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# 2019 Southeast Bankruptcy Workshop

## **Faculty Biographies**

**Peter J. Barrett** is a partner in Kutak Rock LLP's Richmond, Va., office, where he concentrates his practice on financial restructuring matters. He represents unsecured and secured creditors, trustees, equityholders, distressed investors and corporate debtors in insolvency matters, including chapter 11 reorganizations, business liquidations and out-of-court restructurings. Mr. Barrett has experience representing interested parties in asset sales and has been involved in a number of complex chapter 11 bankruptcy cases throughout the country involving industries such as manufacturing, hospitality, construction, retail, entertainment and real estate. He also works with other firm attorneys to analyze the effects of insolvency and bankruptcy on corporate and financial transactions. Mr. Barrett is a member of the panel of chapter 7 bankruptcy trustees for the Eastern District of Virginia, Richmond Division, and is licensed to practice in Virginia and California. He received his J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law.

**Alane A. Becket** is an AV-rated attorney and managing partner of Becket & Lee LLP, a Malvern, Pa., law firm providing comprehensive nationwide representation of financial institutions in bankruptcy matters, with a focus on consumer lenders and debt-purchasers. In addition to client and industry relations, she focuses on litigation strategy, and Becket & Lee has been lead or co-counsel in some of the most influential decisions in consumer bankruptcy over the last 20 years. In addition to her duties at the firm, Ms. Becket is ABI's President-Elect, and she formerly chaired its Consumer Committee and has served on its Board since 2009, most recently as Vice President-Publications. She is currently co-chair of the Bankruptcy Section and of the Professional Standards and Grievance Committees of the National Creditors Bar Association (NCBA), and is a member of the National Association of Chapter Thirteen Trustees (NACTT). Ms. Becket has written and lectured extensively on consumer bankruptcy issues for a variety of professional organizations, including ABI, the Federal Judicial Conference, NACTT, NABT, *Norton Bankruptcy Law Advisor*, NCBA, the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, and a host of local and regional organizations. She also served as a commissioner on ABI's Commission on Consumer Bankruptcy. Ms. Becket graduated from Pennsylvania State University and received her J.D. from Widener University School of Law.

**Matthew T. Berry** is the founder of Berry & Associates, Inc. in Atlanta, where he focuses on chapter 7 and 13 consumer bankruptcy, consumer finance and credit, including litigation under the Fair Credit Reporting Act and the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act. Previously, he practiced commercial litigation with the Atlanta firm of Bovis, Kyle and Burch before establishing his own practice in 1989. Mr. Berry is a member of the State Bar of Georgia and the Atlanta Bar Association, the Southeastern Bankruptcy Institute, the National Association for Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys and the Metro Atlanta Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys Group. He has been included in *Georgia Trend Magazine's* "Legal Elite" listing for the last three years. Mr. Berry received his B.A. from Georgia Southern College in 1983 and his J.D. in 1986 from the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law at the University of Memphis, where he was a member of its law review and Moot Court.

**Hon. Paul M. Black** is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Virginia in Roanoke, appointed in 2014. He previously practiced law in Richmond for several years, then returned to Roanoke and joined Spilman Thomas & Battle, PLLC, where he co-chaired its Bankruptcy and Creditor's Rights practice group and focused his practice on commercial litigation, bankruptcy, and banking and finance law. Judge Black was named to *The Best Lawyers in America* in multiple areas related to finance and insolvency, to "Virginia's Legal Elite" by *Virginia Business* magazine in both Civil Liti-

gation and Bankruptcy Law, and as a *Virginia SuperLawyer* in the field of Bankruptcy Law. For many years, he was an active participant in the Boyd-Graves Conference of the Virginia Bar Association, which studies and makes recommendations to the Virginia legislature on improvements to civil practice in Virginia. Judge Black is a past chair of the Litigation Section of the Virginia State Bar, and also chaired the Bankruptcy Section of the Virginia Bar Association. In addition, he served as a member of the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board from 2007-13. Judge Black is a frequent speaker at Virginia CLE seminars. He received his undergraduate degree from Washington and Lee University in 1982, studied at Cambridge University in England, and received his J.D. from the University of Richmond in 1985, after which he clerked for Hon. Blackwell N. Shelley of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia.

**Matthew R. Brooks** is a senior associate at Troutman Sanders, LLP in Atlanta and a member of its financial restructuring and insolvency practice group. His diverse practice includes the representation of every major constituency in complex bankruptcy cases and out-of-court restructurings, as well as in nonbankruptcy matters that involve insolvency issues. He also routinely represents clients from a wide range of industries in state and federal courts around the country in the prosecution and defense of complex commercial claims. Mr. Brooks currently serves as vice chair of the State Bar of Georgia's Bankruptcy Law Section and Atlanta Fundraising chair for the upcoming "Roadways to the Federal Bench" diversity program presented by the Judicial Conference of the United States Committee on the Administration of the Bankruptcy System. He received his B.S. *magna cum laude* from Appalachian State University in 2004 his J.D. *cum laude* from Mercer University School of Law in 2008.

**Hon. Joseph N. Callaway** is a Bankruptcy Judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina in Greenville, appointed in January 2016. Previously, he practiced law at Battle Winslow Scott and Wiley in Rocky Mount and Raleigh, N.C., where he remained for more than 32 years and was the head of the firm's creditor rights and bankruptcy practice department for many years. While in private practice, he was licensed in and participated in cases before all levels of state and federal courts in North Carolina, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, and the U.S. Supreme Court. In addition, he served as a chapter 7 bankruptcy trustee and was a certified specialist in business and consumer bankruptcy law for more than 20 years. Judge Callaway was regularly listed as an "Elite Business Attorney" and a *North Carolina Super Lawyer* in the area of bankruptcy law for numerous years. He also served as an officer and director of the Bankruptcy Section of the North Carolina Bar Association. Judge Callaway is a frequent speaker at bankruptcy and business law seminars on various bankruptcy and commercial litigation topics. He received his B.A. in political science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1980 and his J.D. from the University of North Carolina School of Law in 1983.

**Katherine R. Catanese** is a partner and bankruptcy and restructuring attorney with Foley & Lardner LLP in New York, where she focuses her practice on the representation of creditors' committees, post-confirmation trusts and trustees, especially in fraud-based litigation. She also focuses her practice on cross-border fraud and representation of investors and managers in hedge funds both onshore and offshore in bankruptcy litigation including involuntary bankruptcies and chapter 15 bankruptcies. Ms. Catanese also focuses on for-profit schools and higher-education restructuring generally, with an emphasis on fraud investigation and intervention. She is building a practice focusing on representing higher-education institutions, lenders and private-equity funds in all forms of litigation related to the

business and financial restructuring of these schools. Ms. Catanese is a member of the Bankruptcy and Health Care Restructuring subteam at Foley and the women's retention coordinator for Foley's Women's Network in the New York office, and she was named one of ABI's "40 Under 40" emerging leaders in insolvency practice in 2018. Ms. Catanese is admitted to practice in New York and Michigan. She is also a lifetime member of the Michigan State University alumni association and a member of the MSU Law Alumni Board. Ms. Catanese received her B.A. in psychology *summa cum laude* in 2001 and her J.D. *cum laude* in 2004 from Michigan State University. During law school, she clerked for Hon. David L. Jordon.

