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Faculty Biographies

John A. Anthony is the managing member of Anthony & Partners in Tampa, Fla. For nearly 40 years, he has been a lawyer in private practice, focused primarily on the representation of creditors in federal and state commercial litigation, including bankruptcy. Mr. Anthony spent the majority of his career at a large law firm, serving as a Creditors' Rights department chairman from 1993-09. He focuses on loan enforcement, bankruptcy, debt-restructure, avoidance litigation, complex judgment collection, lender liability, trade secrets, noncompete litigation, disputes involving closely held business entities, commercial landlord/tenant disputes, and related complex litigation throughout the State of Florida. His bankruptcy practice focuses on representation of financial institutions in all districts and divisions of Florida, as well as other states. Since 1993, Mr. Anthony is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell and is one of a handful of bankruptcy lawyers to have earned "Hall of Fame" status among *Florida Trend's* "Legal Elite," and he is regularly selected as a *Florida Super Lawyer* each year. He also has been recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*, *Tampa Magazine* and other publications. Mr. Anthony served as a board member of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association for several years. He regularly lectures to bankers, lawyer organizations and law school students on matters pertaining to the representation of financial institutions, avoidance litigation and other bankruptcy contexts. Mr. Anthony received his B.A. from Georgetown University College of Arts and Sciences in theology and political philosophy in 1984 and his J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center in 1987.

Michael R. Bakst is a partner with Greenspoon Marder LLP in West Palm Beach, Fla., and is experienced primarily in various fields of bankruptcy and insolvency, including representing creditors, bankruptcy trustees and receivers. He also represents litigants within complex bankruptcy matters, commercial litigation, receiverships and assignments for the benefit of creditors. Mr. Bakst is a panel trustee for the Southern District of Florida. He also has served as an examiner appointed through the offices of the U.S. Trustee. Mr. Bakst frequently speaks at continuing education seminars for bankruptcy and commercial litigation practitioners, as well continued education seminars for trustees in bankruptcy on a regional level. He received his B.A. in 1987 from the University of Miami and his J.D. in 1990 from the University of Miami School of Law.

Douglas A. Bates is a shareholder with Clark Partington Hart Larry Bond & Stackhouse, P.A. in Pensacola, Fla., and chairs its Commercial Litigation section. He has handled insolvency matters, distressed business situations and special-asset cases across the State of Florida and the U.S., and across a wide range of industries including airline, hospitality, manufacturing, retail and financial services. He serves as a trusted advisor to local, regional and national clients and maintains his focus on commercial and real estate litigation, as well as bankruptcy and creditors' rights matters. Mr. Bates is listed in *Chambers USA* and is an active member of the Business Law Section of The Florida Bar, serving on the Section's Executive Council. He also is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy and is active in numerous other local, statewide and national organizations, including The Florida Bar Standing Committee on Student Education and Bar Admissions. Mr. Bates received his B.S.B.A. *summa cum laude* from Birmingham Southern College and his J.D. *cum laude* from the University of Florida College of Law.

Hon. Jason A. Burgess is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida in Jacksonville, appointed in March 2022. While in private practice, he became a Florida Supreme Court Certified Mediator and the only attorney in North Florida to be Board Certified in both Business Bankruptcy and Consumer Bankruptcy Law. While in law school and for a time following graduation, Judge

Burgess practiced in the creditors' rights area, representing many of the nation's largest financial institutions. He later became the managing partner of The Law Offices of Jason A. Burgess, LLC, where he concentrated on chapter 11 bankruptcy cases and complex bankruptcy litigation. He was often called upon as a chapter 11 consultant for complex debtor and creditor bankruptcy cases, and was also appointed as a subchapter V chapter 11 trustee for both the Middle and Northern Districts of Florida. Judge Burgess was honored as a member of ABI's 2021 class of "40 Under 40." He received his LL.M. in business transactions *magna cum laude* from the University of Alabama School of Law.

Hon. Roberta A. Colton is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida in Orlando, appointed in December 2017. Contemporaneously, she was appointed as a member of the judicial mediation team involved in the Puerto Rico PROMESA cases and served in that capacity until January 2022. Prior to taking the bench, Judge Colton practiced at Trenam Law in Tampa, Fla., where she was a shareholder and a member of the firm's Management Committee. Prior to joining Trenam, she served as a judicial law clerk for Hon. James C. Hill of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. During her more than 30 years in practice, Judge Colton was active in service to the legal profession and has been recognized for her accomplishments. Among others, she was listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights from 1995-2016 and named one of the top 10 *Super Lawyers* in Florida from 2011-16. Judge Colton served as Eleventh Circuit Regent for the American College of Bankruptcy and as chair of the Grievance Committee of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida. She also is the former chair of the Florida Bar Business Law Section's Bankruptcy/UCC Committee, as well as the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association. Judge Colton received her B.A. in commerce with distinction from the University of Virginia in 1979 and her J.D. from William & Mary Law School in 1982, where she served on its law review and was a national moot court finalist.

Hon D. Sims Crawford is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Alabama in Birmingham, appointed on Sept. 1, 2016. He previously served as a Chapter 13 Standing Trustee in the Northern District of Alabama from 2004 until his appointment as a bankruptcy judge. Judge Crawford is a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, ABI and the Alabama State Bar, and he has served on the Bankruptcy Judges Advisory Group (BJAG) and the Human Resources Advisory Council (HRAC), both of which provide advice to the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts and to the committees of the Judicial Conference. He is currently serving as the bankruptcy-judge representative to the Committee on Codes of Conduct for the Judicial Conference of the United States. Judge Crawford received his B.A. from the University of Alabama and his J.D. from Samford University Cumberland School of Law.

