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Faculty Biographies

Heather LaSalle Alexis is a partner with McGlinchey Stafford PLLC's Commercial Litigation section in New Orleans, where she represents banks, financial institutions and other companies in a variety of bankruptcy litigation matters, consumer finance litigation matters, equipment finance litigation matters and commercial litigation matters, as well as out-of-court negotiations and workouts, loan modifications, forbearance and amendment issues. She also has experience dealing with escrow and bankruptcy accounting issues. Ms. Alexis represents student loan lenders in bankruptcy and collection matters and routinely advises clients on matters related to bankruptcy law, including providing both consumer and commercial lending clients with compliance advice in connection with their bankruptcy, foreclosure and repossession policies and procedures. Ms. Alexis is a member of ABI and serves on the advisory board of its Southwest Bankruptcy Conference. She is also a member of ABI's Bankruptcy Litigation and Consumer Bankruptcy Committees, co-chairs the Louisiana Chapter of the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation (IWIRC), and is a member of the Bankruptcy Section of the Louisiana State Bar Association. Ms. Alexis received her B.A. and P.P.A. from Louisiana State University and her J.D. *cum laude* from Loyola Law School, where she was editor-in-chief of the *Loyola Maritime Law Journal* and received several academic awards.

Thomas H. Allen is co-founder of Allen Barnes & Jones, PLC in Phoenix, where he focuses on business and consumer debtor bankruptcy, trustee rights, corporate reorganization, creditors' rights and commercial litigation. He is Board Certified in Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification and is a Certified Specialist in Bankruptcy Law by the Arizona Board of Legal Specialization. Mr. Allen is a *Super Lawyers* honoree and for seven years has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*. He is a member of the American Bar Association's Bankruptcy Section, ABI, the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees' President's Circle, the State Bar of Arizona's Bankruptcy Section, the Oregon State Bar and the Maricopa County Bar Association. A frequent presenter, he is admitted to practice in the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona and in Arizona and Oregon. Mr. Allen received his B.A. in 1983 from the University of Arizona and his J.D. in 1986 from Northwestern University School of Law, where he was a member of the *Lewis & Clark Law Review*.

Hon. Martin R. Barash is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Central District of California in Woodland Hills, sworn in on March 26, 2015. He brings more than 20 years of legal experience to the bench. Prior to his appointment, Judge Barash had served as a partner at Klee, Tuchin, Bogdanoff & Stern LLP in Los Angeles since 2001, where he counseled parties in chapter 11 cases and litigated chapter 7 and chapter 11 bankruptcy cases. He first joined the firm as an associate in 1999. Earlier in his career, Judge Barash worked as an associate of Stutman, Treister & Glatt P.C. in Los Angeles. He also has served as an adjunct professor of law at California State University, Northridge. Following law school, Judge Barash clerked for Hon. Procter R. Hug, Jr. of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit from 1992-93. He is a member of ABI's Board of Directors and a member of its Education Committee, and he is a member of the Board of Governors of the Financial Lawyers Conference and a judicial director of the Los Angeles Bankruptcy Forum. He is also a frequent panelist on bankruptcy law issues. Judge Barash received his A.B. *magna cum laude* in 1989 from Princeton University and his J.D. in 1992 from the UCLA School of Law, where he served as member, editor, business manager and symposium editor of the *UCLA Law Review*.

Hon. Julia W. Brand is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Central District of California in Los Angeles, appointed in October 2011. Before taking the bench, she practiced primarily with Katten Muchin

Rosenman, LLP, Brownstein, Hyatt, Farber & Schreck, LLP, and Danning Gill, Diamond & Kollitz, LLP, where she represented debtors, creditors and unsecured creditors' committees in chapter 11 cases. Judge Brand was a charter member of the Southern California Network of the International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation, and she served as Network co-chair from 2007 through 2010 and as Communications chair in 2011. She received her B.A. from the University of California in 1981 and her J.D. from the University of Southern California School of Law in 1985.

