regularly appointed as a chapter 11 trustee and has been designated as the chapter 12 trustee in the Southern District. Mr. Furr has represented numerous businesses in chapter 7 liquidations and in chapter 11 reorganizations, as well as individuals in complex chapter 7 and chapter 11 proceedings. He lectures frequently on issues of bankruptcy, creditors' rights and remedies before national organizations. Mr. Furr served as editor of *NABTalk* from 2000-05 and sat on NABT's board of directors from 2000-11, serving as president during the 2008-09 term. He is currently president of the American Board of Certification. Mr. Furr is a contributor to the *ABI Journal* and is admitted to practice law in Georgia and Florida and in all federal courts in Florida and the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals. In 1983, Mr. Furr became a Board Certified Civil Trial Lawyer by the Florida Bar, and in 1994 he received an AV rating by Martindale-Hubbell. He is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* and in *Florida Super Lawyers* and is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy. Mr. Furr received his J.D. from Emory University in 1975.

Hon. Tiffany Payne Geyer is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida in Orlando, appointed by the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals on March 25, 2022. Previously, she was a partner with BakerHostetler in Orlando and practiced primarily in the areas of bankruptcy and

creditors' rights. Judge Geyer represented both corporate and individual debtors in chapter 11 cases and individuals in chapter 7 cases, and her clients included health care businesses and medical professionals, investment bankers and financial advisors. She also represented clients in the hospitality sectors, assisted in representing debtors in the energy sectors, and negotiated multiple settlements of guarantor liability and assignments for the benefit of creditors. In addition, she represented secured creditors, unsecured creditors, landlords and panel trustees. Judge Geyer has been listed in *Chambers USA* for Bankruptcy/Restructuring in Florida and in *The Best Lawyers in America* in 2020 for Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law. She began her legal career in Orlando clerking for Bankruptcy Judge Karen S. Jennemann, whose vacancy she filled upon her retirement, and she volunteered at a Florida nonprofit organization devoted to housing and educating young adults struggling with homelessness. Judge Geyer received her B.A. with honors in political science and public administration in 1998 from the University of Central Florida, and her J.D. in 2000 from the University of Florida Levin College of Law, where she received the Book Award for Legal Drafting and was a member of a trial competition team.

Hon. Scott M. Grossman is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of Florida in Fort Lauderdale, sworn in on Oct. 2, 2019. He previously was a shareholder with a large international law firm in its global restructuring and bankruptcy practice, and he represented distressed companies, debtors, secured and unsecured creditors, official committees, trustees, landlords and purchasers of distressed assets, and worked on bankruptcy cases across various industries, including real estate, hospitality, health care, entertainment, banking, technology, energy and financial fraud. While primarily involved in chapter 11 reorganizations, he also represented clients in out-of-court workouts and restructurings, chapter 7 liquidations, receiverships, assignments for the benefit of creditors and insolvency-related litigation. Judge Grossman was active in local bar activities, including having served as president of the Bankruptcy Bar Association of the Southern District of Florida. When in private practice, he was listed in *Chambers USA*, *The Best Lawyers in America* and *Super Lawyers* magazine, and was a member of the winning teams for the Global M&A Network's Turnaround Atlas Awards for both "Cross Border Special Situation M&A Deal (Small-Mid Markets)" in 2019, as well as "Turnaround of the Year — Small Markets" in 2015. Judge Grossman began his legal career in the Attorney General's Honors Program at the U.S. Department of Justice, where he was a trial attorney in the Tax Division, Civil Trial Southern Section, from 1999-2004. He received his B.S. in 1996 from the University of Florida and his J.D. in 1999 from George Washington University Law School.