**Hon. Rebecca B. Connelly** is the Chief Judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Virginia in Harrisonburg, appointed in July 2012. She is a former standing chapter 13 trustee and chapter 12 trustee for the Western District of Virginia. Judge Connelly has been a member of ABI since 1994 and has served as a contributing editor and a features author for the *ABI Journal*, a member of the Consumer Bankruptcy Committee, and a speaker at ABI's Annual Spring Meeting and Winter Leadership Conference, and most recently for "Eye on Bankruptcy." She also serves on the board of CARE and is an adjunct professor of law at Washington and Lee University School of Law. Judge Connelly received her B.A. in 1985 from the University of Maryland and her J.D. in 1988 from Washington & Lee University School of Law.

**Gregory B. Crampton** is a founding member of Nicholls & Crampton, P.A. in Raleigh, N.C., where he specializes in bankruptcy, corporate reorganization and other insolvency litigation. He provides strategic counsel to distressed companies and other parties in interest in corporate restructurings. In his more than 35 years of practice, Mr. Crampton has represented debtors in chapter 11 reorganizations and out-of-court restructurings across multiple industries, as well as creditors in complex matters, including secured and unsecured creditors, bondholders, bankruptcy trustees and trade creditors. He is presently serving as special counsel for PACA issues in a major North Carolina sweet potato distributor's chapter 11 case. Mr. Crampton is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and is board-certified in business bankruptcy law by both the North Carolina State Bar Board of Legal Specialization and the American Board of Certification. He has been chosen as a "Legal Elite in Bankruptcy in Business North Carolina" and in its "Legal Elite Hall of Fame." In addition, he has been recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America* since 1983 for Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law, and as "Raleigh Lawyer of the Year for 2019" in *Bankruptcy Litigation*. Mr. Crampton received his B.A. from Washington and Lee University and his J.D. from the University of North Carolina.

**Hon. Mary Grace Diehl** is a retired U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Georgia in Atlanta, appointed in February 2004 and retired in 2018. She is currently serving on recall status. Prior to taking the bench, Judge Diehl was a partner in the litigation section of Troutman Sanders LLP and chaired its Bankruptcy Practice Group. During her years in private practice, she was consistently named in *The Best Lawyers in America* and *Chambers US: America's Leading Business Lawyers*. Judge Diehl is a past president of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, and serves on the Boards of Directors of ABI, the Turnaround Management Association and IWIRC. She is also a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and formerly served as a vice president, and she is a former president of the Southeastern Bankruptcy Law Institute. Judge Diehl received the Woman of the Year in Restructuring Award in 2008 from IWIRC (International Women in Restructuring Con-

federation), the David W. Pollard award for professionalism from the Atlanta Bar in 2013 and the Atlanta Bar Woman of Achievement Award in 2017, and she is a regular speaker at CLE programs. She served as a trustee of Canisius College from 2008-14 and received the outstanding alumni contributor award from Canisius in 2013. She has been an adjunct professor of law at Emory Law School and is a frequent speaker at national, regional and local educational programs. Judge Diehl received her B.A. *summa cum laude* from Canisius College in Buffalo, N.Y., and her J.D. *cum laude* from Harvard Law School.

**C. Edward Dobbs** is a senior partner in the Atlanta office of Parker Hudson Rainer & Dobbs LLP and has practiced law for nearly 45 years. He has been involved documenting and closing commercial loans for banks and other financial institutions; representing financial institutions in debt-restructurings, workouts, litigation and bankruptcy cases; and representing debtors, unsecured creditors and creditors' committees in bankruptcy cases. For more than 25 years, a sizeable part of Mr. Dobbs's practice has included serving as a neutral in both arbitrations and mediations. He is on the panel of neutrals (for both arbitration and mediation) maintained by the American Arbitration Association for commercial cases and the Delaware Bankruptcy Court's mediation panel, and is the author of a number of articles (as well as a forthcoming treatise on mediation of commercial disputes) and a frequent speaker on settlement negotiation and mediation topics, including as a lecturer on mediation topics at Georgia State Law School and at each of the ABI/St. Johns Law School's annual mediation courses. Mr. Dobbs has served as court-appointed or party-retained mediator in numerous commercial disputes pending in state and federal courts in throughout the Southeast and in Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Louisiana, Minnesota, New Jersey and Texas, including commercial litigation arising out of or related to bankruptcy cases, such as fraudulent-transfer claims (including Ponzi schemes), professional fee-disgorgement disputes in administratively insolvent cases, voidable preference claims, plan formulation and confirmation challenges, claims against officers and directors for breach of fiduciary duty, equitable subordination challenges and recharacterization of insider loans, and disputes for asserted noncompliance with the WARN Act and PACA. He also has been involved in lender-liability claims, defamation claims, fraud claims, interbank disputes (including disputes under both participation and syndicated agency agreements), claims asserted under various types of commercial contracts (including sales and distribution agreements, construction contracts and joint-venture agreements), business separations and dissolutions, suits on guaranties, legal malpractice claims, and claims by banks and insurers regarding scope and coverage of credit insurance. Mr. Dobbs received his A.B. in 1971 from Davidson College and his J.D. in 1974 from Vanderbilt University Law School, where he was articles editor of the *Vanderbilt Law Review* and graduated Order of the Coif.

**Jane Harris Downey** is a practitioner with Moore Taylor Law Firm, P.A. in West Columbia, S.C., where she leads its bankruptcy section. She represents debtors and creditors in consumer and business cases, and has experience in chapter 7, 9, 11, 12 and 13 cases. After working seven years as an associate at Nelson Mullins, Ms. Downey started her own firm and practiced solo for 11 years prior to joining Moore Taylor in 2008. She periodically speaks on the topic of bankruptcy and domestic law and even spoke on the topic in March 2018 at the annual SC Bankruptcy Law Association convention. Ms. Downey is the incorporating attorney and a past president of the SC Bankruptcy Law Association. She has been active in pro bono work and has volunteered for the SC Bar pro bono committee and as a CARE advocate. For more than 20 years, Ms. Downey has been a certified specialist in both bankruptcy and debtor/creditor law, as recognized by the South Carolina Supreme Court, and

is board-certified in business bankruptcy law by the American Board of Certification. She was named a *South Carolina Super Lawyer* and was selected to the American Inns of Court. Ms. Downey is the current chair of the Carolinas Chapter of IWIRC. She also serves on the consumer law committee of the South Carolina Bar and on the editorial board of *SC Lawyer* magazine, and she authored a food truck law article that was published in the magazine in 2018. Ms. Downey serves on the editorial board of ABI's Southeast Bankruptcy Workshop. She received her J.D. in 1990 from Emory Law School.

**Ashley A. Edwards** is a partner with Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP in Charlotte, N.C., has successfully represented creditors in all aspects of commercial debt collection and loss mitigation, including loan restructuring, bankruptcy, litigation and post-judgment execution. Her clients include Fortune 500 companies, national, regional and community banks, nontraditional lenders, finance companies, lessors and manufacturers. She also advises and represents clients from various industries in the purchase and sale of assets under § 363 of the Bankruptcy Code, chapter 11 plan confirmation, and the assumption and rejection of contracts. In particular, she has extensive experience defending national companies against preference and fraudulent transfer actions in a wide variety of jurisdictions. Ms. Edwards also represents clients in a broad range of business litigation in federal and state courts, as well as mediation and other forms of alternative dispute resolution. She has defended principals and officers in derivatives lawsuits and against claims of fraud, embezzlement and racketeering. She is also experienced in issues related to insider trading and corporate structure. Ms. Edwards is admitted to practice before all U.S. Bankruptcy and District Courts in North Carolina and Georgia, as well as the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. Prior to joining Parker Poe, she clerked for Hon. J. Craig Whitley of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of North Carolina. She is a member of the advisory board of ABI's Southeast Bankruptcy Workshop and a member of Parker Poe's Pro Bono Committee, averaging more than 80 hours of pro bono services each year. Ms. Edwards received her B.A. *cum laude* in 2005 from Wake Forest University and her J.D. in 2009 from Emory University.