Andrew W. Caine chairs Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones's Post Confirmation Practice Group in Los Angeles, where he oversees the entire spectrum of claims and avoidance litigation for debtors, creditors' committees, trustees, liquidation or post-confirmation trusts, and defendants, from "mega cases" to smaller individual matters. He also helped develop proprietary avoidance and preference claim analysis software and spends considerable time as "general counsel," assisting in the administration of post-confirmation estate/corporate wind-downs, and representing individuals and business entities in avoidance and claims-litigation defense. Mr. Caine has lead responsibility in litigation concerning a variety of business, bankruptcy and commercial law issues, as well as the representation of debtors, trustees, creditors and committees in chapter 11 reorganization cases. He handles matters in state and federal courts, with an emphasis on disputes tried in bankruptcy court, including contested reorganization matters. Mr. Caine has written numerous articles and often lectures nationally on bankruptcy and litigation, and he is a Past President and former Chair and Vice President-Education of ABI. He is a member of the Registry of Mediators for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware, and a former member of the Los Angeles Superior Court panel of business law arbitrators. Mr. Caine holds an AV-Preeminent Peer Rating from Martindale-Hubbell and has been named a "Super Lawyer" in the field of Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights every year since 2007 in a peer survey conducted by *Law & Politics* and the publishers of *Los Angeles* magazine. He also was named in *The Best Lawyers in America* in 2017 in the practice area of Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law. Mr. Caine received his B.A. from Northwestern University and his J.D. from the University of California at Los Angeles, where he was elected Phi Beta Kappa and was a member of the Mortar Board.

Robert M. Charles, Jr. is a partner with Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie LLP in Tucson, Ariz. The firm's bankruptcy working group leader, he practices primarily bankruptcy law in both Arizona and Nevada. Mr. Charles is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy and a past chair of the State Bar of Arizona Committee on Rules of Professional Conduct, and served as a member of the Arizona Bar's Ethics Committee for many years. He lectures and writes extensively on bankruptcy law and legal ethics and is professor of practice (adjunct faculty) at the James E. Rogers University of Arizona College of Law teaching introduction to business reorganization in bankruptcy. Mr. Charles is a member of ABI, sits on the advisory board for ABI's Southwest Bankruptcy Conference, and was a member of ABI's National Ethics Task Force. He is also vice chair of the Professional Ethics subcommittee of the Business Bankruptcy Committee of the American Bar Association Section of Business Law. Mr. Charles previously clerked for Hon. Earl H. Carroll of the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona. He received his B.A. from the University of Arizona in 1979 and his J.D. with distinction from the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law in 1982.

Sara L. Chenetz is a partner with Perkins Coie LLP in Los Angeles, where she represents clients with varied interests in bankruptcy, restructuring, workout and litigation matters. She has served as first

chair in multiple trials, arbitrations and mediations, in addition to having served as a court-appointed chapter 11 trustee in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nevada and as a mediator in bankruptcy cases in New York and California. In this capacity, she helps clients formulate and implement complex restructuring, workout, litigation and settlement strategies in a variety of situations, including bankruptcies, out-of-court workouts, federal and state litigation and arbitration, receiverships, assignments for the benefit of creditors, distressed asset sales, capital and transaction structures, and conducting business with financially troubled companies. Ms. Chenetz has worked with businesses in an array of industries, including aerospace, biotech, defense, ecommerce, entertainment and media, finance, investment management, health care, hotels and leisure, lending, manufacturing, mining, professional services, real estate, retail, sports, technology, transportation, unmanned vehicles systems and wineries. Through the course of her career, she has represented all parties involved in bankruptcy, restructuring, workout and litigation matters. She regularly counsels first- and second-lien holders, asset, business and debt acquirers, official and unofficial committees, debtors in possession, bond and equity holders, directors and officers, and trustees and examiners. Her clients include vendors, employee benefit plans, landlords, tenants, retained professionals, plaintiffs and defendants. Ms. Chenetz is a Fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America and has been recognized in *Chambers USA*. She is also a frequent speaker and author on bankruptcy, restructuring, workout and litigation issues. Ms. Chenetz received her B.A. *magna cum laude* from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst in 1980 and her J.D. in 1983 from American University Washington College of Law.