Dr. Kirsten K. Davis is a Professor of Law and Provost's Faculty Fellow for Generative Artificial Intelligence and Higher Education at Stetson University College of Law in Gulfport, Fla. Her work focuses on the intersection of legal communication and legal ethics. Most recently, Dr. Davis has been studying the impact of generative artificial intelligence on legal communication, legal ethics, and higher education. This past year, she has given talks on generative AI to law faculty, law students, administrators, lawyers and judges. She is leading a group of more than 400 law professors who are exploring the impacts of generative AI on legal writing education and practice. Dr. Davis's course, Legal Writing with Generative AI, was one of the first of its kind to be offered to law students. Her essay, "A New Parlor is Open: Legal Writing Faculty Must Develop Scholarship on Generative AI

and Legal Writing,” argues that generative AI represents the beginning of a paradigm shift in legal writing and identifies the “big issues” of legal writing that will need scholarly investigation. Prior to joining the faculty at Stetson, Dr. Davis was a federal judicial clerk, an attorney at Jones Day, and a faculty member at the Arizona State University Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law. She has served on the board of directors of the Association of Legal Writing Directors and the Legal Writing Institute, and she is a past chair of the Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting Program Committee and of its Section on Women in Legal Education. Dr. Davis also is a past chair of the Florida Bar’s Standing Committee on Professionalism and served on its Special Committee to Review Professionalism. She currently serves as the program co-chair for the AALS Section on Technology, Law, and Legal Education, as a member of the Legal Writing Institute’s AI Committee, and as a member of the Florida Bar Standing Committee on Technology. Dr. Davis has received Stetson’s Dean’s Award for Extraordinary Service, its Award for Teaching Excellence, its Homer and Dolly Hand Award in Faculty Research, and its Dickerson-Brown Award for Faculty Excellence in Faculty Scholarship. She was recognized for her work in online education with the 2021 Stetson Board of Trustees COVID-19 Innovation Award. In addition, the AALS Section on Technology, Law, and Legal Education selected her for its 2024 Technology Mentorship Award, and the ABA Legal Technology Resource Center named her to its distinguished Women of Legal Tech list for 2024. Dr. Davis founded Stetson’s Institute for the Advancement of Legal Communication. She received her J.D. *summa cum laude* from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law, where she was admitted to the Order of the Coif, and her Ph.D. in human communication from Arizona State University Hugh Downs School of Human Communication.

Ryan E. Davis is a shareholder with Winderweedle, Haines, Ward & Woodman, P.A. in Winter Park, Fla., and chairs the firm’s Bankruptcy and Creditor’s Rights Department. He is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. He also is a Florida Supreme Court Certified Circuit Mediator. Mr. Davis concentrates his practice around chapter 11 reorganizations and complex chapter 7 liquidations. As lead counsel, he has represented national and regional lenders, commercial landlords, corporate debtors, fiduciaries, trustees, trade creditors, asset-purchasers, and other interested parties in bankruptcy cases throughout the State of Florida. Mr. Davis also has experience representing defendants in complex avoidance actions. In addition to his bankruptcy practice, he handles commercial litigation matters, typically involving creditors’ rights, including commercial foreclosures, real estate disputes, construction lien foreclosures and contract disputes. Mr. Davis was awarded *The Best Lawyers in America* Litigation-Bankruptcy “Lawyer of the Year” for Orlando, Florida, in 2023. He has also been recognized by *Florida Trend* magazine as “Florida’s Legal Elite,” by *Florida Super Lawyers*, by *Orlando Magazine* as one of “Orlando’s Best Lawyers,” and by *Orlando Home & Leisure* as one of “Orlando’s Top Lawyers.” He is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell. Mr. Davis received his undergraduate degree from Tulane University and his J.D. with honors from the University of Florida.

Hon. Caryl E. Delano is Chief Judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida in Tampa, initially appointed on June 25, 2008, and named Chief Judge on October 1, 2019. She also was appointed Presiding Judge of the Fort Myers Division in July 2012. In 2022, Judge Delano was appointed by the Eleventh Circuit to a second 14-year term as a bankruptcy judge. In 2022, she was appointed to the Bankruptcy Judges Advisory Committee to the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts for a three-year term beginning in 2023. On July 6, 2023, the district court reappointed her as Chief Judge for another four-year term beginning on Oct. 1, 2023. Previously, Judge Delano

practiced before the bankruptcy courts of the Central District of California for 14 years. In 1994, she returned to Tampa and most recently practiced law with the firm of Addison & Delano, P.A., where she concentrated her practice on bankruptcy and commercial litigation. Judge Delano has represented debtors and creditors in numerous chapter 11 cases and related adversary proceedings. She served as the liaison judge to the Middle District of Florida's Local Rules Lawyers' Advisory Committee from 2011-20 and is a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges Federal Rules Advisory Committee. In 2017, Judge Delano received the Southwest Florida Bankruptcy Professionals Association's Alexander L. Paskay Professionalism Award. In addition, she is a former executive director and past-president of the J. Clifford Cheatwood American Inn of Court. Judge Delano received her B.A. in English *cum laude* in 1976 from the University of South Florida and her J.D. in 1979 from Indiana University School of Law, having completed her final year of law school at Emory University School of Law.

Kathleen L. DiSanto is a shareholder with Bush Ross, P.A. in Tampa, Fla., where she focuses her practice on bankruptcy and insolvency matters. She also is an experienced litigator in state and federal courts throughout Florida. Ms. DiSanto began her career as the first law clerk to Chief Judge Caryl E. Delano of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida. Prior to joining Bush Ross, she practiced at boutique bankruptcy firm in Tampa. Ms. DiSanto regularly represents debtors and assists them in navigating the complexity of business bankruptcies. She has helped more than 30 chapter 11 debtors successfully reorganize, including many closely held family businesses and individuals. She also is experienced in representing creditors and trustees in the bankruptcy process and has specialized expertise in defending trustees on *Barton* doctrine issues. In addition to her role as a client advocate, Ms. DiSanto is a Florida Supreme Court Certified Circuit Mediator and serves as a subchapter V trustee in small business cases filed under the Small Business Reorganization Act of 2019. She was appointed by the Office of the U.S. Trustee in April 2022, and assists parties in small business cases in facilitating the expeditious and economical confirmation of a plan. Ms. DiSanto has been Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification since 2014 and has held an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell since 2015. She also was the youngest president of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association. Ms. DiSanto received her B.S. in 2005 from the University of Virginia and her J.D. in 2008 from Stetson University College of Law. During law school, she interned with Hon. Alexander L. Paskay.

