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# Rocky Mountain Bankruptcy Conference

## **Faculty Biographies**

**Patrick R. Akers** is a bankruptcy and commercial litigation attorney and a director with Fennemore Craig, P.C. in Denver. He represents asset-purchasers, debtors, landlords, secured and unsecured creditors, and trustees in commercial bankruptcy and litigation matters involving bankruptcy, insolvency and restructuring. Mr. Akers received his B.A. with distinction and honors from the University of Iowa, his M.B.A. from Auburn University and his J.D. *cum laude* from the University of Notre Dame.

**Gabrielle L. Albert** is an associate with Keller Benvenuti Kim LLP in San Francisco, where she advises clients in all aspects of corporate bankruptcy cases. She has represented all significant constituencies, including debtors, creditors, creditors' committees, landlords, indenture trustees and ad hoc committees. Her bankruptcy experience covers a variety of industries including tort plaintiffs, gym chains, retail chains, online merchants, oil and gas and utilities. Ms. Albert is a member of ABI and is the sponsorship co-chair of its 2024 Rocky Mountain Bankruptcy Conference. In addition, she has been a frequent guest lecturer at the University of California, Davis on bankruptcy for undergraduates. Ms. Albert received her B.A. in 1994 from the University of California, Berkeley and her J.D. from UCLA School of Law in 1997.

**Hon. Kevin R. Anderson** is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Utah in Salt Lake City, appointed on Sept. 4, 2015. Previously, he served for 17 years as the standing chapter 13 trustee for the District of Utah, administering more than 70,000 chapter 13 cases. Judge Anderson served as president of the National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees (NACTT), and he served on several national committees regarding chapter 13 legislation, rules, forms and policy. He has frequently written and presented on chapter 13 issues, including for the *Norton Bankruptcy Law Advisor*, the *ABI Journal*, the *NACTT Quarterly* and the *NACTT Academy for Consumer Bankruptcy Education*. He also is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy. Prior to his appointment as chapter 13 trustee, Judge Anderson practiced for 13 years as a commercial litigator with an emphasis on civil fraud, real property, and representing chapter 11 and 7 trustees. He also clerked for Hon. David N. Naugle, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Central District of California. Prior to law school, Judge Anderson worked for two years as a data systems specialist testing military and commercial jet engines for General Electric. He received his J.D. *cum laude* from the J. Ruben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University.

**Lacey S. Bryan** is an attorney with Markus Williams Young & Hunsicker LLC in Denver, where her practice is focused on complex bankruptcy litigation. She represents clients in all phases of insolvency and restructuring, including debtors, creditors, and trustees in chapter 7 and 11 bankruptcies. Ms. Bryan previously clerked for Hon. Michael E. Romero of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Colorado and was the staff attorney for the Chapter 13 Trustee for the Northern District of Oklahoma. She is a member of ABI and the International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation, Faculty of Federal Advocates, and the Colorado and Oklahoma Bar Associations. Ms. Bryan received her B.A. in 2009 from the University of North Texas and her J.D. with highest honors in 2013 from the University of Tulsa, where she served on the executive board of the *Tulsa Law Review*.

**Alexander Sun Chang** is an associate with Parsons Behle & Latimer, PC in Salt Lake City and a member of the firm's litigation practice team. His practice focuses on bankruptcy, trust and estate issues. When not practicing law, Mr. Chang enjoys gardening with his family and exploring artificial

intelligence for various applications. He received his undergraduate degree in 2017 from the University of Utah and his J.D. in 2023 from the University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law.

**Gene Commander** is an executive business counselor for the legal industry with Gene Commander Inc. in Aurora, Colo., with a special focus on Smart Growth in Action: 2030™ through proactive business growth strategies for Colorado law firms. He has more than 40 years of experience in the legal industry while practicing construction law with small, midsize, regional and national firms. Mr. Commander's past roles include serving on the management committee of a midsize firm and as managing shareholder in the Denver office of an Am Law 100 firm. He is a member of the Colorado and Denver Bar Associations and the Colorado Women's Bar Association, Colorado LGBT Bar Association, Colorado Hispanic Bar Association, Sam Cary Bar Association, Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Colorado, National Conference of Women's Bar Associations, American Bar Association, Center for Legal Inclusiveness and College of Commercial Arbitrators. Mr. Commander received his B.A. in architecture from Iowa State University and his J.D. from the University of Iowa.

**William G. Cross** is a law clerk for Hon. Michael E. Romero with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Colorado in Denver. He was previously an attorney with Markus Williams Young & Hunsicker, LLC and spent time in Chicago working in commercial and bankruptcy litigation practices. Mr. Cross received his B.S. in economics in 2004 from the University of Illinois and his J.D. in 2009 from Loyola University Chicago School of Law.