**Nan Roberts Eitel** is associate general counsel for chapter 11 for the Executive Office for U.S. Trustees (EOUST) in Washington, D.C. Working with other members of the General Counsel's office, Ms. Eitel is responsible for handling all chapter 11 cases supervised by the U.S. Trustee Program (USTP). She advises the USTP's 93 field offices and 21 regions on complex chapter 11 issues, and coordinates with the EOUST to develop and promote consistent positions on chapter 11 issues significant to the USTP. In 2015, Ms. Eitel received the Attorney General's Award for Outstanding Contributions by a New Employee, which recognizes exceptional performance and notable accomplishments toward the Department of Justice's mission by an employee with fewer than five years of federal service. In 2018, the Attorney General recognized her with a Distinguished Service Award, the Department's second-highest honor for employee performance. Before joining the EOUST, Ms. Eitel was a partner in the law firm of Jones Walker, where she practiced in bankruptcy and commercial litigation for 21 years. Ms. Eitel received her J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law and her B.A. *cum laude* from Georgetown University in 1984.

**Matthew T. Faga** is an attorney with Markus Williams Young & Hunsicker LLC in Denver, where he concentrates his practice in the areas of restructuring, bankruptcy and insolvency law, with a focus on counseling secured and unsecured creditors, corporate debtors and debtors-in-possession, purchas-

ers, and fiduciaries in bankruptcy cases and related adversary proceedings, as well as nonbankruptcy receiverships, workouts and restructurings in Colorado and Wyoming. He is board-certified in business bankruptcy law by the American Board of Certification. Mr. Faga has a wide range of experience representing various parties in chapter 11 cases from simple liquidations to complex reorganizations. Previously, he clerked for the chief judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Colorado, and prior to clerking, he was an attorney at another boutique law firm in Denver. Mr. Faga is an experienced speaker and presenter on many restructuring and insolvency issues, and has remained actively engaged in the bankruptcy community for well over a decade in various roles. He is a former chair of the standing local bankruptcy rules committee, and currently serves as a co-chair for the Bankruptcy Subsection of the Colorado Bar Association and as an officer of the Business Law Section Committee. He also is an adjunct professor at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law. Mr. Faga was honored as a member of the 2017 inaugural class of ABI's "40 Under 40" Award. He received his J.D. in 2009 from the University of Denver College of Law.

**Scott Ferber** is a partner in the King & Spalding LLP's Data, Privacy and Security practice in Washington, D.C., and he leverages his experience as a former federal prosecutor and in senior leadership at the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) to counsel clients on data-breach prevention, preparedness, incident response, remediation, compliance, internal investigations, regulatory enforcement and breach-related litigation. He has more than 20 years of litigation and investigative experience. Prior to rejoining King & Spalding, Mr. Ferber held senior positions at the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and most recently served as Counsel for Cyber Investigations at DOJ's National Security Division (NSD), where he developed and led national security investigations involving international cyberthreats and economic espionage. In that position, he advised federal prosecutors, law enforcement agencies and the intelligence community on cybermatters affecting national security and foreign relations, and he coordinated and conducted private-sector outreach on cybersecurity. Before NSD, Mr. Ferber was associate deputy attorney general at DOJ, where he provided counsel to the deputy attorney general and attorney general on a range of significant legal, legislative, policy and programmatic matters, with special emphasis on cyber- and national security. He was DOJ's lead attorney on White House and interagency policy groups addressing cyberincident response, cyberlegislation and national security issues. Mr. Ferber also served as an assistant U.S. attorney in Atlanta, where he was the office's Computer Hacking/Intellectual Property Coordinator, tried numerous jury trials, and briefed and argued multiple cases before the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. While at DOJ, he investigated and prosecuted a wide array of criminal and national security cases, including involving international cyberthreats, economic espionage, the illegal export of military and strategic commodities, fraud, public corruption and money laundering. Before DOJ, Mr. Ferber was an associate with King & Spalding, and he served as an assistant district attorney at the Manhattan District Attorney's Office. Mr. Ferber received his B.A. with honors from the University of Michigan and his J.D. with honors from The Ohio State University.

**Gary M. Freedman** is a partner at Nelson Mullins Broad and Cassel in its Miami office and is on its financial institution, bankruptcy and creditors' rights team. For more than 32 years, his practice has focused on bankruptcy and restructuring, receiverships, complex business litigation, creditors' rights, financial services, commercial foreclosure, director, officer, manager and member-liability litigation, and fraud litigation. For 18 years, Mr. Freedman has been board-certified in creditors' rights law by the American Board of Certification. Mr. Freedman has represented debtors, creditors, creditors' committees and trustees and served as the liquidating trustee in the world's fifth-largest cruise line's

chapter 11 bankruptcy case in the Southern District of Florida. He also has experience representing lenders and business entrepreneurs in complex commercial litigation, business disputes and related transactions. Mr. Freedman has been lead counsel in numerous director, officer and third-party breach-of-fiduciary-duty matters. In addition, he directed the investigation and recovery efforts in the Nevin Shapiro/Capitol Investments Ponzi scheme bankruptcy cases pending in South Florida, and he has experience in pursuing and defending financial institutions on RICO and money-laundering claims. Mr. Freedman is currently lead litigation counsel to the liquidating trustee of a rural hospital located in the Florida Panhandle, where he is investigating and pursuing claims related to a \$300 million fraudulent reference laboratory scheme and is serving as lead counsel to the receiver appointed in a multi-million dollar SEC receivership pending in the Southern District of Florida. He received his J.D. in 1987 from Emory University School of Law.

**Katy G. Furr** is a shareholder in the Atlanta office of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC and has represented secured and unsecured creditors in a variety of matters, including chapter 11, 7 and 13 bankruptcy cases, involuntary petitions, § 363 sale issues, cash-collateral issues, lien-priority and avoidance actions, preference actions, rejection/assumption of executory contracts, stay-relief actions, asset-recovery and disposition, contested confirmation hearings, adversary proceedings and bankruptcy appeals to district court. Her practice also includes the representation of mortgage-servicers in bankruptcy-related mortgage litigation. In addition to her bankruptcy practice, Ms. Furr regularly represents individuals, businesses and financial institutions with respect to commercial litigation, contract disputes, foreclosures, receiverships and post-judgment collection activities in state and federal courts. Her prior experience includes clerking for Chief Bankruptcy Judge Craig Whitley in the Western District of North Carolina and Bankruptcy Judge Wendy Hagenau in the Northern District of Georgia. Ms. Furr received her B.S. *magna cum laude* in 2005 from Clemson University and her J.D. with honors in 2008, from Emory University School of Law, where she served as a managing editor on the *Emory Bankruptcy Developments Journal*.