Lara Roeske Fernandez is a shareholder with Trenam Law in Tampa, Fla. She currently serves on the firm's Executive Board and is a former practice group leader for the firm's Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights Practice Group. Ms. Fernandez is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification, and her clients include financial institutions, fiduciaries/trustees and private-equity groups in the areas of business reorganizations, trustee representation, bankruptcy litigation, commercial foreclosures and workouts, and loan modifications. Ms. Fernandez has served as a chapter 11 trustee and liquidation trustee. Prior to joining Trenam, she clerked for Hon. Alexander L. Paskay, Chief Bankruptcy Judge Emeritus of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida, from 2001-04 and for a year after graduating from law school. Ms. Fernandez is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell and listed in *Chambers USA*, *The Best Lawyers of America*, *Super Lawyers* and *Florida Super Lawyers*, where she has been consistently listed in the Top 100 Lawyers throughout Florida and Top 50 Women Lawyers throughout Florida and the Tampa Bay area. She received both her B.A. and J.D. from Emory University.

David W. Fineman is an attorney with F&L Law Group, P.A. in Fort Myers Fla. He is licensed to practice in all state and federal courts in the state of Florida and the federal Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals, where he successfully argued several landmark cases for consumers and debtors in Florida. Board Certified in Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification, Mr. Fineman began practicing law in Punta Gorda, Fla., in 2007. He has worked in various areas of the law, including criminal law, personal injury, land use, construction law, real estate law, landlord/tenant law, judgment enforcement, estate-planning and association law. Mr. Fineman focused his practice on consumer protection, handling thousands of cases between foreclosure and debt defense cases, personal bankruptcy cases, and abusive debt collection and improper credit-reporting. He has since added estate-planning, probate and business organization assistance to his practice areas. Prior to practicing law, Mr. Fineman served as a deputy for the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office and a police officer for the Punta Gorda Police Department. He received his J.D. from Barry University School of Law.

Ross Fishman is CEO of Fishman Marketing, Inc. in Chicago, and helps law firms dominate their chosen markets and generate significant revenue. He is often hired to overhaul a firm's message, brand or website, and he is best known for strategic marketing plans, differentiation and positioning, and the development of the profession's most cutting-edge marketing materials. Previously, Mr. Fishman was a commercial litigator from 1985-90 before moving to Winston & Strawn to practice marketing full-time, later becoming marketing partner of Ungaretti & Harris. He has launched campaigns for nearly 100 firms, from Istanbul to Iceland. The firm's campaigns have received dozens of international marketing awards, including the LMA's grand prize, the Best of Show award, five of the 10 times ever presented. It also received one of *Inc.* magazine's 10 Marketing Masters awards for its marketing campaigns. Recipient of a peer-selected LMA 1998 Lifetime Achievement Award, Mr. Fishman was the first legal marketer inducted into the LMA's Hall of Fame. He has conducted more than 250 firm retreats and training programs on five continents, from Tobago to Thailand — including once presenting on three continents within 24 hours. A Fellow of the College of Law Practice Management, Mr. Fishman has written more than 250 bylined articles, including five monthly columns, and has sat on the editorial boards of five national magazines. An active LMA member since 1990, Mr. Fishman has been the vice president, a member of both the Strategic Planning and Best Practice Task Forces, and chairman and moderator of seven consecutive QuickStart conferences. He later created and hosted "Just JDs," LMA's first full-day program exclusively for lawyers. Mr. Fishman was hired as the marketing expert witness in two precedent-setting branding- and social media-related lawsuits. A 1986 member of the federal Trial Bar (N.D. Ill.), he received his B.A. *cum laude* in speech communications from the University of Illinois and his J.D. from Emory Law School.

Robert C. Furr is a partner with Furr & Cohen, P.A. in Boca Raton, Fla., and leads the firm's bankruptcy practice. He has more than 35 years of experience representing individuals and businesses in complex chapter 7 and 11 proceedings. Mr. Furr is Board Certified in both Consumer and Business Bankruptcy by the American Board of Certification. He serves as a panel trustee for the U.S. Trustee Program for the Southern District of Florida, and he regularly acts as a trustee in chapter 7, 11 and 12 cases throughout the region. He also has served in many multimillion-dollar bankruptcies. Mr. Furr is trained in bankruptcy mediation to serve in mediating adversary proceedings, contested matters and plans expertise with complex cases. His cases encompass both state court civil litigation and complex commercial litigation in addition to bankruptcy. Mr. Furr has handled numerous complex cases in a broad range of business and industries, including retail, manufacturing, medical and other professional

practices, restaurant chains, IP companies, real estate and nonprofit. He is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, and he is a past president of the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees. Mr. Furr has testified twice before Congress on bankruptcy matters and the legislative process. He is a past-editor and chief of *Nabtalk*, the journal of the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees, and serves as president of the Bankruptcy Trustee Association of Southern Florida. A frequent lecturer, Mr. Furr has spoken to various professional groups and authored numerous articles on insolvency and bankruptcy. He received his J.D. from Emory University in 1975.