**David A. Curfman** is a shareholder with Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP in Denver, where he represents both lenders and borrowers on complex, high-dollar real estate loans. He is experienced in loan origination, acquisition and disposition and hospitality, and he exceeds \$1 billion in yearly loan origination. With a focus on real estate finance, Mr. Curfman advises both lenders and borrowers on a variety of loan types, including securitized, bridge and construction financing, among others. His practice has a national scope and includes asset types ranging from hospitality, office and industrial to retail, mixed use and multifamily. On the originations side, he negotiates loans ranging from single-asset acquisition loans to cross-state portfolio loans with proceeds in the hundreds of millions of dollars. Mr. Curfman shepherds all aspects of the loan process from start to finish, advising on term sheets, diligencing loan assets, negotiating loan documents and closing loan transactions. Aside from traditional real estate loans, he also advises on mezzanine and preferred equity loan structures, and he provides counsel on workout strategies and solutions for distressed or defaulted loans. Prior to joining the firm, Mr. Curfman worked as a real estate associate with Kirkland & Ellis LLP in Chicago. He has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* since 2023. Mr. Curfman received his B.A. *cum laude* in 2005 from Duke University and his J.D. *magna cum laude* in 2009 from Washington University School of Law, where he was admitted to the Order of the Coif.

**Jonathan M. Dickey** is a partner with Kutner Brinen Dickey Riley, P.C. in Denver and has specialized in the practice of bankruptcy law for nearly 15 years. He represents chapter 11 debtors — both individual and corporate — and has guided many parties through the chapter 11 process to plan confirmation. In addition, Mr. Dickey has experience representing chapter 7 trustees and creditors across all chapters of the Bankruptcy Code. Prior to moving to Colorado in 2014, he practiced bankruptcy law in Indianapolis and was a frequent speaker on bankruptcy issues for the National Business Institute. Mr. Dickey received his B.S. in finance as a Chancellor's Scholar in 2005 from the University

of Illinois, and his J.D. in 2008 from the University of Illinois College of Law, where he was a notes editor for the *Journal of Law, Technology and Policy*.

**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 fom 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.

**Leigh A. Flanagan** is a real estate broker with LIV Sotheby's International Realty in Denver. After graduating law school, she joined the U.S. Department of Justice U.S. Trustee Program, went on to clerk for several U.S. Bankruptcy Court Judges for the District of Colorado, then entered private practice primarily representing chapter 11 debtors. While practicing law, Ms. Flanagan obtained her Colorado real estate broker license in 2007. She officially transitioned from the practice of law to a full-time real estate broker by joining LIV Sotheby's International Realty in 2015. While the majority of her real estate clients are outside the bankruptcy and legal system, Ms. Flanagan has sold many properties for chapter 7 trustees and chapter 11 estates in Colorado. In addition to being a member of the National Association of Realtors and Denver Metro Association of Realtors, she is a member of the Luxury Real Estate Board of Regents. Ms. Flanagan received her B.S. in political science from the University of Colorado in 1999 and her J.D. from the University of Colorado School of Law in 2003.

**Thomas J. Freeman** is an attorney with Fiedler Law Firm, P.L.C. in Omaha, Neb., and is a civil rights lawyer who specializes in employment law. He has advised and represented individuals, corporations, county governments, the State of Nebraska, and Native American 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. For more than a decade, Mr. Freeman was a law professor at Creighton University. 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 on podcasts and 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.

**Aaron A. Garber** is a partner of the law firm Wadsworth Garber Warner Conrardy, P.C. in Littleton, Colo., and is licensed to practice law in Colorado and Delaware. He has appeared in courts throughout the country representing clients in restructuring and litigation matters. In Colorado, he has appeared before a variety of state courts, the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, the U.S. District Court and the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals. Mr. Garber's practice focuses on all aspects of bankruptcy and financial restructuring issues. He has experience representing debtors and creditors in business, complex individual and commercial bankruptcy matters, including filings under chapters 7, 11 and 13. Mr. Garber also has litigation experience in bankruptcy courts representing debtors, creditors and trustees handling matters that include avoidance actions, automatic stay and discharge litigation. He has handled out-of-court workouts, confirmed numerous chapter 11 reorganization plans, and guided clients through the chapter 7 and 13 process. Mr. Garber has also prosecuted and defended motions for relief from stay, avoidance actions (preference and fraudulent conveyance) and litigation pertaining to secured creditors. In addition, he has handled complex tax issues in the bankruptcy process for clients, including defending challenges to the discharge of tax debt. Mr. Garber has overseen asset sales during the bankruptcy process, from vehicles to multimillion-dollar apartment complexes and other real estate projects, and the sale of operating business entities. He has represented secured and unsecured creditors by representing their interests in all aspects of the bankruptcy process, including obtaining relief from stay, objecting to the debtor's discharge, analyzing plans and disclosure statements, and negotiating improved plan terms. Mr. Garber has prosecuted and defended claims brought by and against creditors, including stay violation issues, claim objections, and preference and avoidance action defense. He also represents trustees in all aspects of the bankruptcy process, including collecting assets, commencing avoidance actions, handling claim objections, objecting to claims, liquidating assets and bringing claims against insiders. Mr. Garber has represented a variety of clients, including individuals of all income levels, companies varying in size from small companies to some of the larger Colorado companies, including construction companies, real estate companies, apartment complexes, hardware stores, office supply companies and farming operations. He is a member of the Colorado Bar Association, the American Bar Association and ABI, and serves as vice president of the Colorado chapter of the Federal Bar Association. He regularly lectures on bankruptcy-related issues. Mr. Garber received his undergraduate degree from the University of Colorado, Boulder and his J.D. *cum laude* from Temple Law School in 1997.