**Dr. Sheila Cohen Furr, A.B.N.** is a licensed psychologist in Boca Raton, Fla., and is Board Certified in Clinical Neuropsychology by the American Board of Professional Neuropsychology. She has been in clinical practice since 1978 working with children and families. Dr. Furr conducts social investigations, psychological evaluations, psychoeducational testing, neuropsychological testing and psychotherapy with children, adults, couples and families. She has extensive experience evaluating and counseling families in distress before, during and after the divorce process. Dr. Furr has been a member of the medical staff of the Boca Raton Regional Hospital for over 30 years and is listed in The National Register of Health Care Providers in psychology. She is certified by the Supreme Court of Florida as a family mediator and is qualified as a parenting coordinator under statutory guidelines. Dr. Furr is trained as a guardian *ad litem* by the Florida Bar Family Law Section and as a mental health neutral in collaborative law proceedings. She is the founding and current president of the South Palm Beach County Collaborative Law Group and oversees its Pro Bono/Low Bono project. In addition, she is vice president on the board of the Florida Academy of Collaborative Professionals. Dr. Furr is a member of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, The International Academy of Collaborative Professionals and the Florida Psychological Association. She also is an affiliate member of the South Palm Beach County Bar Association and an associate member of the Florida Bar Association's Family Law Section, for which she previously chaired its Litigation Support Committee. Dr. Furr has lectured and testified frequently in family law and personal injury litigation. She received her B.S. in human development and family studies from Cornell University, her M.E. in school psychology from

Boston University and her Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Rhode Island, where she trained at the Brown University Medical School-affiliated hospitals.

**Jennifer Gavrich, CVA, CFE** is a manager of Business Valuation and Analytics at BDO USA, LLP in Orlando, Fla. She previously was a manager of Dispute Advisory Services at BDO and before that was a supervising senior associate of Forensic Services & Litigation Support at Cross, Fernandez & Riley, LLP. She also worked as a forensic accountant at other firms and as a research assistant at Florida State University. Ms. Gavrich received her Bachelor's degree in hospitality management from the University of Florida, her M.P.A. in health/health care administration/management from Florida State University, and her Master's of Accounting at Florida State University's Executive Masters of Forensic Accounting Program.

**Craig M. Geno** is a member of the Law Offices of Craig M. Geno, PLLC in Ridgeland, Miss., where his practice consists of representing secured and unsecured creditors, unsecured creditors' committees, chapter 11 debtors in possession and bankruptcy trustees in chapter 7 and 11 cases. He also has served as a trustee in chapter 11 cases. He was previously a partner at Harris Jernigan & Geno, PLLC. Mr. Geno is a member of the American Bar Association, Mississippi State Bar Association (for which he served as president of its Law Office Economics Section from 1993-94), Mississippi Bar Foundation, Federal Bar Association (for which he served as the Southern District vice president from 1989-90 and on its Mississippi Chapter), and the Mississippi Bankruptcy Conference (for which he served as president in 2001). He is also a member of ABI, the Business Bankruptcy Subcommittee of the Section of Business Law of the American Bar Association, and the Turnaround Management Association. Mr. Geno is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy, a charter member of the Best Attorneys of America, and listed as a "Top Fifty Attorney" with *Super Lawyers*. He is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification, served on its board of directors for eight years, and served as its national president and as its chairman. He also served the Mississippi State Bar as special counsel for the Committee on Character and Fitness in 1984-87, and as a member of the Committee on Character and Fitness from 1987-2013. Mr. Geno is a frequent writer and lecturer on various bankruptcy topics. He received his undergraduate degree and J.D. from the University of Mississippi, where he served on the Moot Court Board.

**Hon. Kevin R. Huennekens** was appointed as a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia in Richmond on Sept. 11, 2006. Prior to his appointment, Judge Huennekens was a partner with the firm of Kutak Rock LLP. He also served as a panel trustee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia (1988-2006) and is co-editor of the Virginia CLE publication *Bankruptcy Practice in Virginia* (2012). Judge Huennekens is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges and ABI. He was also recognized in *Who's Who Legal USA* in Insolvency and Restructuring and *The International Who's Who of Insolvency and Restructuring* in 2006, and was listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* from 1995-2006. Judge Huennekens was an adjunct professor of law at the College of William & Mary Marshall Wythe School of Law from 1993-96, and he successfully argued the case of *Patterson v. Shumate*, 405 U.S. 253, 112 S. Ct. 2242 (1992), before the U.S. Supreme Court. He is a planning committee member of the annual Mid-Atlantic Institute on Bankruptcy and Reorganization Practice and has also been a speaker at Virginia CLE courses on basic and advanced bankruptcy. He is also a co-editor of the Virginia CLE Publication, *Bankruptcy Practice in Virginia* (2017). Judge Huen-

nekens received his B.A. from the College of William & Mary and his J.D. from the Marshall-Wythe School of Law at the College of William & Mary, where he was a member of the Order of the Coif and its law review.

**Hon. Stephani W. Humrickhouse** is Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina in Raleigh, sworn in on Jan. 6, 2010. She began her legal career with Hunton & Williams LLP, and then joined Moore & Van Allen PLLC, where her practice concentrated on creditor representation. From 1990 until her appointment, Judge Humrickhouse was a principal with Nicholls & Crampton PA in Raleigh, N.C., where her practice primarily involved civil corporate litigation and debtor/creditor rights, with a focus on chapter 11 cases. She is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification and was designated a Bankruptcy Law Specialist by the North Carolina State Bar Board of Specialization. Judge Humrickhouse has been a frequent lecturer on bankruptcy and bankruptcy related topics, has served as chair of the North Carolina Bar Association Bankruptcy Section, and has served as chair of the Attorney Advisory Group and Local Rules Committee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina, as well as on the 2016 planning committee for the Fourth Circuit Judicial Conference. She presently serves on various committees of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges and is an editor of the *American Bankruptcy Law Journal*. She also is contributing author to *Collier on Bankruptcy* and *Collier Bankruptcy Practice Guide*. Judge Humrickhouse received her B.S. in industrial and labor relations in 1977 from Cornell University and her J.D. from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill in 1980.

**Jay C. Jacquin, CIRA** is a managing director with Configure Partners, LLC in Atlanta and has 20 years of investment banking and advisory experience at market-leading firms. Prior to joining Configure Partners, he established the Middle Market Special Situations practice at Guggenheim Securities. Before joining Guggenheim, he was a senior member of the Recapitalization & Restructuring Group at Morgan Joseph TriArtisan for approximately five years, and was a senior director with Alvarez & Marsal Corporate Finance, prior to which he spent eight years in Houlihan Lokey's Corporate Finance and Financial Restructuring practices. Mr. Jacquin is a FINRA General Securities Registered Representative (Series 7, 63). He received his bachelor's degree in commerce, with concentrations in finance and marketing, from the McIntire School of Commerce at the University of Virginia.

**Leon S. Jones** is a partner and co-founder of the law firm of Jones & Walden, LLC in Atlanta and has concentrated his legal practice in the areas of bankruptcy, debtor/creditor and commercial litigation. Within the bankruptcy arena, he represents debtors, creditors and trustees in both consumer and commercial matters. Specifically, Mr. Jones's practice includes representing parties in cases under chapters 7, 11, 12 and 13 of the Bankruptcy Code, with a particular emphasis on representing individual and small business debtors in chapter 11. He received his A.B. in 1985 and his J.D. in 1988 from the University of Georgia.