Hon. Tiffany Payne Geyer is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida in Orlando, appointed by the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals on March 25, 2022. Previously, she was a partner with BakerHostetler in Orlando and practiced primarily in the areas of bankruptcy and creditors' rights. Judge Geyer represented both corporate and individual debtors in chapter 11 cases and individuals in chapter 7 cases, and her clients included health care businesses and medical professionals, investment bankers and financial advisors. She also represented clients in the hospitality sectors, assisted in representing debtors in the energy sectors, and negotiated multiple settlements of guarantor liability and assignments for the benefit of creditors. In addition, she represented secured creditors, unsecured creditors, landlords and panel trustees. Judge Geyer has been listed in *Chambers USA* for Bankruptcy/Restructuring in Florida and in *The Best Lawyers in America* in 2020 for Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law. She began her legal career in Orlando clerking for Bankruptcy Judge Karen S. Jennemann, whose vacancy she filled upon her retirement, and she volunteered at a Florida nonprofit organization devoted to housing and educating young adults struggling with homelessness. Judge Geyer received her B.A. with honors in political science and public administration in 1998 from the University of Central Florida, and her J.D. in 2000 from the University of Florida Levin College of Law, where she received the Book Award for Legal Drafting and was a member of a trial competition team.

Jordi Gusó is a managing partner with Berger Singerman, LLP in Miami in its Business Reorganization practice, where he concentrates his practice in commercial bankruptcy, workouts, financial restructuring, distressed M&A and commercial litigation. He frequently represents financially distressed businesses in court-supervised and out-of-court restructurings in a variety of industries, including aviation, construction, hospitality, retail, casual dining and real estate. He also advises official committees, secured creditors and asset-purchasers in the areas of bankruptcy, insolvency and § 363 asset sales. Mr. Gusó has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* (2006-25), *Chambers & Partners USA: America's Leading Business Lawyers* (2004-24), *Florida Trend* magazine's "Legal Elite" (2004-21) and "Legal Elite Hall of Fame" (2015-21), as one of the top 1.6 percent of attorneys in Florida, *The South Florida Legal Guide's* "Top Lawyer" (2005-19), *Florida's Super Lawyers* (2006-24) and *Who's Who Legal* (2008-20), and he is rated AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell. He is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and an ABI member, and he has served on the board of the Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida and on the advisory board of ABI's Alexander L. Paskay Memorial Bankruptcy Seminar. Mr. Gusó is admitted to practice in Florida, the Eleventh Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, and the U.S. District and Bankruptcy Courts for the Southern, Middle and Northern Districts of Florida. He clerked for Hon. Sidney M. Weaver, former Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida, from 1990-92. Mr. Gusó received his B.S. in political science from Spring Hill College and his J.D. from the University of Miami School of Law.

Teresa Hair is an associate in the Tampa, Fla., office of Brock and Scott, PLLC. She is licensed to practice in Florida and is admitted to practice in the U.S. District Courts for the Northern, Middle and Southern Districts of Florida. Ms. Hair has focused her practice on bankruptcy and creditors' rights since 2009. She co-authored The Florida Bar's *Mortgage Foreclosure and Alternatives, 8th Edition* (2014). Ms. Hair received her Bachelor's degree in political science and criminology from the University of Florida in 2004 and her J.D. from Capital University School of Law in 2007.

Jeffrey C. Hakanson is an attorney with McIntyre Thanasides Bringgold Elliott Grimaldi & Guito, P.A. in Tampa, Fla., where he focuses his practice on defending and protecting clients who are entering or trying to avoid foreclosure. He began his practice of law in a local Tampa real estate firm, where he developed expertise in representing secured lenders in mortgage foreclosure actions, lender-liability actions and bankruptcy cases. Mr. Hakanson then joined the law firm of Gibbons, Smith, Cohn & Arnett, during which time he focused his practice primarily on real estate litigation and the representation of creditors in bankruptcy court. Mr. Hakanson is an ABI member and is admitted to practice in the U.S. District Courts for the Middle, Northern and Southern Districts of Florida. He received his Bachelor's degree in history in 1991 from Washington and Lee University, and his J.D. in 1995 from South Texas College of Law.

William K. Harrington is the U.S. Trustee for Regions 1 and 2 in New York, appointed to Region 1 on Nov. 8, 2010, and Region 2 on Nov. 26, 2013. Prior to his appointment, he was the Assistant U.S. Trustee for the District of Delaware and practiced bankruptcy and reorganization law at Duane Morris LLP. Prior to joining the Office of the U.S. Trustee, he practiced bankruptcy and reorganization law at Duane Morris LLP. Mr. Harrington is a member of the Boston, Delaware State and American Bar Associations, ABI and the Delaware Bankruptcy American Inn of Court. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania and his J.D. from Villanova University School of Law.

Monique D. Hayes is a partner with DGIM Law LLC in Miami, where she centers her practice of wealth preservation and protection, including corporate restructuring, business succession and estate planning. Her experience in bankruptcy includes claim prosecution, asset sales and acquisitions, financial transactions, fraud litigation, restructuring, due diligence and transactional matters. She previously was with Goldstein & McClintock LLLP, where she practiced in the areas of business transactions, commercial litigation and corporate restructuring. Ms. Hayes has experience advising fiduciaries, corporate and nonprofit board members, entrepreneurs and small businesses. She has successfully represented clients in a broad range of matters, including asset sales and acquisitions, finance transactions, bankruptcy plan confirmations, avoidance actions, D&O claim litigation, Ponzi scheme and other fraud litigation. She also has experience representing franchisors in franchisee bankruptcy proceedings. In the innovation and technology sector, Ms. Hayes has represented start-ups, entrepreneurs and founders in corporate formations and restructuring, due diligence and related transactional matters. Ms. Hayes is a member of ABI's inaugural class of "40 Under 40" in 2017 and has been featured in the 40 Under 40 Outstanding Lawyers of Miami-Dade County, received the IWIRC Rising Star Award, and been recognized by *Brickell Magazine* as one of the Top 20 Professionals Under 40. She has also been lauded as a "Florida Rising Star" by *Super Lawyers* magazine and a "Top Up and Comer" by *Florida Trend* magazine. She received the prestigious Kathryn Heidt Award from the Business Law Section of the American Bar Association. Prior to entering private

practice, Ms. Hayes clerked for U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Laurel Myerson Isicoff and was a housing attorney for Legal Services of Greater Miami, Inc. A member of the Florida Bar, she is admitted to practice before the U.S. District Courts for the Southern and Middle Districts of Florida. Ms. Hayes is a former chair of the International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation's Florida Network and a past president of the Wilkie D. Ferguson, Jr. Bar Association (a National Bar Association affiliate). She received her undergraduate degree in political science with honors from the University of South Florida and her J.D. *cum laude* from the University of Miami School of Law, where she was a member of the Bar and Gavel Honor Society, named to the Dean's List, awarded the Dean's Honor Scholarship, and received the C.A.L.I. Excellence for the Future Award in Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Skills.