Janet L. Chubb is Of Counsel in Kaempfer Crowell's Reno, Nev., office, where she advises creditors, committees and trustees on bankruptcy-related matters. She also has offices in Las Vegas and Carson City. Ms. Chubb has practiced in the bankruptcy field for over 40 years and is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy. She has been a director of the American Board of Certification, president of the Northern Nevada Bankruptcy Bar, chair of the Nevada State Bar Bankruptcy Section and president of Northern Nevada Women Lawyers. Ms. Chubb is certified in Consumer and Business law. She is admitted to the California Supreme Court, the federal district courts of Nevada and California, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court. Ms. Chubb received her B.A. from La Sierra College and her J.D. from Loyola University of Los Angeles.

Dawn M. Cica is a partner with Mushkin Cica Coppedge in Las Vegas has more than 30 years of experience working on transactions of all types, including transactional aspects of bankruptcy and creditors' rights such as strategic resolutions, workouts, restructurings, settlements, debtor-in-possession financings and asset sales. Her transactional experience also extends to a variety of other industries, particularly the complex details surrounding the gaming and real estate fields. Notably, on behalf of the Nevada Department of Environmental Protection, Ms. Cica was part of a team that handled the negotiation of a settlement among various state and federal government agencies allowing for the confirmation of a reorganization plan in the Tronox bankruptcy that ultimately resulted in a recently approved litigation settlement of more than \$5 billion, with almost a quarter being distributed to the State of Nevada for environmental remediation. In addition to her transactional experience, she has represented creditors, committees, affiliated parties and debtors. She has also participated in bankruptcies in other states where she is licensed, as well as in Delaware. From the negotiation and execution of initial lending agreements, through modifications and forbearances, foreclosures, guarantor lawsuits and bankruptcy matters, Ms. Cica has counseled lender, guarantor and borrower clients on the full scope of their legal issues in major commercial and real estate matters and in commercial bankruptcy cases and workouts. She has also advised banks in connection with large corporate, mid-

dle-market and retail lending disputes, and she has extensive experience representing secured lenders in creditors' rights matters. Ms. Cica received her B.S. in finance and B.A. from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1984 and her J.D. from the University of California, Los Angeles School of Law in 1987, where she was a member of the *UCLA Law Review* and participated in a moot court.

Hon. Scott C. Clarkson is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Central District of California in Santa Ana and Riverside, appointed on Jan. 20, 2011, and has also sat on the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel. Prior to his appointment, Judge Clarkson practiced bankruptcy law and bankruptcy litigation for more than 20 years in Los Angeles, and he served as chair of the Los Angeles County Bar Association's Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section from 2008-09. He is a board member of the Orange County Federal Bar Association, and has lectured on ethics and civility for the annual Los Angeles Federal Bar Association Ethics Program. He was a member of the Virginia, District of Columbia and California bars. From 1977-82, Judge Clarkson was a legislative assistant to U.S. Congressman Harold L. Volkmer in Washington, D.C., and was assigned to the U.S. House of Representatives Judiciary Committee, where he was a direct observer of and participant in the creation of the 1978 Bankruptcy Code in the House. He later clerked for Hon. William L. Hungate, U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri. Judge Clarkson has also been an established documentary photographer in the U.S., Southeast and Central Asia, and South America for more than 20 years. He also traveled to Afghanistan, Pakistan and Kashmir in 2008-09, and Jordan and Israel in 2014, covering recent events in these regions of the world. Judge Clarkson received his undergraduate degree from Indiana University in Bloomington in 1979 and his J.D. from George Mason University School of Law in 1982.