**Hon. Benjamin A. Kahn** is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of North Carolina in Greensboro, sworn in on Feb. 3, 2014. Prior to his appointment, he was a member of Nexsen Pruet PLLC and clerked for Bankruptcy Judge Jerry G. Tart of the Middle District of North Carolina. Judge Kahn was recognized as among the Top 10 North Carolina *Super Lawyers* across all practice areas for the two years immediately preceding his appointment, was elected to the Legal Elite Hall of Fame by

*Business North Carolina Magazine* in 2014 as a result of being the category winner in North Carolina for bankruptcy, and was included among Band 1 bankruptcy practitioners in North Carolina in *Chambers & Partners USA*. He is certified as a specialist in business and consumer bankruptcy law by the North Carolina State Bar Board of Legal Specialization and by the American Board of Certification, for which he served as a member of its board of directors until his appointment to the bench. Judge Kahn is a conferee of the National Bankruptcy Conference, for which he serves on its Executive Committee, and an inactive certified mediator with the State of North Carolina Dispute Resolution Commission. He is also a contributing author to *Collier on Bankruptcy*. Judge Kahn received his B.A. in political science and history in 1990, and his J.D. with honors in 1993, from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

**Pamela P. Keenan** is a partner in the law firm of Kirschbaum, Nanney, Keenan & Griffin, P.A., in Raleigh, N.C., where she practices in the areas of commercial/business litigation, creditor bankruptcy, and creditors' rights. She is licensed by both the North Carolina State Bar and the State Bar of Texas, and is admitted to practice in all North Carolina District Courts, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas, the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Fourth and Fifth Circuits, the U.S. Tax Court, the U.S. Claims Court and the U.S. Supreme Court. Ms. Keenan is a member of the North Carolina Bar Association, the American Bar Association, ABI and the National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees, and she has served in various capacities with both the North Carolina Bar Association's Bankruptcy Council and the North Carolina Creditors Bar Association. She has also served as a contributing editor for the *North Carolina Bankruptcy Manual* (1998–present) and as a member of the Local Bankruptcy Rules Committee for the Eastern District of North Carolina. Ms. Keenan received her B.A. with highest honors from the University of Texas-Arlington and her J.D. from Southern Methodist University, where she was a member of the Order of the Coif.

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**Luis M. Lluber**as is a member in the Bankruptcy & Financial Restructuring practice group of Moore & Van Allen, PLLC in Charlotte, N.C., where his practice encompasses a broad range of financial services matters, with a focus on the resolution of troubled credits. He is a member of the firm's Diversity Committee and is the chair of the firm's Lawyers of Color affinity group. Mr. Lluber is experienced in representing key stakeholders in connection with all aspects of financial restructuring matters in a variety of industries, including commercial real estate, energy, health care, manufacturing, retail, technology and transportation. He routinely represents financial institutions in both lender and agent capacities, in syndicated credit facilities and in other secured lending transactions. His out-of-court experience includes workouts, debt-to-equity swaps and secured party sales, and his in-court experience includes large corporate chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings, receiverships, and foreclosure actions. He has also represented financial institutions in the preparation of intercreditor agreements, creditors in the defense of avoidance actions, and investors in connection with the development of commercial real estate. In 2015, Mr. Lluber received the Turnaround Management Association's Turnaround of the Year: Small Company award for his work as counsel to the receiver in the Bost Distributing Co. matter. The *Charlotte Business Journal* honored Mr. Lluber as one of its 2018 "40 Under 40" recipient, and since 2014, he has been recognized annually as a "Rising Star" in bankruptcy as published by *North Carolina Super Lawyers* magazine. He received his B.A. with highest distinction and his J.D. with honors from The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

**Joseph J. Luzinski** is a senior managing director of Development Specialists, Inc. in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. He has spent more than 30 years in the workout business, serving as a financial advisor, consultant and fiduciary in advising, managing and administering matters involving public and private company workouts and restructurings, both out of court and in chapter 11 and 7 bankruptcies, as well as receiverships, assignments, and federal and state court proceedings. Mr. Luzinski has been CRO, CEO, CFO, president, director, trustee, liquidating trustee, plan agent, receiver and assignee to public and private companies involved in loan workouts, distressed situations and crisis situations. His financial advisory services include engagements involving investigations, fraud assessments, interim management, litigation support and expert witness engagements. His areas of industry expertise include banking, finance, real estate, aviation, retail, franchising, food service, manufacturing, media, law firms, wealthy individuals, fraud, Ponzi schemes and forensic matters. Mr. Luzinski's specific areas of focus include operational analysis, financial analysis, valuation assessment, budgeting and planning, crisis-management, turnaround strategy, litigation strategy and litigation support. He also makes presentations to key stakeholders, including lenders, creditors' committees and equity sponsors, and has court experience with testimony and litigation support for contested hearings or trials. Mr. Luzinski received his B.S. from Florida Atlantic University.

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

Markell has been a visiting professor at, among other schools, Peking University School of Law in Beijing and Harvard Law School. He is a conferee of the National Bankruptcy Conference, a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, a member of the International Insolvency Institute, and a member of the American Law Institute. In 2016, he completed a project redrafting Kosovo's bankruptcy law. He consults regularly with the International Monetary Fund on insolvency-related issues (having been part of the IMF's missions to Ireland, Bosnia, Montenegro, Serbia, Belarus, Georgia and Greece). He represented the International Bar Association at UNCITRAL's (United Nation's Commission on International Trade Law) working group sessions on international receivables, and has advised the Republic of Indonesia on bankruptcy and secured credit reform. Most recently, he has been appointed as the fee examiner in the Pacific Gas & Electric chapter 11 bankruptcy pending in San Francisco. Prof. Markell received his J.D. in 1980 from the University of California at Davis, where he was editor-in-chief of the law review and recipient of the School of Law Medal.

**Hon. Catherine P. 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 and was a solo practitioner from 2001 until the date of her appointment to the bench. Before opening her solo practice, she was a shareholder of Akerman Senterfitt & Eidson, P.A., formerly known as Moffitt, Hart & Herron, P.A., where she practiced law from 1982-2001 in its Tampa office, concentrating on commercial litigation with an emphasis on representing parties in bankruptcy cases. Judge McEwen was elected into the American Law Institute in 2012. Among her other honors are the Stetson University College of Law Distinguished Alumnus Award (2007), Hillsborough County Bar Association Jimmy Kynes Pro Bono Service Award (2008), the Stetson University College of Law J. Ben Watkins Award (2009), the Florida Association for Women Lawyers Leaders in the Law inaugural class designation (2010), the Tampa Bay Hispanic Bar Association's Luis "Tony" Cabassa Award (2012), the George Edgecomb Bar Association's Delano S. Stewart Diversity Award (2015), the inaugural Florida Supreme Court Chief Justice's Distinguished Federal Judicial Service Award (2016), the Stetson Lawyers Alumni Association Ben C. Willard Award (2016), the University of South Florida Distinguished Alumna Award (2016) and the Bay Area Legal Services Inc. Judge Don Castor Justice Award (2016). In 2017, Judge McEwen was appointed by Chief Justice John Roberts, Jr. to serve a two-year term as the nonvoting bankruptcy judge observer to the Judicial Conference of the United States, beginning Oct. 1, 2017. Prior to becoming a lawyer, she was a sportswriter from 1975-79 for the *Tampa Tribune* and the *Tampa Times*. Judge McEwen 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.