Hal A. Levenberg, CIRA, CFE is a partner at Yip Associates in Miami and has more than 16 years of experience in forensic accounting within the context of bankruptcy, fraud investigations and litigation support. He has provided forensic investigation services to debtors, creditors, receivers, assignees, bankruptcy trustees, examiners and liquidating trusts. Mr. Levenberg has experience in the financial investigation of Ponzi schemes, tracing of funds, embezzlement, securities and mortgage fraud and insolvency. He also has experience calculating economic damages in breach-of-contract cases and other disputes. Mr. Levenberg has provided services to and worked in conjunction with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, U.S. Department of Justice, Internal Revenue Service and the Federal Public Defender. In addition, he regularly guest lectures at the University of Miami and Florida International University on forensic accounting, Ponzi schemes and bankruptcy fraud. Prior to joining Yip Associates, Mr. Levenberg worked at FTI Consulting in New York for its forensic and litigation consulting group, where he worked on numerous forensic investigations in connection with cases involving the diversion of funds and fraudulent accounting activity. During his tenure at FTI Consulting, he also worked on a team of professionals in connection with the court appointed Trustee under SIPA in the liquidation of Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities. Mr. Levenberg received his B.A. in criminal justice from the University of Florida and his M.B.A. in professional accounting from Rutgers University.

Hon. Corali Lopez-Castro is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of Florida in Miami, sworn in in 2023. Previously, she had been a partner and managing partner at Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton, LLP in Miami since 1998, where she concentrated her practice on bankruptcy and commercial litigation matters, focusing on bankruptcy reorganizations and liquidations, receiverships, debt restructuring and creditors' rights. She has been involved with the liquidation of four bank holding companies in bankruptcy courts around the country and in state court. Judge Lopez-Castro served on the panel of trustees for the Southern District of Florida between 1998 and 2002, during which she time was responsible for the liquidation of assets in bankruptcy cases filed in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida. She also had been appointed a receiver in several cases, including as equity receiver in a \$100 million Ponzi scheme case. In 2014, Judge Lopez-Castro was inducted as a Fellow into the 25th Class of the American College of Bankruptcy. In 2006, she was elected the second woman president of the Cuban American Bar Association, the largest voluntary bar association in Florida, and in 2018, she was inducted into the International Academy of Trial Lawyers (IATL). She has devoted most of her career promoting diversity in the legal profession. Judge Lopez-Castro received her B.A. from Brown University and her J.D. *cum laude* from the University of Miami School of Law.

Amy Denton Mayer, CPA is a shareholder with Stichter, Riedel, Blain & Postler, P.A. in Tampa, Fla., and has more than 21 years of restructuring experience. She specializes in the representation of debtors, assignors, committees, creditors, trustees, assignees, purchasers and other parties in bankruptcy cases, assignments for the benefit of creditors and out-of-court workouts. She has been particularly active in the representation of real estate developers and home builders, medical practices and physicians, agribusinesses, independent and franchised restaurant chains and other food service companies, and business entrepreneurs. Ms. Mayer joined the firm in March 2003 and became a shareholder in 2010. She also serves as a subchapter V trustee. Ms. Mayer is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification and is a Fellow with the Litigation Counsel of America. She is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell, is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* in the area of Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law for 2020 and 2021, is listed in *Chambers & Partners* for Bankruptcy/Restructuring from 2015-21, and is listed in *Florida Super Lawyers* from 2018-22. She also is one of only two Florida honorees of ABI's 2019 "40 Under 40" class. Ms. Mayer received her J.D. with honors in 2002 from the University of Florida and interned for Hon. Paul M. Glenn and Hon. Michael G. Williamson in the Middle District of Florida.

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

Grace Anne Monnig is an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Florida in Tampa. She focuses on defensive civil matters, including representing agencies of the federal government as creditors in bankruptcy matters and representing federal employees who have been sued in their official capacity. Prior to joining the Department of Justice, Ms. Monnig represented the U.S. Department of Agriculture in several roles, culminating in service as associate

regional counsel over Texas and Oklahoma. She also served the State of Texas as an Assistant Attorney General and worked in private practice as a civil litigator. Ms. Monnig received her B.A. from the University of Texas at Arlington and her J.D. in 2013 from Baylor University.

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

Douglas W. Neway has served as the Chapter 13 Standing Trustee for the Jacksonville Division and Chapter 12 Trustee for Jacksonville and Orlando Divisions in Florida since October 2007. Previously, he was the managing partner of Bond, Botes & Neway, P.C. in Orlando from 1997-2007, where he represented debtors in consumer bankruptcy cases. Mr. Neway has served as chairman of the Orange County Bankruptcy Bar Association, the Central Florida Bankruptcy Law Association, the Jacksonville Bankruptcy Bar Association and the Orlando Division's Bankruptcy Judicial Liaison Committee, and he was an original member of the Middle District of Florida's Districtwide Bankruptcy Steering Committee. He was also the Florida State Chairman of the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys, is a member of the Florida Bar's Bankruptcy/UCC Committee and the Statewide Bankruptcy Judicial Liaison Committee, and serves on the board of directors for the Jacksonville Bankruptcy Bar Association. Mr. Neway is a frequent lecturer on consumer bankruptcy topics at seminars, colleges and law schools. He successfully argued *In re Tanner* before the Eleventh Circuit, which allowed strip-off of mortgages in chapter 13 cases, and drafted an amendment to F.S. 222.25, increasing Florida's personal property exemption law that was enacted in July 2007. Mr. Neway received his B.F.A. in acting from Marymount Manhattan College and his J.D. from Nova University School of Law.