**Amanda B. George** is a trial attorney for the U.S. Trustee for Region 5, serving in the New Orleans field office. She joined the Department of Justice in 2008 through the Attorney General Honors Program. Ms. George practices in the U.S. Bankruptcy Courts for the Eastern and Middle Districts of Louisiana, appearing in all manners of bankruptcy cases and litigating a wide variety of issues in the chapter 11, chapter 7 and chapter 13 arenas. She is a member of Louisiana State Bar Association, the Federal Bar Association and ABI. Ms. George received her A.B. in finance from Tulane University's Freeman School of Business and her J.D. from Tulane Law School.

**Theodore J. Hartl** is a partner with Ballard Spahr LLP in Denver, where he represents bankruptcy trustees, debtors and creditors in bankruptcy litigation, asset liquidation and insolvency matters. He represents secured lenders and interested parties in prosecuting and defending their interests under the Bankruptcy Code. He also represents receivers, financial institutions, and corporate and individual clients in nonbankruptcy workouts, administrative enforcement actions, and in commercial disputes in state and federal courts. Before private practice, Mr. Hartl clerked for Hon. Donald E. Cordova, Chief Judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Colorado, as well as Hon. Joette Katz, Associate Justice of the Connecticut Supreme Court. He was listed in *Chambers USA* for Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Colorado) from 2022-23, and in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law, Bankruptcy Litigation from 2019-24, and he was named Lawyer of the Year for Litigation-Bankruptcy in 2022 and 2024. Mr. Hartl received his B.S. and B.A. in 1994 from Washington University and his J.D. *magna cum laude* from Vermont Law School in 2000.

**Prof. Sally McDonald Henry** is a professor of law at Texas Tech University School of Law in Lubbock, Texas, who specializes in commercial law, corporate law, banking, bankruptcy and related litigation. Before coming to Texas Tech, she practiced law for almost 30 years, first as an associate, then as a partner in the corporate restructuring department of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP. Prof. Henry's practice included serving as counsel for a number of debtors and creditors in high-profile cases throughout the U.S. She also served as counsel to the debtor-in-possession or trustee in oil-trading cases, retail reorganization cases, real estate development cases and commodity-trading cases, among others. In addition, Prof. Henry represented secured and unsecured creditors and distressed-asset-purchasers in numerous high-stakes matters. In addition, she counseled numerous boards of directors on mergers and acquisitions, their fiduciary duties and high-stakes transactions. In 2003, Prof. Henry won a city-wide award from the Legal Aid Society of New York for her *pro bono* work. She is the co-author of *Ordin on Contesting Confirmation* and sole author of its annual updates, the editor of the annual *Portable Bankruptcy Code* published by the American Bar Association, and numerous other books and articles. Moreover, she has lectured on corporate and cross-border debtor-creditor issues throughout the world. Prof. Henry is admitted to practice in New York and in the Southern District of New York, as well as a number of the federal courts of appeals. She received her undergraduate degree from Duke University and her J.D. from New York University School of Law, where she won a number of awards for her scholarship.

**Adam D. Herring** is Of Counsel with Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP in Atlanta, where his practice focuses on financial restructuring, bankruptcy and bankruptcy litigation. He represents commercial real estate lenders in resolution of distressed debts, advises businesses in complex restructuring matters, and litigates complex bankruptcy disputes. Previously, Mr. Herring served as

associate general counsel for the Executive Office for U.S. Trustees, where he oversaw civil enforcement activity in bankruptcy cases nationwide, served as a senior legal and policy advisor, and negotiated resolutions to systemic bankruptcy compliance disputes involving financial institutions and other parties. He is a member of ABI and was selected for ABI's 2019 "40 Under 40" class, and currently serves as co-chair of ABI's Ethics & Professional Compensation Committee. He also received a Director's Award from the U.S. Trustee Program in 2018, was recognized as the Atlanta Legal Aid Society's Volunteer of the Year in 2015, and has served on the advisory board for the *Emory Bankruptcy Developments Journal* since 2010. Mr. Herring received his B.A. with distinction in 2006 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and his J.D. in 2009 from Emory University School of Law, where he was articles editor of the *Emory Bankruptcy Developments Journal*.