**R. Stephen McNeill** is counsel in the Wilmington, Del., office of Potter Anderson & Corroon LLP and a member of the firm's Cybersecurity, Data Privacy and Information Governance Practice. He focuses his practice on complex bankruptcy proceedings involving national and regional clients, including debtors, secured lenders, creditors' committees and a variety of unsecured creditors. He has been involved in contesting and defending asset sales and plans of reorganization, assumption and rejection of leases and contracts, and other creditor issues including defense-of-preference litigation. Mc. McNeill is a member of the American and Delaware State Bar Associations and ABI, and is admitted to practice before the U.S. District Court for the District of Delaware and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. He received his B.S. *summa cum laude* from Auburn University at

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**Rick Mendoza** is a creditors' rights and bankruptcy law attorney with Nexsen Pruet in Columbia, S.C., and has more than 35 years of experience in this area of practice. He has been a Board Certified Bankruptcy and Debtor-Creditor Law Specialist in South Carolina since 1993. Mr. Mendoza served on the Bankruptcy and Debtor-Creditor Law Advisory Board for the State of South Carolina from 1992-96 and 2008-14, and served as chairman from 2012-15. He was admitted in 2016 as a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, and he is a Masters of the Bench member of the J. Bratton Davis Bankruptcy American Inn of Court, for which he currently serves as its president. Mr. Mendoza has served as an adjunct professor at the University of South Carolina School of Law and was named 2016 "Lawyer of the Year" by *The Best Lawyers in America* for Columbia, which has also noted him for Bankruptcy and Creditor-Debtor Rights Law annually since 2001. He received his B.S. cum laude from the University of South Carolina College of Business Administration and his J.D. from the University of South Carolina School of Law.

**Jennifer M. Meyerowitz** is a managing director of Business Development at Summit Investment Management LLC in Atlanta and leads the company's restructuring business-development efforts. She has 15 years of experience in bankruptcy, restructuring and settlement administration as an attorney, consultant and company leader. Ms. Meyerowitz previously spent eight years in business-development leadership roles, most recently serving as the vice president of business development for a chapter 7 trustee legal technology start-up, where she managed the sales team and served as the liaison between clients and operations. Prior to that, she was a vice president for a global legal technology and services company, with responsibility for development, legal consulting and strategic communications, compliance and logistics, and case-management functions for the company's bankruptcy and restructuring settlement services. Ms. Meyerowitz began her career as a practicing attorney at Alston & Bird LLP, where she represented debtors, secured and unsecured creditors, creditors' committees and trustees in complex workouts, debt restructurings, commercial litigation and chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings for nearly 10 years. An ABI Board member, she received her B.A. from the University of Michigan and her J.D. from Emory University School of Law, where she was executive notes and comments editor for the *Emory Bankruptcy Developments Journal*.

**J. Leland Murphree** is co-chair of the Bankruptcy and Restructuring Group at Maynard, Cooper & Gale, P.C. in its Birmingham, Ala., office, where he represents creditors, debtors, committees and fiduciaries in chapter 11 and receivership proceedings across the country. He also focuses on out-of-court workouts, restructurings, and distressed M&A and investing. Mr. Murphree is a member of ABI's 2018 "40 Under 40" class and has been recognized for bankruptcy and restructuring in *Chambers USA*, *The Best Lawyers in America* and *Super Lawyers* for several years. He is a past president of the Alabama Chapter of the Turnaround Management Association and a past chairman of the Alabama State Bar Bankruptcy & Commercial Law Section. Mr. Murphree frequently speaks on bankruptcy, restructuring and insolvency issues and recently served on the Alabama Law Institute's Committee on Uniform Fraudulent/Voidable Transfer Laws, resulting in the passage of the Alabama Uniform Voidable Transactions Act, No. 2018-163. He received his B.A. from Samford University and his J.D. magna cum laude from the University of Memphis School of Law.

**Nisha R. Patel** is an attorney with Samuel I. White, P.C. in Richmond, Va., where she represents financial institutions, mortgage servicers, and other creditors in all aspects of bankruptcy and state court litigation. She is also a certified guardian *ad litem* for incapacitated adults in Virginia and regularly serves as guardian and/or conservator for individuals throughout the Richmond metro area. Prior to joining SIWPC, Ms. Patel represented individuals in bankruptcy, domestic relations and civil litigation. She is an NCBJ NextGen alumnus, a board member of the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation's (IWIRC's) Virginia chapter, and a member of the Richmond Bar Association's Bankruptcy Section. Ms. Patel received her undergraduate degrees with honors from Michigan State University in 2008 and her J.D. from the University of Richmond in 2011.

**Hon. Keith L. Phillips** is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia in Richmond, sworn in on Aug. 26, 2013. Prior to his appointment, he was a principal of the law firm of Phillips & Fleckenstein, PC in Richmond, where he represented debtors, creditors, creditors' committees and trustees in all chapters of the Bankruptcy Code. He also served as a mediator in bankruptcy-related disputes, as a chapter 7 trustee on the Richmond panel for approximately 27 years, and as a chapter 11 trustee, liquidation trustee and state court receiver. Judge Phillips has been a frequent lecturer on bankruptcy matters for various bar organizations and has served as a representative on the Eastern District of Virginia's Richmond Division Bankruptcy Bar Liaison Committee. He has been a permanent member of the Fourth Circuit Judicial Conference since 1985 and has held multiple positions with the Virginia and Richmond Bar Associations. Judge Phillips received his undergraduate degree in biology from the College of William & Mary in 1976 and his J.D. from the University of Richmond Law School in 1979, where he was a member and editor of the *Law Review* and a member of the McNeil Law Society. Following law school, he clerked for Hon. Walter E. Hoffman of the U.S. District Court in Norfolk, Va.

**Daniel J. Reynolds, Jr.** is an attorney with McCarthy, Reynolds & Penn, LLC in Columbia, S.C., and has represented clients in many of the largest and most complex bankruptcies in South Carolina. He regularly represents individual and business clients of varying sizes in chapters 7, 9 and 11, including the representation of debtors, creditors, creditor committees and other plan-appointed representatives. Mr. Reynolds has represented clients in various industries, including real estate developments, golf courses, trucking companies, manufacturers, hospitals, nursing homes, dentists, grocery stores, restaurants and auto dealers. He was the 2017 president of the South Carolina Bankruptcy Law Association (SCBLA) and has presented at SCBLA seminars. He also has been a guest speaker for classes at the University of South Carolina School of Law. Mr. Reynolds is a member of the South Carolina Bar, the Richland County Bar Association, the J. Bratton Davis American Inns of Bankruptcy Court and ABI. He is certified as a specialist in the fields of Bankruptcy and Debtor-Creditor Rights by the South Carolina Supreme Court and is Board certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. Mr. Reynolds is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell. He received his B.S.B.A. with an emphasis in accounting in 1999 from Charleston Southern University, his M.B.A. in 2003 from the College of William and Mary Graduate School of Business, and his J.D. in 2003 from the College of William and Mary's Marshall-Wythe School of Law, where he was a member of the *William and Mary Law Review*, was honored as the 2003 American College of Bankruptcy's Fourth Circuit gifted student, and was the College of William and Mary's 2003 recipient of the ABI's Academic Award of Excellence.

**Grace E. Robson** is a partner in the Fort Lauderdale, Fla., office of Markowitz Ringel Trusty & Hartog, P.A. She is a Board-Certified bankruptcy attorney with more than 17 years of experience representing corporate debtors, trade and institutional creditors, trustees, receivers and creditors' committees. Ms. Robson focuses her practice on corporate reorganization and bankruptcy, debtor/creditor relations and litigation. She has been involved in all facets of reorganization-related representations, including pre-filing consultation, filing complex corporate bankruptcy cases, post-bankruptcy financing, and asset-purchase agreements. Ms. Robson contributed to ABI's publication *Individual Chapter 11* (2018) and has written articles for the *ABI Journal*. She is a member of the American Bar Association and co-chairs its Pro Bono Services Subcommittee of the Business Bankruptcy Committee for the Business Law Section, and she is a member of The Florida Bar's Business Law Section, the Bankruptcy Bar Association of the Southern District of Florida, ABI, and the Broward County Bar Association and Broward County Women's Law Association, among other affiliations. Ms. Robson is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification and has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* annually since 2013. She 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.