Yusuf Haidermota is a shareholder at Kass Shuler, P.A. in Tampa, Fla., where he is a member of the firm's Litigation Group and focuses his practice on commercial, real estate and fair debt litigation. An experienced litigator, his practice extends statewide in both state and federal courts, including the Middle and Southern Districts of Florida. Mr. Haidermota has successfully prosecuted and defended lawsuits involving creditors' rights, breach of contract, real estate issues, commercial landlord/tenant matters, commercial collections and other business issues. He is a frequent speaker on the Florida Consumer Collection Protection Act, the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act and Telephone Consumer Protection Act. Prior to joining Kass Shuler, P.A. in 2011, Mr. Haidermota was an assistant state attorney for the Tenth Judicial Circuit, advocating on behalf of the people of the State of Florida. While a prosecutor, he tried more than 25 jury trials and numerous nonjury trials. Mr. Haidermota is a member of the Tampa Bay American Inn of Court, Hillsborough County Diversity Committee, Trial Lawyers Section of the Florida Bar, Real Property, Probate and Trust Law section

of the Hillsborough County Bar Association, and the American Legal and Financial Network. He received his B.A. from the University of Florida and his J.D. in 2008 from Florida State University College of Law, where he served as president of the FSU Real Estate Law Society and a member of the William H. Stafford American Inn of Court.

Matthew B. Hale is a shareholder with Stichter, Riedel, Blain & Postler, P.A. in Tampa, Fla., where he focuses on assisting businesses and their owners in navigating the restructuring process, both in and out of court. More broadly, he represents debtors, creditors, committees and trustees in business bankruptcy cases, seeking to maximize value for stakeholders. In addition to his bankruptcy practice, Mr. Hale represents fiduciaries and other parties in Florida assignment for the benefit of creditors cases and receivership cases. He also advocates for clients in a variety of commercial litigation matters, including fraudulent transfer actions, preference actions, litigation against directors and officers, complex creditor enforcement litigation, business owner disputes, real estate litigation and contract disputes. Mr. Hale previously served as a term law clerk for Hon. Karen S. Jennemann, Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida. He received his B.S. in business administration with a focus on economics from the University of Florida, and his J.D. *magna cum laude* from Florida State University College of Law, where he served as an editor of the *Florida State University Law Review* and joined the Order of the Coif.

Eric D. Jacobs is a partner with Venable LLP in Tampa, Fla., where he concentrates his practice on corporate restructuring, chapter 11 bankruptcy, complex civil litigation and business litigation. He counsels small businesses in restructuring, including reworking corporate governance, finances and equity structure, and represents chapter 7 trustees and other fiduciaries in fraudulent transfer litigation and other avoidance actions. He also represents creditors and debtors in collection matters, garnishment proceedings and proceedings supplementary. Mr. Jacobs has experience representing debtors and creditors in discharge actions under §§ 523 and 727 of the Bankruptcy Code. He previously worked with two boutique chapter 11 firms in the Tampa Bay area, gaining experience in restructuring, business litigation and complex civil litigation matters in both federal and state court, where he represented both businesses and individuals. He also served as a judicial intern for U.S. Chief Bankruptcy Judge Alexander Paskay. Mr. Jacobs is a member of the American Bar Association, the Hillsborough County Bar Association and the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association (TBBA), where he volunteers with its *pro bono* clinic to assist *pro se* individuals through the bankruptcy process. He received his B.S. in political science with honors in 2006 from Florida State University and his J.D. with honors from Stetson University College of Law, where he was a member of the American Bar Association's student division and a semifinalist in the AAJ Civil Trial Competition.

Michael C. Markham is a partner with Johnson Pope Bokor Ruppel & Burns, LLP in Tampa, St. Petersburg and Clearwater, Fla., where his practice focuses on business bankruptcy cases. He has 35 years of experience representing virtually every type of constituent in chapter 11 cases, including debtors, trustees, committees, purchasers and creditors of all kinds. He also is a subchapter V trustee in small business chapter 11 cases in Tampa. His career highlights have included being lead counsel to the chapter 11 trustee in the Brasota Mortgage Co. chapter 11 case in Tampa, lead counsel to the receiver in the Transcontinental Airlines/Lou Pearlman receivership cases in Orlando, Fla., and counsel to the chapter 11 trustee in the PenAir case in Anchorage, Alaska. He also has had significant involvement in ABC cases, including Laser Spine and JLM Industries. Mr. Markham has

been a member of ABI since 1993. He regularly speaks and writes on bankruptcy topics and has been recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America* since 2008. Mr. Markham received both his B.S. *summa cum laude* and his J.D. with honors from Florida State University.

Michelle McDaniel is an FBI Special Agent for the Miami division, located in the West Palm Beach Resident Agency. She investigates complex white-collar and financial crime matters in the Southern District of Florida.