**George B. Hofmann** is a shareholder with Cohne Kinghorn, P.C. in Salt Lake City, where his practice encompasses all aspects of the debtor/creditor relationship with a focus on bankruptcy law. He has represented debtors, creditors, trustees, committees, bondholders, indenture trustees, and a variety of other parties with interest in bankruptcy proceedings, and was appointed to the panel of chapter 7 trustees for the District of Utah in March 2011. Mr. Hofmann's bankruptcy experience includes plan confirmation and objections to confirmation, asset sales, avoidance litigation, claims litigation and executory contract disputes. In addition to his bankruptcy practice, he has prosecuted and defended lender-liability litigation, and has represented lenders and borrowers in loan documentation from origination through workout. Mr. Hofmann is admitted to practice in Utah, New York, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the U.S. District Courts for the Districts of Utah and Massachusetts, and the Northern, Southern and Western Districts of New York. He is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* in the category of bankruptcy and creditor/debtor rights law, is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell, and has been included in "Utah's Legal Elite" in the area of bankruptcy/workout by *Utah Business* magazine. He is also listed in *Mountain States Super Lawyers* for Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor rights, which also selected him as one of the top 100 lawyers in all practice areas in Utah, Nevada, Montana, Idaho and Wyoming. Mr. Hofmann received his B.S. from the University of Utah and his J.D. from the University of Utah College of Law, where he was a member of the Order of the Coif and served on the *Utah Law Review*.

**Hon. Peggy Hunt** is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Utah in Salt Lake City, appointed in March 2023. Previously, she spent approximately 25 years practicing bankruptcy and receivership law, and at the time of her appointment was the co-managing shareholder of the Salt Lake City office of Greenberg Traurig, LLP. Judge Hunt started her career as a law clerk to Justice Robert J. Callahan of the Connecticut Supreme Court. She served two other clerkships, one for Hon. Glen E. Clark, Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Utah, and the other as one of the first law clerks for several judges on the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the Tenth Circuit. Judge Hunt serves on the board of directors of the American College of Bankruptcy and on the College's Standing Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. She also is an American Bar Foundation Fellow, and prior to her appointment served as a commissioner on the Utah Securities Commission, chair of the Leadership Committee of And Justice For All, and as president or board member of numerous professional and community organizations, including the Utah Bar Foundation, Women Lawyers of Utah, the Utah Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, Utah Women's Forum, the Board of Advisors for the Utah Museum of Natural History and The Sharing Place. Judge Hunt co-founded the Utah Women's Giving Circle of the Community Foundation of Utah, which she chaired for several years. Judge Hunt received her B.A. in economics and political science from Washington and Jefferson College and her

J.D. from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, where she was also head notes and comments editor of the *University of Pittsburgh Law Review*.

**Samuel M. Kidder** is a partner with KTBS Law LLP in Los Angeles, where his practice focuses on bankruptcy-related litigation. He has extensive experience litigating adversary proceedings and contested matters in large, complex chapter 11 cases throughout the country. Mr. Kidder is a lecturer at the UCLA School of Law, where he teaches a business bankruptcy law course. His writing on various bankruptcy topics has been published in the *UCLA Law Review*, *California Bankruptcy Journal* (forthcoming), *Collier Practice Guide* and *Law360*. In 2023, Mr. Kidder was honored as one of ABI's "40 Under 40," and he was named a "Rising Star" in the field of corporate bankruptcy by *Super Lawyers* magazine on several occasions. He is a member of ABI and the Los Angeles Bankruptcy Forum, for which he serves on its board of directors, and he is a member of the Turnaround Management Association and the Financial Lawyers Conference. Mr. Kidder received his J.D. from UCLA School of Law, where he was admitted to the Order of the Coif and was a member of the *UCLA Law Review*. Following law school, Mr. Kidder clerked for Hon. Kim McLane Wardlaw of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

**Donald Knight** is Chief People Officer at Greenhouse Software in Atlanta, where he leads with a people-first mentality hoping to unlock the potential of Greenhouse talent globally. With a laser focus on the connection between people and the processes that serve them, he and his team create proximity by building bridges focusing on enhanced experiences that nurture culture and develop people. In his role leading the People team, Mr. Knight works to help Greenhouse create an environment for people to do the best work of their lives. He is responsible for providing global strategy and leadership in developing, overseeing and administering people programs. With expansion top of mind, the team delivers a scalable people strategy that enables the organization to expand globally. Before Greenhouse, Mr. Knight served as senior vice president of Global Talent for Edelman. He helped shape the HR brand as a proactive, insightful, and collaborative solution provider in this role. Mr. Knight has held numerous senior leadership roles for Southern Company Gas, a subsidiary of Southern Company, and the Defense Commissary Agency. He received his Bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Virginia Commonwealth University and his Master's degree in human resource management from the University of Richmond. He also is a graduate of the project leadership program at the engineering school of Cornell University for business executives.