Nicole Mariani Noel is a shareholder at Kass Shuler, P.A. in Tampa, Fla., where she has been practicing in the fields of bankruptcy, creditors' rights and insolvency, real estate, consumer and business litigation since 2009. She heads the Bankruptcy practice group for the firm and handles cases throughout the state of Florida in all districts, as well as District of Colorado, Eastern and Southern District of Texas, all three Districts in Tennessee, and the Northern and Southern Districts of Illinois. Ms. Noel is the president of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association (TBBBA) for the 2024-25 bar year. She formerly chaired the Bankruptcy Practice Group for the American Legal and Financial Network (ALFN) and the Case Law Update Subcommittee for the Real Property Finance and Lending Committee of the Real Property Probate and Trust Law Section of the Florida Bar. She also recently authored a chapter on bankruptcy in *Florida Foreclosure Law*, published by Fastcase. Ms. Noel is active in the community and is an adjunct professor at Stetson University College of Law, St. Petersburg College and Hillsborough Community College, teaching bankruptcy, real property finance, business law and civil litigation. She participated in the 2016 NextGeneration program, held during the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges (NCBJ), and she was honored to become a Fellow for the Florida Bar Leadership Academy. In addition, she has been named one of ALFN's Junior Professionals and Executives Group (JPEG)'s standout young professionals to watch in 2016 and most recently received the 2023 Industry Achievement Award for the ALFN. Ms. Noel received her undergraduate degree from Florida State University and her M.B.A. and J.D. from Stetson University School of Business Administration and Stetson University College of Law, respectively.

Ryan C. Reinert is a partner in Shutts & Bowen, LLP's Tampa, Fla., office, where he is a member of its Creditors' Rights/Bankruptcy Practice Group. He is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification, representing lenders, trustees and creditor committees in chapter 11 bankruptcy cases. Mr. Reinert has represented commercial and individual lenders in federal and state courts, including traditional, pooled, joint venture and CMBS loans. He also has represented asset-purchasers, landlords, trade creditors and contractors in business bankruptcy and liquidation cases. Mr. Reinert currently serves as a member of the board of directors of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association. His past experience includes the representation of the largest secured creditor in many reorganization cases, landlords in mega retail bankruptcy cases negotiating the assumption, assignment and rejection of leases, and creditors in Ponzi scheme cases.

Edwin G. Rice is counsel with Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP in Tampa, Fla., where his practice focuses primarily in the areas of banking and insolvency. He has represented lenders, lessors, trustees, committees and debtors in chapter 11 cases, and he has legal experience in mortgage foreclosures, workouts, lending transactions, lending-related litigation and assignments for the benefit of creditors. Mr. Rice's bankruptcy experience includes the defense and prosecution of preference actions, fraudulent-transfer actions and other avoidance actions, claims litigation, dischargeability actions, relief-from-stay litigation, valuation litigation, contested confirmations, director and officer claim litigation, lease assumptions and rejections, bankruptcy sales and debtor-in-possession financing. Rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell, he is a past president and chairman of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association and is recognized by *Chambers USA*, *The Best Lawyers of America* and *Super Lawyers*. Mr. Rice received his B.S.B.A. in 1987 from the University of Florida and his J.D. in 1990 from the University of Florida Levin College of Law, where he was a member of the Order of the Coif.

Luis E. Rivera, II is the deputy chair of the Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights practice group at GrayRobinson, P.A. in Fort Myers, Fla. He is experienced in counseling clients in business litigation, bankruptcy, creditors' rights and insolvency. A 2017 ABI "40 Under 40" honoree, Mr. Rivera serves as a trustee of Florida Gulf Coast University and a director of numerous community organizations, including the Middle District of Florida *Pro Se* Legal Assistance Clinic, Inc. and the Bankruptcy Law Education Series Foundation, Inc. Since 2010, he has served as a panel trustee for the Middle District of Florida. Mr. Rivera received his B.A. *magna cum laude* from Loyola University New Orleans, where he was an Ignatian Scholar, and his J.D. from Washington and Lee University School of Law, where he was editor-in-chief of the *Washington and Lee Journal of Civil Rights and Social Justice*.

Igor Roitburg is a senior managing director with Stretto in New York and has more than 25 years of combined legal, bankruptcy industry and technology proficiency. Prior to joining Stretto, he served as COO at Default Mitigation Management LLC (DMM), acquired by Stretto, where he co-created the DMM Portal, the industry's leading technology platform specifically designed to facilitate mortgage and student loan debt resolution. Mr. Roitburg is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day development and integration of the DMM Portal. He directs a team of subject-matter experts who are focused on expanding the adoption of both the mortgage and student loan modification programs with the goal of making debt-resolution a more simplified process for an increased number of nationwide borrowers. Mr. Roitburg has a thorough understanding of the consumer bankruptcy process and the administrative hurdles both lawyers and their clients must navigate to ensure a successful resolution. He received his J.D. from Cornell Law School.