Hon. Catherine Peek McEwen is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida in Tampa, appointed by the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals on Aug. 22, 2005, and an adjunct professor at Western Michigan University Cooley Law School. She is the first female judge appointed in her district. Prior to becoming a judge, she was in private practice for almost 23 years in Tampa, concentrating on commercial litigation with an emphasis on representing parties in bankruptcy cases, and was a solo practitioner from 2001 until she was appointed to the bench. Judge McEwen was elected into the American Law Institute in 2012. In recent years, she was appointed by Chief Justice John Roberts to be the Bankruptcy Observer to the Judicial Conference of the United States (JCUS), the policy-making body for federal judiciary, for a two-year term (2017-19). She is a member of the JCUS Advisory Committee on the Bankruptcy Rules (2020-26) and, most recently, a member of the Committee on the Judicial Branch (indefinite term). Judge McEwen is the immediate past Eleventh Circuit Governor on National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges' Board of Governors and is currently a member of the NCBJ's Legislative Committee and Centennial Celebration Committee. She also is a member of The Florida Bar's Business Law Section (BLS) Executive Council and the immediate past judicial chair of the section's Bankruptcy/UCC Committee. Judge McEwen is currently co-chair of The Florida Bar's *Pro Bono* Legal Services Committee and judicial chair of the BLS Scholars & Fellows Retention Task Force. She also is a past chair of The Florida Bar's Federal Court Practice Committee. Judge McEwen is a past chair/president of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association, was a court-appointed bankruptcy mediator from 1989-2005, is a past chair of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida's Local Bankruptcy Rules Advisory Committee, and is a past chair of a Florida Bar Grievance Committee. Prior to becoming a lawyer, Judge McEwen was a sportswriter from 1975-79 for the *Tampa Tribune* and the *Tampa Times*. She received her B.A. in political science from the University of South Florida in 1979 and her J.D. *cum laude* from Stetson University in 1982.

Hon. James S. Moody, Jr. is a District Court Judge with the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida in Tampa, Fla., appointed in July 2000. Prior to being elected circuit judge from 1995-2000, he was an AV-rated, board-certified civil trial lawyer, certified public accountant, director of Hillsboro Sun Bank, chair of two Florida Bar committees (Jurisprudence and Attorneys Fees) and president of the Hillsborough County Bar Association. Judge Moody previously was engaged in private practice with Trinkle, Redman, Moody, Swanson & Byrd, P.A. He had presided over the family law and general civil divisions of the circuit court. Judge Moody was a member of the Education Steering Committee for the Conference of Circuit Court Judges and has taught courses at judicial education conferences. He received the Hillsborough County Outstanding Jurist Award as a state judge in 2003 and the Young Lawyers Statewide Award as Outstanding Jurist in 2007. Judge Moody is listed in the *Who's Who in American Law* (5th, 6th and 9th editions) and in *Marquis Who's Who in the World* for 2018 and 2019, receiving the 2018 and 2019 Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achieve-

ment Award. He has been a member of the American Law Institute since 2010, and since 2010, he has taught the judicial externship course for law school students at the University of Florida Law School. Judge Moody served as a mock trial judge at the Labor and Employment Law Trial Skills program in July 2000, 2001 and 2002 at Stetson University Law School and as a mock trial judge at the Annual Moot Court Competition held at the University of Florida in 2003, 2004, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011 and 2013. In 1998, he was nominated by the Judicial Nominating Commission to fill a position on the Florida Supreme Court. Judge Moody received the Hillsborough County Bar Association's Robert Patton Outstanding Jurist Award in March 2003 and the Florida Bar Young Lawyer's Division Outstanding Jurist Award in 2007. From 2014-15, he was the president and a founding member of the Wm. Reece Smith, Jr. Litigation American Inn of Court. Judge Moody received his undergraduate degree in accounting with high honors, his M.B.A. and his J.D. with honors from the University of Florida, where his activities earned him selection to the U. of F. Hall of Fame and Florida Blue Key.