**Sanjay Marken** is a director with Hilco Corporate Finance in Houston. He has 16 years of experience advising companies and their constituents during periods of transition. Mr. Marken's advisory engagements include Molycorp, the City of Detroit, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and AMF Bowling Worldwide. Prior to forming Exigent Partners, he was a vice president at Miller Buckfire & Co. Mr. Marken currently serves on the board of directors of a bedding and home products company and previously served on the board of Corsicana Mattress Company during its chapter 11 case. He received his B.S. *magna cum laude* in finance and information Systems from the Stern School of Business at New York University.

**Matthew McKinlay, CMA, CTP** is a director, managing partner, and turnaround and restructuring advisor at Amplēo in Boise, Idaho, where he is responsible for the turnaround and restructuring services of the company and the Idaho market. Before joining Amplēo in 2017, he worked for nearly 20

years as a chief financial officer, chief restructuring officer, turnaround advisor, bankruptcy trustee and receiver of numerous companies by helping solve difficult financial and operational challenges. Mr. McKinlay is trained in forensic accounting and has prepared several expert reports and testified at trial as an expert. In addition to helping small and mid-sized businesses through financial crises, he sits on the board of directors for the Turnaround Management Association's Rocky Mountain Chapter, the Risk Management Association's Idaho Chapter, and the Tru-Grocer Federal Credit Union. He is also an active angel investor in Idaho companies. Mr. McKinlay received his M.B.A. in finance from the Marriott School at Brigham Young University as a Hawes Scholar.

**Jason M. Medley** is a 25-year factoring and commercial finance lawyer and a partner with Spencer Fane in Houston, where he helps banks and other financial institutions structure transactions in a manner that enables them to be efficiently closed, allowing for key stakeholders to maximize benefits and avoid unnecessary delays or costs. His work fully encompasses all aspects of contract negotiations, workouts, intercreditor relations and secured party collections. Mr. Medley represents banks, factoring companies (purchase and sale of accounts receivable) and real estate entities in a wide variety of transactional matters, from due diligence to contract negotiations, workouts, intercreditor relations and secured party collections. He has almost 25 years of extensive experience in asset-based loan (ABL) financing and uniquely serves as a preferred attorney for the International Factoring Association, which assists with providing information, training, purchasing power and resources to the Factoring community. Mr. Medley also represents businesses in corporate governance and general matters, including entity formation, contracts, leasing, mergers and acquisitions. He is a frequent speaker at professional conferences and area civic groups on trend topics in the financial services industry in addition to providing written thought leadership, and he is one of only a few attorneys designed by the International Factoring Association as a Preferred Attorney. Mr. Medley received his B.S. in 1996 from the University of Houston and his J.D. in 1999 from the University of Houston Law Center.

**Timothy C. Mohan** is senior counsel with Foley & Lardner LLP in Denver. He is a restructuring and bankruptcy litigator who represents debtors, secured creditors, official committees of unsecured creditors, purchasers of assets, investors and other stakeholders in a broad range of restructuring matters, including chapter 11 cases, state receiverships, out-of-court workouts, acquisitions and liquidations. Mr. Mohan advises debtors and creditors in out-of-court processes and in-court restructurings across a broad range of industries, such as energy, oil and gas, manufacturing and retail. He received his B.S. magna cum laude in 2006 in finance and accounting from Tulane University and his J.D. in 2013 from Wake Forest University School of Law, where he received the CALI Excellence for the Future Award and was a staff member for the *Wake Forest Law Review*.

**Jordan E. O'Connell** is an associate with Buechler Law Office, LLC in Denver and experienced as both a consumer and commercial bankruptcy. As a law student, she worked for a small firm doing mostly chapter 7 work. She now focuses on creditor/debtor relations, commercial bankruptcy, and financial restructuring. Ms. O'Connell also has experience with international law; she holds a certificate in international law and participated in the Willem C. Vis Moot International Commercial Arbitration competition in 2022 and 2023. In addition, she is experienced in CISG, international investment arbitration, international sales and international business transactions.