**René S. Roupinian** is a partner and co-chair of the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification (WARN) Practice Group and member of the firm's Class Action Practice Group at Outten & Golden LLP in New York, and has been practicing law since 1995. She has litigated more than 200 WARN and related cases. Her practice is national and covers all industries. A majority of her cases are filed in bankruptcy court as class action adversary proceedings, and her clients are frequently selected to sit on unsecured creditors' committees. Upon the 20th anniversary of the WARN Act, Ms. Roupinian was invited by Sen. Ted Kennedy to submit testimony before the U.S. Senate's Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee. In 2017, her firm's appeal on behalf of more than 1,800 terminated truck drivers was decided by the Supreme Court. In *Czyzewski v. Jevic Holding Corp.*, 137 S. Ct. 973 (2017), the Court reversed a bankruptcy court order approving a structured-dismissal distribution that skipped over payment of the wage priority WARN claim held by the drivers. Other notable bankruptcy class actions include *Toys "R" Us*, *Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP*, *MF Global, Inc.* and *Solyndra*. Ms. Roupinian received her B.A. in 1989 from the University of Michigan and her J.D. in 1994 from Michigan State University College of Law, where she was a member of the Moot Court Executive Board.

**Ashley S. Rusher** is a practitioner with Blanco Tackabery & Matamoros, P.A. in Winston-Salem, N.C., where she serves on the firm's Management Committee and chairs both the Business Bankruptcy and Creditor's Rights Practice Group and the Outside General Counsel Services Practice Group. She has a regional bankruptcy practice representing financial institutions, trade creditors, adversary proceeding defendants, bankruptcy trustees, landlords and tenants, creditors' committees and chapter 11 debtors-in-possession in the workout and restructuring of distressed debt. Ms. Rusher provides an array of creditors' rights services to clients including problem loan recovery, asset recovery and commercial litigation as well as title curative litigation. Ms. Rusher has been recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America* in the areas of Bankruptcy and Litigation, in *Super Lawyers* for Bankruptcy and a Legal Elite in *Business North Carolina Magazine* for Bankruptcy, and she received the Women in Business Award from the *Triad Business Journal*, as well as the Women Extraordinaire Award in *Business Leader Magazine*. Rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell, she is a past chair of the Bankruptcy Section of the North Carolina Bar Association and is admitted to practice in North Caro-

lina and Georgia. Ms. Rusher received her B.A. in 1984 and her J.D. in 1987 from the University of Kentucky.

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

**David M. Schilli** is an attorney with Robinson, Bradshaw & Hinson, P.A. in Charlotte, N.C., where he concentrates his practice on commercial out-of-court restructurings and chapter 11 proceedings and chairs the firm's Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights practice group. He has more than 25 years of experience across a wide spectrum of industries and sectors. Mr. Schilli has had a diverse litigation-focused practice and represented nearly every constituency group in bankruptcy and creditors' rights matters. He then broadened his practice by representing financial institutions and other lenders in originating, working out and restructuring loans. In addition to his practice, Mr. Schilli regularly lectures on various bankruptcy topics for the North Carolina and Mecklenburg County Bar Associations and various bankruptcy, turnaround and corporate renewal organizations. He also serves in leadership positions in professional turnaround organizations, including as chair of the North Carolina Bar Association's Bankruptcy Section and president of the Carolinas Chapter of the Turnaround Management Association. Mr. Schilli is consistently recognized as a leading lawyer in bankruptcy and restructuring by *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*, *The Best Lawyers in America*, *Business North Carolina*, *Legal Elite* and *North Carolina Super Lawyers*. He received his J.D. from Washington & Lee University School of Law, after which he clerked for U.S. District Court Judge Robert D. Potter and U.S. Bankruptcy Court Judge George R. Hodges.

**Lara R. Sheikh** is a senior legal editor at Thomson Reuters Practical Law in New York, an online legal know-how service for which she writes on corporate bankruptcy law. She joined Practical Law from the New York City firm of Togut, Segal & Segal LLP, where she worked on many high-profile chapter 11 cases. Previously, Ms. Sheikh was an associate and senior associate in the restructuring and insolvency group at Pillsbury Winthrop LLP in New York. She also served a two-year term as judicial law clerk to then-Chief Bankruptcy Judge Stuart M. Bernstein in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York. Ms. Sheikh served on the board of IWIRC New York as Substantive Events co-chair from 2016-17 and has been an ABI member since 2004. She received her A.B. in politics and Spanish from Mount Holyoke College in 1988 and her J.D. from Brooklyn Law School in 2001.

**Karen Elizabeth Sieg** is a partner in McGuireWoods LLP's Restructuring & Insolvency Department in Richmond, Va., and her practice focuses on corporate restructuring, creditors' rights, complex commercial litigation and financial services litigation. She is experienced in bankruptcy litigation and appellate matters, including as counsel for DIP and other secured lenders, asset-purchasers, chapter 11 debtors, and other stakeholders in corporate restructuring cases and as national counsel to banks and other financial services companies in consumer litigation. Ms. Sieg received dual B.S. degrees from the Georgia Institute of Technology and her J.D. from the University of Richmond, and she clerked for Hon. Kevin R. Huennekens, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, before joining McGuireWoods.

**Hon. Sage M. Sigler** is a Bankruptcy Judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Georgia in Atlanta, appointed in March 2018. She succeeded Hon. Mary Grace Diehl, for whom she clerked after graduating from law school. Prior to her appointment to the bench, Judge Sigler was a partner in Alston & Bird LLP's Bankruptcy Group. She is an active member of ABI, IWIRC and the Bankruptcy Section of the Atlanta Bar Association, and a volunteer presenter for the Credit Abuse Resistance Education (CARE) program. Judge Sigler was an honoree in ABI's inaugural class of "40 Under 40" in 2017. She received her B.A. in political science from the University of Florida in 2001 and her J.D. in 2006 from Emory University School of Law, where she was a member of the executive board of the *Emory Bankruptcy Developments Journal*.

**J. Ellsworth Summers, Jr.** is a shareholder with Burr & Forman LLP in Jacksonville, Fla., where he practices in the areas of bankruptcy, creditors' rights and commercial litigation. He is admitted to practice in the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals and the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals, and the state and federal courts in the State of Florida and the Commonwealth of Virginia. Prior to joining Burr & Forman LLP, Mr. Summers was a partner with the Jacksonville-based law firm of Rogers Towers, P.A. where he led the firm's bankruptcy group. After law school, he clerked for Hon. Stephen C. St. John, Chief United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia. Mr. Summers is a member of ABI, the Florida Bar Association, the Virginia Bar Association and the Jacksonville Bankruptcy Bar Association. He has appeared before state and federal courts in 14 states, the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court of Virginia. Mr. Summers is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell and has routinely been named to the *Florida Super Lawyers*, *Florida Legal Elite*, *Florida Best Lawyers* and *Jacksonville's Best Lawyers* lists. He received his B.A. *cum laude* from Hampden-Sydney College and his J.D. *cum laude* from Stetson University College of Law, where he was a member of the *Stetson Law Review*.