Hon. Mindy A. Mora is U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of Florida in West Palm Beach, appointed on April 6, 2018. She practiced in the areas of bankruptcy, commercial finance, and securitized real estate finance and litigation from 1982-2018 prior to her appointment to the bench by the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Mora is a Fellow of both the American College of Bankruptcy and the American College of Commercial Finance Attorneys. She previously chaired the Business Law Section of The Florida Bar, which represents the interests of more than 5,000 business lawyers within the State of Florida. Throughout much of her legal practice, she has been active in the development of Florida's commercial laws, most recently as a member of The Florida Bar Business Law Section task force that prepared draft Florida legislation adopting a modified version of the Uniform Commercial Real Estate Receivership Act. Judge Mora is a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges and has served on its Technology, New Member, Education and Executive Director Search Committees. She also participates as a member of the Business Law Sections of both the American Bar Association and The Florida Bar, the Association of Commercial Finance Attorneys, the Bankruptcy Bar Association of South Florida, and the International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation. Presently, Judge Mora is actively involved in the Business Law Section of The Florida Bar by serving as the judicial co-chair of both the Bankruptcy/UCC Committee and the Long-Range Planning Committee. From 2018-20, she served as the judicial chair of the Bankruptcy Court's Local Rules Committee, which promulgated amendments to the local rules that were adopted by the bench of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida. Since 2021, Judge Mora has served as the judicial chair of the Bankruptcy Court's *Pro Bono* Committee, which promotes *pro bono* service by lawyers appearing in the court and facilitates ongoing communication with various legal aid organizations throughout South Florida. She regularly lectures on commercial law and bankruptcy topics to lawyers and other judges throughout the U.S. Judge Mora received her B.B.A. from George Washington University in 1979 and her J.D. from New York University School of Law in 1982.

W. Stephen Muldrow is the U.S. Attorney for the District of Puerto Rico in San Juan, sworn in on Oct. 4, 2019, following his confirmation by the U.S. Senate on Sept. 26, 2019. He previously served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Puerto Rico U.S. Attorney's Office from 1995-2001, serving as Lead Organized Crime Drug Task Force (OCDEF) Attorney and Coordinator for the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Task Force. From 2001-19, Mr. Muldrow served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Middle District of Florida, including serving as the Acting U.S. Attorney (March 2017-January 2018), the First Assistant U.S. Attorney, senior litigation counsel in both the Civil and

Criminal Divisions, chief of the Major Crimes Section, and as an OCDETF prosecutor. From 1989-95, Mr. Muldrow worked as a trial attorney and senior trial attorney in the Tax Division, Civil Trial Section, Northern Region in Washington, D.C., having joined the Department of Justice through the Honors Program in 1989. From 1988-89, he worked as a law clerk for the U.S. Marshals Service, Office of General Counsel. Mr. Muldrow received his B.A. in economics with a minor in Spanish from Bucknell University, his J.D. *cum laude* from The American University Washington College of Law, and his M.A. in law and international affairs from The American University School of International Service.

Megan W. Murray is a founding shareholder of Underwood Murray PA in Tampa, Fla., and has nearly 20 years of reorganization and workout experience advising business owners, debtors, trustees, creditors' committees, secured and unsecured creditors, and asset-purchasers and sellers. She has experience both on the legal side and business side in a global financial institution, and she counsels businesses and owners in a wide variety of industries, including but not limited to real estate, health care, hospitality, pharmaceutical, medical services, construction, insurance, transportation, logistics, aviation and financial services. Ms. Murray also has experience representing a variety of fiduciaries, from chapter 7 and 11 trustees to assignees in assignments for the benefit of creditors and receivers in proceedings across the state. In addition to her broad range of representations in core bankruptcy matters, she counsels her clients in making critical business decisions, while prosecuting and defending complex business disputes. She has experience in director and officer liability litigation, bondholder disputes, shareholder and partnership disputes, court-appointed receiverships, health care receiverships, assignment proceedings, recovery of large and small business assets, and lien priority disputes related to a variety of collateral, including real property, equipment, medical equipment, aircraft and logistics-related assets. Ms. Murray has been recognized in *Chambers USA*, *Florida Super Lawyers* and *The Best Lawyers in America*, and she was named a *Florida Trend Magazine* "Legal Elite." She is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell, and she is a 2018 honoree of ABI's "40 Under 40" program. Ms. Murray received her B.B.A. from the University of Iowa Tippie College of Business in 2002 and her J.D. with honors from the University of Iowa College of Law in 2011, where she was a contributing editor to the *Iowa Law Review* and an ABI Medal of Excellence recipient.