Patrick A. Clisham is a managing shareholder at Engelman Berger, PC in Phoenix, where he focuses his practice on the representation of parties in all aspects of commercial bankruptcies, receiverships and workouts. He joined Engelman Berger in 2009 after relocating from Chicago, where he was an extern to the U.S. Trustee program during law school and practiced law at a nationally recognized bankruptcy boutique firm for more than five years. Prior to practicing law, Mr. Clisham was a member of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange (1996-2001) and served as assistant vice president of Law & Government Affairs for AT&T Communications (2002-04). Mr. Clisham has been a member of the ABI since 2005 and co-chairs its Real Estate Committee. In 2007, he received the Award for Excellence in Public Interests and Legal Education from the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois for his role in developing and advancing the Credit Abuse Resistance Education (CARE) program in Chicago. He continues to support the CARE Program both in Phoenix and nationally through his work with ABI. Mr. Clisham authored the *Bankruptcy Strategist* article "The 547(c)(4) New Value Defense: Paid or Unpaid" (November 2008) and co-authored the chapter "Creation of an Article 9 Security Interest" in the *Secured Transactions* manual published by the Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education (2007 and 2010), as well as the *ABI Journal* article "A Primer on the Valuation of Affordable Housing in Chapter 11" (May 2013). Mr. Clisham received his J.D. *cum laude* in 2002 from DePaul University College of Law.

Cynthia M. Cohen is a partner in Glaser Weil Fink Howard Avchen & Shapiro LLP's Litigation Department in Los Angeles. She has represented individuals, financial institutions, and other corporations and business entities in bankruptcy and nonbankruptcy cases involving antitrust issues, recovery on notes and debentures, breach of contract, misrepresentation, breach of fiduciary duty, and other

business and commercial disputes. She has tried and argued a number of complex business and commercial litigation matters in federal and state courts. Ms. Cohen's combined litigation and bankruptcy background has resulted in her representation of debtors, creditors, creditors' committees and trustees in numerous bankruptcy and bankruptcy-related litigation matters across the country. She is listed in *Southern California Super Lawyers* and ranked by *Chambers and Partners* as a leader in Bankruptcy/Restructuring in California. Ms. Cohen is admitted to practice before the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Second and Ninth Circuits, the federal courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York and the Central, Eastern, Northern and Southern Districts of California, and the U.S. Supreme Court. She received her A.B. from Cornell University and her J.D. *cum laude* from New York University School of Law, where she was a member of the Order of the Coif.

Hon. Daniel P. Collins is a Bankruptcy Judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Arizona in Phoenix, appointed on Jan. 18, 2013. He served as chief judge from 2014-18. Previously, he was a shareholder with the law firm of Collins, May, Potenza, Baran & Gillespie, P.C. in downtown Phoenix, practicing primarily in the areas of bankruptcy, commercial litigation and commercial transactions. Judge Collins served on the State Bar of Arizona's Subcommittee on the Uniform Fraudulent Transfer Act. He also served as chairman of the Bankruptcy Section of the State of Arizona and was a lawyer representative to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. He was granted the St. Thomas More Award in 2017. Judge Collins is presently an At Large Governor of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, a member of ABI's Board of Directors, on the board of the Phoenix Chapter of the Federal Bar Association and a member of the University of Arizona Law School's Board of Visitors. He is also a member of the Arizona Bankruptcy American Inn of Court, State Bar of Arizona and Maricopa County Bar. Judge Collins received both his B.S. in finance and accounting in 1980 and his J.D. in 1983 from the University of Arizona.

P. Gregg Curry, CPA, CFE, ABV is a managing director in the Disputes and Investigations practice of Navigant Consulting, Inc. in Phoenix. His forensic accounting experience includes damages analyses, such as loss of profits, valuations and other consulting services related to fraud investigations, contract breaches, antitrust violations, business interruptions, intellectual property disputes, dealer terminations, construction cost overruns, accounting malpractices, bankruptcies, securities litigation, wrongful deaths, personal injuries and other business disputes. For more than 30 years, Mr. Curry has performed financial and economic analyses related to the financial condition of entities in a variety of industries. This work includes the forensic analyses of business records and financial documents and the determination of the economic impact to the entity's operations, revenues and costs. As part of his consulting efforts, he has given expert testimony on numerous occasions regarding his findings and opinions. Mr. Curry received his B.S. in computer science from Purdue University.