**Malhar S. Pagay** is a business lawyer with Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones in Los Angeles, where he focuses his practice on the development and implementation of strategic alternatives for and against distressed businesses. A member of the firm’s Healthcare Restructuring Group, he has substantial experience representing chapter 11 debtors, trustees, unsecured creditors, creditors’ committees and other parties in the contexts of bankruptcy cases, adversary proceedings, commercial litigation, mediations, domestic and international business transactions, business reorganizations, and out-of-court corporate restructurings of debt. Mr. Pagay has broad industry experience, including in health care and life sciences, real estate, technology, retail, manufacturing, transportation, sports and entertainment. His recent representations include reorganizing the Ruby Tuesday casual-dining chain with more than 200 restaurants through a debt-for-equity transaction with its secured lenders, implemented through a chapter 11 plan confirmed after only four months in bankruptcy; counseling technology entrepreneur Yueting “YT” Jia, the founder of mobility ecosystem company Faraday Future, in the successful restructuring of more than \$3 billion in debt held almost entirely by creditors located in the People’s Republic of China (this representation was recognized at Global M&A Network’s 13th Annual Turnaround Atlas Awards as “Cross-Border Turnaround of the Year”); advising a creditors’ committee in connection with a successful hospital reorganization; and completing a § 363 sale of a \$100 million Class A commercial office property over the objections of co-owners. He also has served as principal counsel to China Export & Credit Insurance Corp. and its Chinese policyholders and clients in complex U.S. insolvency matters. Mr. Pagay has lectured both in the U.S. and internationally regarding a variety of legal issues, including cross-border transactions and insolvencies. He has been named a “Super Lawyer” in the field of Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights every year since 2009 in a peer survey conducted by *Law & Politics* and the publishers of *Los Angeles* magazine, and he is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell. In addition, he has been listed among *The Best Lawyers in America* in the practice areas of Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law and Litigation – Bankruptcy. Mr. Pagay received his B.A. in 1989 from Yale University and his J.D. in 1994 from the University of Southern California.

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

**Prof. Christopher L. Peterson** is the John J. Flynn Endowed Professor of Law at the University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law in Salt Lake City, where he teaches contracts, commercial law, constitutional law and consumer protection. A recognized authority on consumer finance, he has frequently testified before Congress and published numerous books, scholarly articles and reports on consumer protection, including the West casebook *Consumer Law: Cases and Materials*. Active in public service, Prof. Peterson was a special advisor in the Director’s Office at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and served in the General Counsel’s office in the U.S. Department of Defense during the Obama administration. He also served as the consumer finance director of the Consumer Federation of America from 2018-20, and he was the Democratic Party’s nominee in the 2020 race

for Utah Governor, receiving more votes than any Democratic gubernatorial candidate in Utah history. Prof. Peterson is a recipient of the National Association of Consumer Agency Administrators' Consumer Advocate of the Year award and the Department of Defense's Office of the Secretary of Defense Award for Excellence. He is currently a consumer Fellow of the American Bar Association's Consumer Financial Services Committee and a Regent of the American College of Consumer Financial Services Lawyers, and he is Of Counsel to the Washington, D.C., public interest appellate law firm of Gupta Wessler. Prof. Peterson received his B.A. *cum laude* with honors in philosophy and his B.S. *cum laude* in political science in 1997 from the University of Utah, and his J.D. in 2001 from the University of Utah College of Law, where he was admitted to the Order of the Coif and served as an editor of the *Utah Law Review*.

**Shane G. Ramsey** is a partner with Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough, LLP in Nashville, Tenn., and co-chair of its Bankruptcy and Financial Restructuring Practice Group. He regularly represents committees of unsecured creditors, indenture trustees, secured creditors, unsecured creditors, bondholders, noteholders, liquidation trustees, plan administrators, disbursing agents and other entities in bankruptcy reorganizations, liquidation proceedings and bankruptcy-related litigation. Mr. Ramsey also has experience handling complex civil litigation matters in both state and federal courts and in alternative dispute resolution settings, including arbitration and mediation. His business litigation experience includes contract disputes, business torts, breach of fiduciary duties, officer and director liabilities, and other general litigation matters. Mr. Ramsey is admitted to practice in Tennessee, Florida and Georgia, and before the U.S. District Courts for the Middle, Northern and Southern Districts of Florida, the Northern and Middle Districts of Georgia and the Eastern District of Michigan, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. He is Board-Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law, and is a member of ABI's inaugural class of "40 Under 40" in 2017. Mr. Ramsey received his B.A. *magna cum laude* in 2003 from the University of Tampa and his J.D. with high honors in 2006 from Florida State University College of Law, where he was a member of the Order of the Coif and a senior articles editor of the *Florida State University Law Review*.