Joe Navarro is an author and lecturer who served as an FBI agent for 25 years, specializing in behavioral assessment. Since retiring, he has authored 13 books dealing with human behavior and body language. Mr. Navarro lectures yearly at the Harvard Business School and has written for *Psychology Today*, *The Washington Post*, *Condé Nast*, *POLITICO* and the *Wall Street Journal*. His book *Louder than Words* was lauded by the *Wall Street Journal* as "One of the six best business books to read for your career." Thirteen years on, his book *What Every BODY Is Saying* remains the #1 selling body-language book in the world. Mr. Navarro received his M.A. from Salve Regina University and lectured annually for a decade at the Harvard Business School.

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.

Patricia A. Redmond is a Bankruptcy & Creditors' Rights shareholder with Stearns, Weaver, Miller, Weissler, Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A. in Miami and was elected chair of the American College of Bankruptcy Board of Regents, the first woman in the College's history to hold this position. She was inducted as a XV Class Fellow in 2003 and has served as a Regent for the Eleventh Circuit for the past three years. She also has served as chair of the College's Distinguished Law Student Committee and as a member of the College's Foundation Board of Directors from 2005-2011, including as Secretary for a three-year term. Ms. Redmond focuses her practice on bankruptcy and creditors' rights, and has experience representing creditors' committees, secured creditors and debtors in chapter 11 cases. She has served on ABI's Board of Directors and held various leadership roles within ABI, the American Bar Association (ABA), the Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida (BBAS-DFL) and the Dade County Bar Association (DCBA). She also has devoted countless hours throughout her career to providing *pro bono* legal services to thousands of underprivileged and low-income individuals, children and families. She founded the Bankruptcy Assistance Clinic both at St. Thomas University School of Law as well as the University of Miami, where she is an adjunct professor of law. She also is a frequent presenter, both locally and nationally, on topics related to bankruptcy law. In recognition of her significant contributions to the community and the legal profession, she has received several prestigious accolades, including the ABA Business Law Section's Jean Allard Glass Cutter Award and The Florida Bar's Tobias Simon *Pro Bono* Service Award. Ms. Redmond has been recognized with the highest ranking (Band 1) in *Chambers USA*, as a "Top 100," "Top 50 Women" and "Top 100 Miami" *Florida Super Lawyers*, and as a "Lawyer of the Year" multiple times in *The Best Lawyers in America*. She served as ABI's president from 2013-14 and chaired the selection committee of ABI's inaugural "40 Under 40" program. Ms. Redmond received her B.A. in 1975 from the University of Miami and her J.D. in 1979 from the University of Miami School of Law.

Kelly Remick is the Chapter 13 Standing Trustee for the Tampa Division of the Middle District of Florida. Prior to her appointment as trustee, she worked for Chapter 13 Standing Trustee Jon Waage as his senior staff attorney for nearly nine years. She also represented creditors in private practice for many years in bankruptcy and state court proceedings. Ms. Remick received her B.A. in political science from the University of Michigan and her J.D. from the University of Florida College of Law.

Jason S. Rigoli is a partner with Furr and Cohen, P.A. in Boca Raton, Fla., and his practice focuses on the representation of debtors, creditors and trustees in bankruptcy. He regularly prosecutes and defends contested matters and adversary proceedings, and he is experienced in all aspects of litigation and appeals. Mr. Rigoli is admitted to practice in the U.S. District and Bankruptcy Courts for the Southern, Middle and Northern Districts of Florida, the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals and the

U.S. Supreme Court. He is a member of ABI and the Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida, Inns of Court's Craig S. Barnard Chapter, National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees, the American, Palm Beach County and South Palm Beach County Bar Associations and The Florida Bar's Business Law Section. Mr. Rigoli received his B.S. in business administration with a focus on finance from the University of Florida at Gainesville, and his J.D. from Florida International University College of Law.