**John A. Thomson, Jr.** is special counsel with Adams and Reese LLP in Atlanta and has advised clients on commercial litigation and bankruptcy matters for more than 30 years. He represents clients in matters related to commercial finance and debtor/creditor issues. Mr. Thomson has served in a broad range of roles in the bankruptcy courts, including as counsel to secured financial institutions, indenture trustees, commercial trade creditors, life insurance companies, private-equity investors, and purchasers of distressed debt in all facets of commercial bankruptcies. He has served as counsel to a number of unsecured creditors' committees and has served as a chapter 11 trustee for a health care operating company. Mr. Thomson's litigation work has included litigating matters in actions arising out of breach of contract, shareholder disputes, valuation of real and personal property collateral, the appointment of receivers, declaratory judgment actions related to bond issues, leases of commercial

property, real estate development ventures, repossession of commercial collateral and execution of judgments. In addition to his litigation and transactional skills, he is also a mediator in disputes arising out of bankruptcy and creditors' rights matters, and a graduate of the ABI's and St. John's University School of Law's 40-Hour Mediation Training Program. Mr. Thomson is admitted to the bars of Georgia and South Carolina, and is admitted to practice in Georgia and before the Georgia Court of Appeals, Georgia Supreme Court, the U.S. District Courts for the Northern and Middle Districts of Georgia, and the U.S. Bankruptcy Courts for the Northern, Middle and Southern Districts of Georgia. He received his A.B. in economics in 1981 from Davidson College and his J.D. in 1986 from the University of Georgia School of Law.

**Travis K. Vandell** is a managing director with Stretto in Irvine, Calif., and has nearly 20 years of corporate restructuring experience. He previously practiced as a corporate restructuring attorney and has effectively led teams on some of the largest and most notable chapter 11 matters in history. Mr. Vandell is a former recipient of the Annual M&A Advisor 40 Under 40 Award. He received his B.A. in 1998 from the University of Arizona and his M.B.A. and J.D. in 2002 from Syracuse University.

**Theodore von Keller** is a member attorney with Crawford & von Keller, LLC in Columbia, S.C., and has practiced for 30 years in litigation. A graduate of the National Institute of Trial Advocacy Trial School, he has trial experience in all state and federal courts. His emphasis is on general defense litigation, creditors' rights litigation and commercial litigation, bankruptcy, and landlord/tenant law. Mr. von Keller thereafter taught high school history and coached soccer at The Joseph Kershaw Academy in Camden, S.C., from 1976-81, and where he was the assistant headmaster during the 1980-81 school year. In 1981, he taught psychology and U.S. and European history at the Hammond Academy in Columbia, S.C. Mr. von Keller was selected by his attorney peers as a member of the Legal Elite of the Midlands in the *Columbia Business Monthly* in the area of Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights. He received his B.A. in history in 1975 from the University of South Carolina, his M.A.T. in history from the University of South Carolina Graduate School, and his J.D. from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 1985. While there, he was an instructor of legal writing during his second year of law school.

**Hon. John E. Waites** is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of South Carolina in Columbia, appointed on June 27, 1994, and served as chief judge from March 1, 2006 until March 1, 2013. He presently serves as president of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges (NCBJ) and previously co-chaired its Legislative Committee, and he was a member of the NCBJ Board of Governors from 2010-14, as well as various committees, including Public Outreach. He also is a member of the Judicial Conference Committee on the Administration of the Bankruptcy System, having been appointed by Chief Justice Roberts in 2013. Judge Waites is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, a founding member of the J. Bratton Davis Bankruptcy American Inn of Court and the recipient of the South Carolina Bankruptcy Law Association's J. Bratton Davis Professionalism Award, the Credit Abuse Resistance Education (CARE) Lifetime Achievement Award, the Legal Services Corporation's Pro Bono Award, and the U.S. District Court Judge Matthew J. Perry Civility Award. He has been a 12-year member of the South Carolina Access to Justice Commission of the South Carolina Supreme Court and is a member of the South Carolina Bar's Pro Bono Board. Judge Waites received his undergraduate degree from Davidson College and his J.D. from the University of South Carolina.

**Jeffrey R. Waxman** is a partner in the Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights Group of Morris James LLP in Wilmington, Del., and represents debtors, official committees of unsecured creditors, official committees of equity holders, secured creditors, plan administrators, purchasers of assets, and a wide variety of creditor constituencies and interested parties in chapter 11 cases. He also represents chapter 7 trustees and plaintiffs and defendants in bankruptcy-related preference and fraudulent transfer litigation. Prior to entering private practice, Mr. Waxman clerked for Hon. Mary F. Walrath of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware, and for Hon. Michael J. Kaplan of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of New York. He is admitted to practice in Delaware and Pennsylvania, and before the U.S. District Courts for the District of Delaware and the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, and the U.S. Supreme Court. Mr. Waxman has been listed as a "Top Lawyer" in *Delaware Today* for 2015, received ABI's Medal of Excellence in Bankruptcy, and is a member of the Order of the Barristers. He is a member of the American Bar Association's Business Law Section and the Delaware Bankruptcy American Inn of Court. Mr. Waxman received his B.A. from Temple University in 1995 and his J.D. from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in 1998.

**Robert S. Westermann** is co-chair of Hirschler Fleischer, PC's Bankruptcy, Restructuring, and Creditors' Rights Practice Group in Richmond, Va., where his practice focuses on bankruptcy law and creditors' and debtors' rights, and in the bankruptcy and restructuring arenas. He has represented virtually all interested parties in chapter 7 and 11 cases across a broad spectrum of industries throughout the country, including debtors, panel trustees, liquidating trustees, creditors' committees, plan administrators, secured lenders and creditors, trade vendors and suppliers, asset-purchasers, directors and officers, and landlords. Mr. Westermann has been named a "Leader in the Field" in Bankruptcy/Restructuring, Virginia, by *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* since 2015, and has also been recognized by *Super Lawyers*, *The Best Lawyers in America* and *Virginia Business's* "Legal Elite." A frequent author and speaker regionally and nationally, he has served in leadership roles in the Bankruptcy Sections of the Virginia State Bar, the Virginia Bar Association and the Richmond Bar Association. Mr. Westermann received his undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia and his J.D. from Washington and Lee University School of Law.

**Nancy J. Whaley** is an attorney at law serving as a chapter 12 and 13 trustee for the Northern District of Georgia in Atlanta. She is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and a former co-chair of ABI's Southeast Bankruptcy Workshop. Ms. Whaley is a member of the Northern District of Georgia Bankruptcy Court's Bench and Bar Committee and served on the Executive Committee, and she co-chaired the Community Service Committee for the W. Homer Drake, Jr. Georgia Bankruptcy American Inn of Court. She also is a past chair of the Atlanta Bar Association's Bankruptcy Section and the Bankruptcy Section of the State Bar of Georgia. Ms. Whaley served as president of the Georgia Association for Women Lawyers and of the GAWL Foundation. She has also served on the State Bar of Georgia's Executive Committee, is a member of the Board of Governors and currently chairs the Finance Committee. Ms. Whaley is an active member in the Association of Chapter 12 Trustees and the National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees and is their representative to the Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules. In addition, she serves on the NACCTT Foundation Board. Ms. Whaley retired from the Air Force Reserve as a Lieutenant Colonel. She received her B.A. *cum laude* from Eureka College, where she was a Ronald Reagan Scholar, and her J.D. from Emory Law School.