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

**Hon. Michael E. Romero** is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge in the District of Colorado in Denver, initially appointed in 2003 and appointed Chief Judge from July 2014-June 2021. He is also Chief Judge of the Tenth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel. Since becoming a judge, Judge Romero has served on numerous committees and advisory groups for the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, is the past chair of the Bankruptcy Judges Advisory Group and has served as the sole bankruptcy court representative/observer to the Judicial Conference of the United States, the governing body for the federal judiciary. He is a past president of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges and actively participates in several of its committees. He also serves on the Executive Board of Our Courts, a

joint activity between the Colorado Judicial Institute and the Colorado Bar Association that provides programs to further public understanding of the federal and state court systems. Judge Romero is a member of the Colorado Bar Association, ABI, the Historical Society of the Tenth Circuit and the Colorado Hispanic Bar Association. He received his undergraduate degree in economics and political science from Denver University in 1977 and his J.D. from the University of Michigan in 1980.

**Hon. Joseph G. Rosania, Jr.** is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Colorado in Denver. Previously, he was a shareholder of Connolly, Rosania & Lofstedt, P.C. (CR&L), where he focused on bankruptcy-related litigation, and he clerked for Hon. Jay L. Gueck, former U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Colorado. He also ran a successful solo law practice concentrating on bankruptcy and related litigation. Judge Rosania was a member of the Panel of Private Trustees for the District of Colorado from 1985-2015. He also served as a chapter 7 and 11 trustee, an examiner in three cases including a securities fraud case, and as counsel to unsecured creditors' committees in several cases, and he represented chapter 11 debtors. A frequent speaker, Judge Rosania has taught business law classes at the University of Colorado and Colorado State University. He received his J.D. from the University of Colorado School of Law, where he was in the top 20 percent of his class.

**Katrin (Kati) M. Rothgery** is conflicts and ethics counsel with Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP in Denver. Drawing on her background as a litigator and specializing in attorney ethics, she provides in-depth counsel to the firm's leadership, attorneys, policy professionals and staff in the areas of conflicts of interest and general ethical compliance. As a member of the firm's Office of the General Counsel, Ms. Rothgery provides guidance on a wide variety of issues, including client intake, policy development, risk management, subpoenas and discovery directed toward the firm, lateral intake and integration, and separation and retirement matters. Her experience with clients, witnesses, attorneys and members of the legal community has enabled her to become a frequent speaker at the local, state and national levels on a variety of ethics-related topics. Prior to joining Brownstein, Ms. Rothgery served as assistant regulation counsel with the Colorado Supreme Court's Office of Attorney Regulation Counsel, where she handled all aspects of investigations into lawyers' compliance with the Colorado Rules of Professional Conduct and prosecuted lawyers in disciplinary matters. She previously worked as an associate attorney at a large regional firm, where she practiced employment law and complex commercial litigation. Ms. Rothgery received her B.A. magna cum laude in 2001 from the University of Notre Dame and her J.D. in 2004 from Washington University School of Law, where she was admitted to the Order of the Coif.

**Brian M. Rothschild** is a shareholder with Parsons Behle & Latimer in Salt Lake City and focuses on reorganizing troubled businesses through chapter 11 bankruptcy and other means, including forbearances, general assignments for the benefit of creditors, receiverships, tender and exchange offers, and other forms of voluntary and involuntary workouts. He also heads the firm's aviation industry practice, including private and public aviation finance, operations, corporate and aviation-related litigation practice. In his chapter 11 practice, Mr. Rothschild frequently engages in complex commercial litigation in U.S. Bankruptcy Courts and other forums nationwide to achieve client goals. He also assists clients in chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings, FDIC, SEC and state law receiverships, assignments for the benefit of creditors, out-of-court restructurings, and distressed asset sales, mergers and acquisitions. His experience includes bankruptcy appellate matters, including matters before the Ninth and Tenth Circuit Courts of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court. Mr. Rothschild has restruc-

tured businesses in a variety of industries, including oil, gas, mining, software, consumer products, ecommerce, natural resources, retail, intellectual property holding, manufacturing, tech, commercial and residential real estate, agriculture and entertainment. He represents debtors, creditors and other parties in interest, including executives and officers. Mr. Rothschild was the first trustee appointed under subchapter V in the District of Utah, where he continues to serve as a subchapter V trustee. He is admitted in California, Utah, and Idaho. Mr. Rothschild received his J.D. from the University of Southern California Gould School of Law, after which he clerked for Chief Justice Matthew B. Durrant of the Supreme Court of Utah.