Luis E. Rivera, II is the deputy chair of the Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights practice group at GrayRobinson, P.A. in Fort Myers, Fla. He is experienced in counseling clients in business litigation, bankruptcy, creditors' rights, and insolvency. A 2017 ABI "40 Under 40" honoree, Mr. Rivera serves as a trustee of Florida Gulf Coast University and president of the Middle District of Florida *Pro Se* Legal Assistance Clinic, Inc. He received his B.A. *magna cum laude* from Loyola University New Orleans, where he was an Ignatian Scholar, and his J.D. from Washington and Lee University School of Law, where he was editor-in-chief of the *Washington and Lee Journal of Civil Rights and Social Justice*.

Dana L. Robbins is an associate with Burr & Forman LLP in Tampa, Fla., where she serves in its Creditors' Rights and Bankruptcy Practice Group. She represents a diverse array of clients, including banking institutions, municipalities, real estate developers, title insurance groups and retail shopping centers in commercial bankruptcy cases, as well as in business litigation, commercial litigation, appeals and general civil litigation. Ms. Robbins' practice includes all aspects of corporate restructuring, bankruptcy and insolvency proceedings, including § 363 sales, and preference and fraudulent transfer litigation. Prior to joining Burr & Forman, she clerked for the Chief Judge Caryl E. Delano in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida, where she assisted with complex bankruptcy and state law issues. She has also served as a trial court staff attorney in the Office of Court Counsel for the Sixth Judicial Circuit of Florida, where she advised circuit court judges on substantive and procedural issues in trial and appellate cases. Ms. Robbins is actively involved in several professional organizations, including serving on the boards of the Federal Bar Association's Tampa Bay Chapter, and the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation. She has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* as a "One to Watch" for Insurance Law since 2021, and for Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law, Litigation - Banking and Finance for 2023, and she was listed as a *Florida Super Lawyers* "Rising Star" from 2021-22. Ms. Robbins received her B.S. from the University of Tampa, her M.B.A. from Stetson University and her J.D. from Stetson University College of Law. She also studied abroad at the University of Oxford.

Hon. Grace E. Robson is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida in Orlando. She previously was a partner with Markowitz Ringel Trusty & Hartog, P.A. Judge Robson is a Board-Certified bankruptcy attorney with more than 20 years of experience representing corporate debtors, trade and institutional creditors, trustees, receivers and creditors' committees. Prior to taking the bench, she practiced corporate reorganization and bankruptcy, debtor-creditor relations and bankruptcy litigation. Judge Robson has been involved in all facets of reorganization-related representations, including pre-filing consultation, filing complex corporate bankruptcy cases, post-bankruptcy financing, asset purchase agreements as well as "routine" matters. She is an active member of ABA, currently serving as a co-chair of the Secured Creditors Subcommittee of the Business Law Section, Business Bankruptcy Committee (and previously served as a co-chair of the *Pro Bono* Services Sub-

committee). Prior to relocating to the Middle District of Florida, she served on the board of directors of the Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida and was the Broward Chair of the *Pro Bono* Committee, the Broward Chair of the CARE Program Committee and chair of the Wellness Committee. Judge Robson received her B.A. *cum laude* from the State University of New York at Albany in 1994 and her J.D. from the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in 1997.

Lynn Welter Sherman is a shareholder with Trenam Law in St. Petersburg, Fla., and a member of its Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights Practice Group. She represents businesses, financial institutions, trustees, creditors, landlords, debtors, committees and other parties in bankruptcy, creditors' rights and reorganization matters. She helps clients navigate all aspects of chapter 7 and 11 bankruptcies, out-of-court workouts, loan modifications and restructurings, foreclosures, collection and enforcement of judgments, enforcement of security interests and creditors' rights litigation. She also acts as a mediator in bankruptcy matters. Ms. Sherman is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy and received the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association's Douglas P. McClurg Professionalism Award in 2022. She has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency & Reorganization Law; Commercial Transactions/UCC Law; Litigation – Bankruptcy since 2008, and was named Lawyer of the Year for Bankruptcy & Creditor-Debtor Rights and Bankruptcy Litigation in 2020 and 2023, and she was listed in *Florida Super Lawyers* from 2011-22. In addition, she has been listed as one of *Florida Trend's* Legal Elite, Bankruptcy and Workout, has been ranked in *Chambers USA* for Bankruptcy/Restructuring, made Tampa Magazine's Top Lawyers list for 2019 and 2023, and is AV-rated by Martindale Hubbell. Ms. Sherman is a member of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association, the Florida Bar's Business Law Section, ABI, IWIRC, the Hillsborough County Bar Association, the American Bar Association and the St. Petersburg Bar Association, for which she served as Bankruptcy Committee co-chair from 2007-09. She received her B.S. from Florida Southern College in 1980, her J.D. in 1983 from Stetson University College of Law, and her LL.M. in taxation in 1989 from New York University School of Law.