David A. Samole is a partner at Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton in Miami, where he focuses his practice on corporate bankruptcy and insolvency-related litigation matters. He represents parties in corporate reorganizations, liquidations, workouts and financially distressed transactions, and also serves as a fiduciary assignee in state court liquidation proceedings. In addition, he has represented health care providers in disputes with managed-care companies and government payers. Mr. Samole's insolvency-related litigation experience includes representing corporate debtors, creditors, committees, trustees and related parties in contested chapter 11 proceedings, including principals, guarantors and § 363 asset-purchasers in the health care, real estate, hospitality, retail, aviation, banking, maritime and construction industries, as well as in cross-border insolvencies. He also handles many of the firm's more complex trustee matters, including in the bank holding and Ponzi scheme litigation contexts, in addition to the firm's clients facing potential exposure for avoidable transfers under the Bankruptcy Code or under applicable state law. Mr. Samole frequently represents commercial landlords and other corporate entities and counterparties in bankruptcy proceedings and insolvency-related litigation throughout the country. His practice also includes bankruptcy appeals, assignments for the benefit of creditors, receiverships, and serving as a fiduciary or fiduciary counsel in federal bankruptcy and state court liquidation proceedings. Mr. Samole's health care litigation matters focused on reimbursement litigation on behalf of providers, including a portfolio of managed-care litigation matters for one of the largest hospital/health systems in the Southeast U.S. Mr. Samole is a past president of the Bankruptcy Bar Association of the Southern District of Florida, and he also served as the president of the University of Chicago Alumni Club of South Florida. He received his B.A. from the University of Chicago and his J.D. from Washington University in St. Louis.

Jonathan A. Semach is an attorney with the Law Offices of Buddy D. Ford, P.A. in Tampa, Fla., where he focuses on debtor representation. He has represented more than 100 chapter 11 debtors as either first or second chair. His clients have ranged from small mom-and-pop businesses to large multistate corporations with annual gross revenues in excess of \$20 million. Mr. Semach was admitted to the Florida Bar in 2008 and was selected as a *Super Lawyers* Rising Star in 2017 and 2018. Mr. Semach specializes in business and consumer bankruptcy, debtor/creditor rights, debt negotiation and commercial litigation. He is a member of ABI, the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar, the Hillsborough County Bar Association and the Florida Bar. Mr. Semach received his B.A. in 2005 *cum laude* in classical studies from the University of Florida, Gainesville and his J.D. *cum laude* in 2008 from the University of Florida Levin College of Law.

Prof. Justin T. Sevier is the Charles W. Ehrhardt Professor of Litigation at Florida State University College of Law in Tallahassee, Fla., where he teaches courses on evidence, torts, closely held businesses, behavioral law and economics, and the American jury. His scholarship focuses on legal institutional design, where he identifies and examines the conditions under which the public willingly legitimizes legal rules, actors and tribunals. He explores his research questions primarily through psychology experiments in the law of evidence (studying both jury behavior and nonlawyers' perceptions of trial outcomes), while also examining the role that popular legitimacy plays in shaping the law governing business torts and consumer behavior. Before joining the Florida State law faculty in 2015, Prof. Sevier was an associate research scholar at Yale Law School and a visiting assistant professor at the University of Illinois College of Law. His scholarship has been published both in law journals — including the *Georgetown Law Journal*, the *Vanderbilt Law Review* and the *Minnesota Law Review*, among others — and in peer-reviewed publications, including *Psychology*, *Public Policy and Law*. Prof. Sevier serves frequently as an ad hoc referee for peer-reviewed journals at the intersection of social science and the legal system. He is currently a member of the editorial board of *Law and Human Behavior* and *Law and Social Inquiry*. Prof. Sevier previously practiced litigation at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz in New York City, where he specialized in shareholder derivative actions and corporate governance matters. He also practiced litigation at Sullivan & Cromwell LLP, where he focused on complex commercial torts. Prof. Sevier is a member of the New York State Bar and clerked for Hon. Carlos T. Bea of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. He has three times received (and was the inaugural recipient of) the Law School's Open Door Faculty Teaching Award, which is awarded to one professor at the College of Law annually. He is also the recipient of a University Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award, awarded to eight professors across the university, and the prestigious University Distinguished Teaching Award, which is awarded to one professor at Florida State University each year. Prof. Sevier received his M.S. and M.Phil. from Yale University, and his J.D. *magna cum laude* from Harvard Law School.

Bradley S. Shraiberg is a founding partner of Shraiberg Page P.A. in Boca Raton, Fla., where he focuses on advising companies experiencing financial difficulties, purchasers of and investors in distressed companies, and lenders to and creditors of such companies. He also regularly advises officers and directors of companies involved in debt restructuring on matters relating to corporate governance and fiduciary duty. During his career, Mr. Shraiberg has represented retail, manufacturing, construction, aerospace and other companies requiring financial and operational restructuring. He has experience with complex reorganizations, and some of the companies that he has recently confirmed plans of reorganization for, or negotiated a structured, consensual dismissal, include Enclave at Hillsboro, LLC, Atlantic Coast Refining, Inc., Jade Winds Association, Inc., Tuscany Energy, LLC, Auburn

Trace, Ltd. and Mile Marker, Inc. Mr. Shraiberg also represents national retailers, landlords and developers in their capacity as creditors within various insolvency proceedings, as well as their litigation associated with complex commercial matters, such as Office Depot, MillerCoors, B/E Aerospace, KLX, Inc., Fiserv Securities, Anasca Homes, BBX Capital, Duffy's Sports Group and Sterling Development Corp. Due to the current economic conditions, a large portion of Mr. Shraiberg's clients are development companies and/or their principals. He has experience restructuring developers' financing and finding alternative financing and/or angel investors. He also has negotiated with all of the major financial institutions, and has amassed a network of investors that are interested in investing in or purchasing distressed assets. Mr. Shraiberg is a member of the Florida Bar and is licensed to practice in the U.S. District Courts for the Southern and Middle Districts of Florida. He is an active member of the Palm Beach County Bar Association, ABI and the Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida, for which he is a past director and the past chairman of the local rules committee. Mr. Shraiberg has been recognized as a top bankruptcy and restructuring lawyer by *Chambers & Partners USA* since 2011, and as a top bankruptcy lawyer by *Super Lawyers* since 2012 and *Florida Trend's* Legal Elite since 2011. He received his B.A. in 1994 from the University of Miami and his J.D. *cum laude* in 1997 from the University of Miami School of Law.