**Dara Levinson Silveira** is a partner with Keller Benvenuti Kim LLP in San Francisco, where her practice focuses on complex bankruptcy litigation, including preference and fraudulent transfer adversary proceedings. She also has experience with complex business litigation outside of the insolvency context, and she has represented plaintiffs and defendants across various industries in state and federal courts. Ms. Silveira has represented various significant constituencies, including debtors, lenders, creditors and creditors' committees, in corporate restructuring and reorganization and other insolvency-related matters. She received her B.S. cum laude in 2004 from Georgetown University and her J.D. cum laude in 2010 from the University of Washington School of Law, where she served as executive managing editor of the *Washington Law Review*.

**Rachel A. Sternlieb** is Of Counsel at Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough, LLP in Denver, where she represents businesses of all sizes and individuals in complex commercial, bankruptcy and civil litigation in both state and federal courts, as well as administrative forums and arbitration proceedings. Her practice includes matters ranging from business and contract disputes, including franchise and distribution litigation, to complex fraud and Ponzi scheme cases. Ms. Sternlieb represents businesses of all sizes and individuals, as well as receivers, chapter 7 bankruptcy trustees and creditors in chapter 7 and 11 bankruptcy cases. She has represented clients in a variety of industries, including automotive, financial services, oil and gas, oilfield support services, farming, construction and real estate. Before relocating to Denver in 2016, Ms. Sternlieb practiced in New Orleans, where she represented individuals in medical malpractice, products liability and mass tort litigation. She currently serves on the board of directors of the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation and has been named a Rising Star in Business Litigation by *Super Lawyers* for the past two years. Ms. Sternlieb received her undergraduate degree from the University of Georgia in 2010 and her J.D. from Loyola University New Orleans College of Law in 2013.

**Engels J. Tejeda** is a partner with Holland & Hart LLP in Salt Lake City. A trial lawyer, he focuses on consumer claims defense, cybersecurity and privacy litigation, banking litigation and creditors' rights in bankruptcy. Mr. Tejeda appears regularly in federal and state courts representing businesses and individuals in diverse matters, including data-breach class actions, finance disputes, claims under the Uniform Commercial Code and state foreclosure statutes, and actions under the Bankruptcy Code and the Americans with Disabilities Act. By appointment of the Supreme Court of Utah, he serves as a judge *pro tempore* in the small claims division of the Salt Lake City Justice Court. He also served as a noncommissioned officer in the U.S. Army Reserve for eight years, which included two active duty deployments to Iraq and Kosovo. Mr. Tejeda received his B.A. in 2003 from Westminster College and his J.D. in 2006 from the University of Utah.

**Hon. Kimberley H. Tyson** is Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Colorado in Denver, initially appointed to the bench in May 2017 and appointed Chief Judge in 2021. Prior to that, she was in private practice, where she concentrated in workouts, bankruptcy and related commercial litigation. From March 2011 until her appointment to the bench, Judge Tyson served as a chapter 7 trustee. She has served as the Tenth Circuit representative on the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judge's Board of Governors, and she is a member of the Colorado Bar Association's Bankruptcy Subcommittee and its former chair. Judge Tyson is an active ABI member and has served on the advisory board of its annual Rocky Mountain Bankruptcy Conference since 2003. After law school she clerked for Hon. John K. Pearson of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Kansas and Hon. Jerry G. Elliott of the Kansas Court of Appeals. Judge Tyson received her B.A. at Smith College and her J.D. at the University of Kansas School of Law.

**Catie Vuksich** is a director of Summit Investment Management LLC in Denver, which she joined in August 2022. Her responsibilities include deal-sourcing, underwriting and asset management. Previously, Ms. Vukasich spent 11 years at Wells Fargo primarily as a member of the Credit Resolution Group, where she focused on distressed credits. She received her B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business and her M.B.A. from Duke University Fuqua School of Business.

**Steven T. Waterman** is a partner with Dorsey & Whitney LLP in Salt Lake City and the former co-chair of the firm's Bankruptcy and Financial Restructuring practice group. His practice consists of assisting financial institutions with commercial loans and special assets, and his work spans both real and personal property collateral. Mr. Waterman has foreclosed on planes, trains and automobiles, as well as cattle, crematoriums, country clubs and turkeys. He regularly litigates cases involving the Uniform Commercial Code and foreclosure, including the presentation of expert valuation evidence. In addition, he helps protect the interests of banks in chapter 11 bankruptcy reorganizations, and receivership and insolvency proceedings. Mr. Waterman has litigated cases in federal, tribal and state trial and appellate courts for financial institutions, trustees, receivers, franchisors and creditor committees. His experience includes out-of-court workouts in numerous industries and agriculture, including cooperatives. Mr. Waterman was an adjunct professor teaching secured transactions at the J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University from 2012-20, and he served as co-chair of the Admissions Committee of the Utah State Bar from 1996-2020. He received his B.S. in business management-finance from Brigham Young University and his J.D. from the University of Utah, where he was a William H. Leary scholar.