Gavin N. Stewart is the owner of Stewart Legal Group, P.L. in Tampa, Fla., and his practice consists of creditors' rights and consumer litigation in Florida, New Jersey and New York, as well as music law and personal injury law. A native of Queensland, Australia, by way of Brooklyn, N.Y., Mr. Stewart has more than 15 years of experience representing both individuals and companies in consumer and commercial bankruptcy matters. He is a member of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association, New Jersey State Bar Association and ABI. Mr. Stewart received his undergraduate degree from Rutgers University and his J.D. in 2007 from Stetson University College of Law, where he was a member of the Moot Court Board.

Guy A. Van Baalen is the Assistant U.S. Trustee for the Tampa, Fla., office of the U.S. Trustee Program. He has served with the U.S. Trustee Program since 1989. Previously, Mr. Van Baalen practiced in several firms in Buffalo, N.Y., for seven years. He was admitted into the New York State Bar in 1983. Mr. Van Baalen is admitted to practice in various federal courts, including the U.S. District Courts for the Northern and Western Districts of New York, the U.S. Bankruptcy Courts for the Northern and Western Districts of New York, and the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Connecticut. He currently serves the rank of Lt. Colonel with the New York Guard and has been involved in many civic organizations, previously serving as the past president of the Board of Education for the Clinton Central School District and the New Hartford Rotary Club. He also has lectured extensively

for various state and local bar associations within the U.S. Trustee Program. Mr. Van Baalen received his undergraduate degree in 1979 from the State University of New York (SUNY) at Albany and his J.D. in 1982 from SUNY at Buffalo Law School.

Mark J. Wolfson is a partner with Foley & Lardner LLP in Tampa, Fla., and has been a practicing commercial litigation and bankruptcy lawyer for more than 37 years. He has experience in out-of-court loan workout and restructuring matters, as well as broad experience in all types of insolvency and bankruptcy cases, representing secured creditors, indenture trustees, creditors' committees, buyers of assets in chapter 11, equityholders, bondholders, and parties to contracts such as landlords and franchisors. His experience includes health care, hotel, golf course, manufacturing, telecommunication, technology, automotive and agriculture insolvency cases. Mr. Wolfson is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell and has been recognized by *Chambers USA: America's Leading Business Lawyers* since 2003. He also was selected for inclusion in the 2006-17 *Florida Super Lawyers* lists and in *The Best Lawyers in America* since 2007 for Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights Law. Mr. Wolfson regularly lectures on lender liability, fraudulent transfer, and complex bankruptcy matters. He also is co-author of the chapter titled "The Impact of Bankruptcy" for the Florida Bar manual *Florida Construction Law and Practice*, recently edited in 2018. Mr. Wolfson has been an active participant in Hillsborough County's *Pro Bono* Legal Aid Programs. He was awarded the 2017 "Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Outstanding *Pro Bono* Service by a Lawyer Award" in the Tampa Bay Area. As chair of the Tampa office's *Pro Bono* efforts, he accepted the Outstanding Law Firm Commendation for *Pro Bono* Service from the Chief Judge of the Florida Supreme Court in February 2019. Mr. Wolfson was the 2005-06 chair of the Florida Bar Business Law Section and is a member of the Section's Executive Council. He also has served as the chair of the Business Law Section's Bankruptcy/UCC Committee and as the lead representative to the Florida Legislature for the Business Law Section in connection with the enactment of Revised Article 9 in Florida in 2001. In addition, he was the primary draftsman of the Florida non-uniform default and remedies provisions. Mr. Wolfson was a member of the advisory board for ABI's Caribbean Insolvency Symposium for more than eight years and has been a member of the ghyt hgnbboard for ABI's Alexander L Paskay Bankruptcy Conference for more than five years. He received his bachelor's degree with high honors from the University of Tennessee in 1979, where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Omicron Delta Kappa, and his J.D. from the University of Florida in 1982, after which he served a judicial clerkship to the Florida Second District Court of Appeals.