Eric J. Silver is a shareholder in the Business Restructuring department of Stearns, Weaver, Miller, Weissler, Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A. in Miami and is a member of the firm's board of directors. He handles complex commercial restructuring and related litigation matters in both federal and state courts, and he regularly represents court-appointed fiduciaries, secured and unsecured creditors, and purchasers of distressed assets. Prior to joining the firm in 2010, Mr. Silver clerked for Hon. Robert A. Mark in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida. He is a member of ABI and was president of the Bankruptcy Bar Association of the Southern District of Florida for 2020-21. In addition, he was the Miami chair of its *Pro Bono* Committee from 2016-19 and *Pro Bono* Committee Liaison of the FLSB Bankruptcy Lawyers Advisory Committee from 2018-19, and is a member of The Florida Bar's Business Law Section. Mr. Silver was honored as one of ABI's 2021 "40 Under 40." He received his J.D. *magna cum laude* from the University of Miami School of Law jointly with his M.B.A. from the School of Business Administration.

Scott A. Underwood is an attorney with Underwood Murray PA in Tampa, Fla., and has experience in some of the most complex bankruptcy cases and distressed business situations across the state and country. He has represented distressed businesses, chapter 11 debtors, secured and unsecured creditors, bankruptcy trustees, creditors' committees, landlords, liquidating trustees and parties acquiring and selling assets from bankruptcy cases. Mr. Underwood's debtor-side representative experience crosses many industries. He has represented chapter 11 debtors in the health care industry, hospital-ity, real estate, utilities, waste-management, technology and manufacturing. In addition to representing debtors, he has represented large secured creditors, asset-purchasers, bondholders, debtor-in-possession lenders, trustees, business owners, creditors' committees and professional fiduciaries. His representative and transactional bankruptcy experience measures in the billions of dollars. Beyond core chapter 11 matters, Mr. Underwood represents clients in various high-stakes insolvency related litigation matters. He has been involved in substantial director and officer litigation, bond disputes, technology products liability litigation and other commercial disputes. He also has experience with assignments for the benefit of creditors, having represented assignees, assignors, asset-purchasers and creditors in such proceedings throughout Florida. Mr. Underwood is a member of ABI (for which he served as past chair of its Real Estate Committee) and the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association,

Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida and Business Law Section of the Florida Bar, where he is an active member of its Bankruptcy/UCC Committee and its study groups. A frequent speaker on bankruptcy topics, he has been listed in *Chambers USA* since 2012, in *Florida Super Lawyers* since 2009, as one of the Top 50 Lawyers in Tampa in 2019, and as one of *Florida Trend Magazine's* Legal Elite since 2013. He was also selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America* (2018, 2019 and 2020 editions) in Bankruptcy & Creditor Debtor Rights and Insolvency & Reorganization Law, and is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell. Mr. Underwood received his B.A. in 1998 from the University of Florida and his J.D. *magna cum laude* from the University of Florida Levin College of Law in 2003.

Hon. Lori V. Vaughan is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida in Orlando, sworn in on Feb. 25, 2020. She started her career as a law clerk to Hon. Karen S. Jennemann. Judge Vaughan then practiced bankruptcy law for 21 years at two law firms, representing debtors, creditors and trustees in jurisdictions across the country. Most recently, she was a shareholder at Trenam Law in Tampa, Fla., and before that, she practiced at Foley & Lardner, the last year of which she spent practicing out of its New York office. Judge Vaughan previously served as president of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association, chair of the Bankruptcy/UCC Committee of the Florida Bar's Business Law Section, and board member for the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation. She has also sat on the boards of the USF Financing Corp. and USF Property Corp. Before taking the bench, Judge Vaughan was recognized by *Florida Super Lawyers* as being among the top 100 Lawyers in Florida, the top 50 Lawyers in Tampa Bay and the top 50 Women Lawyers in Florida. She also has been recognized by *Chambers USA* and *The Best Lawyers in America*. Judge Vaughan received her B.A. with high honors from Eckerd College in 1995 and her J.D. with honors from the University of Florida, College of Law in 1998.

Mark J. Wolfson is a partner with Foley & Lardner LLP's Bankruptcy & Business Reorganizations Practice Group in Tampa, Fla., and has been a practicing commercial litigation and bankruptcy lawyer for more than 40 years. He has advised business clients in a wide variety of complex business bankruptcy reorganization cases and commercial litigation matters. Mr. Wolfson's bankruptcy experience includes representing debtors, secured creditors, official creditors' committees, bondholders, asset-buyers, trade and franchisors, and other groups. He has experience litigating fraudulent-transfer and preference actions, as well as in state assignment for the benefit of creditor proceedings, commercial foreclosure cases, and complex post-judgment collection matters. In addition, he has managed out-of-court workouts and litigated disputes under Article 9 of the UCC. In 2020, Mr. Wolfson was the co-lead attorney that represented Stein Mart, Inc., a big-box retailer with 280 stores throughout 30 states, in its chapter 11 case filed in Jacksonville, Fla. In 2020, he was co-counsel to the official committee in FoodFirst Global Restaurants' (d/b/a Brio's) chapter 11 case in Orlando, Fla. More recently, he was committee counsel in the Bertucci's Restaurants chapter 11 case in Orlando and in the Surge Transportation case in Jacksonville, both of which were confirmed and distributed money to unsecured creditors. Mr. Wolfson is a former chair of The Florida Bar's Business Law Section. In addition, he was the primary draftsman of the Florida non-uniform default and remedies provisions. Mr. Wolfson was a member of the advisory board for ABI's Caribbean Insolvency Symposium for more than eight years and has been a member of the advisory board for ABI's Alexander L Paskay Bankruptcy Conference for more than five years. He received his bachelor's degree with high honors from the University of Tennessee in 1979, where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Omicron

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Delta Kappa, and his J.D. from the University of Florida in 1982, after which he served a judicial clerkship to the Florida Second District Court of Appeals.