Chantel C. Wonder is Of Counsel with McGlinchey Stafford PLLC in Tampa, Fla., and focuses her practice on consumer financial services, employment defense and insurance. She has represented clients in federal and state litigation, as well as class actions, appeals and hundreds of bench trials. Ms. Wonder has particular expertise in debt-buyer and mortgage work, with experience in credit cards, debt collection, bankruptcy and the wide spectrum of financial services litigation. Many of her cases surround consumer protection litigation, including the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA), Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA), Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA), Florida Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act (FDUPTA) and Florida Consumer Collection Practices Act (FCCPA). Ms. Wonder previously worked as in-house litigation counsel for a national debt-buyer for eight years, working on the company's many highly contested cases.

J. Ryan Yant is a shareholder with Carlton Fields, P.A. in Tampa, Fla., where he focuses on bankruptcy and creditors' rights law, and has substantial courtroom experience. He has represented both debtors and creditors in chapter 7, 11, 12 and 13 bankruptcies. He also has handled associated contested matters and adversary proceedings, with an emphasis on personal and corporate chapter 11 debtor representation. In court, Mr. Yant has handled all aspects of client representation and case management from beginning to end, including hearings, depositions, mediations and negotiations with opposing parties. He also has drafted all documents necessary for representation, including complaints, answers, plans, disclosure statements, confirmation orders, motions, responses, objections, applications and proposed orders. Prior to joining Carlton Fields, he clerked for Hons. K. Rodney May and Roberta A. Colton in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida after beginning his practice as a debtor's attorney with a focus on personal and corporate chapter 11 debtor representation. Mr. Yant has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* as one of its Ones to Watch for Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law since 2021. He received his B.S. *cum laude* in 1986 from the University of Florida, his M.B.A. with honors in 2013 from Stetson University and his J.D. *cum laude* in 2013 from Stetson University College of Law.

Maria M. Yip, CPA, CFE, CIRA, CFF is the founder and managing partner of Yip Associates in Miami, which specializes in forensic accounting, financial investigations, receiverships and other fiduciary roles, bankruptcy-related matters and valuations. She serves as the firm's Fiduciary Services Practice leader and handles clients from offices in Miami, Fort Lauderdale, Boca Raton, Tampa, Orlando, New York and New Jersey. Ms. Yip previously worked for Price Waterhouse and Arthur Andersen, and led the forensic accounting practice for Florida as a partner at Grant Thornton prior to founding Yip Associates in 2008. She is on the Miami panel of bankruptcy trustees and a case-by-case subchapter V trustee in the Southern District of Florida. She also serves as a state and federal court-appointed receiver, examiner, liquidating trustee, custodian and assignee for the benefit of creditors. Ms. Yip has experience marshaling and securing assets and identifying potential causes of action to provide recoveries for creditors and investors. She serves as accountant and financial advisor to receivers appointed in numerous SEC, CFTC and FTC matters. Ms. Yip has 30 years of experience serving as a forensic accountant and expert witness. Her clients include attorneys, receivers, bankruptcy trustees and governmental agencies. In addition, she regularly serves as an expert witness in federal and state court, international litigation and arbitration matters. Ms. Yip has experience in the tracing of funds and the reconstruction of financial business records in civil and criminal matters. She also has experience calculating economic damages in breach of contract and other commercial disputes. Ms. Yip assists clients with discovery, detailed review and analysis of business records, preparation of written reports, demonstrative exhibits and testimony, and she has experience conducting internal and external financial investigations of alleged business frauds including white-collar investigations, embezzlement and asset misappropriation, financial reporting and securities fraud. She is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Association of Certified Fraud Examiners and Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Advisors, and she serves on the board of directors of the National Association of Federal Equity Receivers. Ms. Yip received her Bachelor's degree in accounting from Florida International University.