Cecily A. Dumas is a partner in the Insolvency and Restructuring Section of Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP in San Francisco, an AmLaw 100 global law firm with a particular focus on the technology, energy and natural resources, financial services and real estate sectors. Her debtor representations include Violin Memory, Mortgage Fund '08, Laboratory Skin Care, Wilkes Bashford Company and Ring Enterprises. Her chapter 11 trustee representations include Cal State Growth Fund, Cedar Funding, Inc. and Cedar Funding Mortgage Fund, and SonicBlue Inc. Ms. Dumas has advised clients on complex debt restructurings, including the divestiture and recapitalization of a Catholic hospital system. She represents buyers of assets in 363 sales, and secured and unsecured creditors

in bankruptcy cases. She also regularly advises Fortune 500 companies on commercial transactions, with a particular focus on technology leases and financings. Ms. Dumas is a frequent lecturer on commercial law and bankruptcy topics and has presented at ABI's Georgetown Views from the Bench, Southwest Bankruptcy Conference and Bankruptcy Battleground West, as well as the American Bar Association's Business Law Section, Practising Law Institute, Special Assets Management Association, Bay Area Bankruptcy Forum and the Bar Association of San Francisco's Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section. She is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and has been recognized in *Chambers USA* for Bankruptcy/Restructuring, *The Best Lawyers in America* for Insolvency and Reorganization Law, and in *SuperLawyers* for Bankruptcy and Debtor/Creditor. Ms. Dumas received her A.B. *cum laude* from the University of California at Berkeley and her J.D. from Golden Gate University School of Law.

Ken Epstein, CIRA, CDBV is an investment manager and legal counsel at Bentham IMF in New York, where he is responsible for leading the company's investments in bankruptcy and insolvency-related matters. He is experienced in advising debtors, creditors and other stakeholders in insolvency and bankruptcy-related matters nationally and internationally. Mr. Epstein has taught bankruptcy law as an adjunct professor at Cardozo Law School, authored numerous articles on bankruptcy-related topics, and testified on several occasions before the Michigan House of Representatives' Financial Liability Reform Committee. He began his career as a lawyer in the financial restructuring group of Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft and prior to joining Bentham IMF was managing director in the restructuring and remediation group at MBIA, a publicly listed financial institution. Mr. Epstein received his J.D. *cum laude* from Brooklyn Law School in 2000, where he served on the *Journal of Law and Public Policy*.

Susan M. Freeman is a partner with Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie LLP, working primarily from its Phoenix office. In addition to her business bankruptcy law practice, she is an appellate lawyer and has briefed more than 300 civil appeals and argued over 100, many of which are bankruptcy appeals, including a U.S. Supreme Court appeal. She is a Fellow and former president of the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers, and is the co-author of the civil appeals chapter of the *Arizona Appellate Handbook*. Ms. Freeman was co-counsel for several law professors on *amicus curiae* briefs in *Tennessee Student Assistance Corp. v. Hood*, 541 U.S. 440 (2004), and *Central Virginia Community College v. Katz*, 126 S. Ct. 990, 1004 (2006), and she briefed and argued *Hall v. United States of America*, 132 S. Ct. 1882 (2012). Ms. Freeman is a member of the National Bankruptcy Conference a Fellow and former director, vice president and secretary of the American College of Bankruptcy. She chairs the American Bar Association's Business Bankruptcy Committee, and previously chaired several subcommittees. In addition, she is a Life Member of the American Law Institute. Ms. Freeman has been a certified specialist in bankruptcy law since 1985. She is a frequent author and lecturer, including authoring Chapter 172 of *Norton Bankruptcy Law & Practice* on professional responsibility in bankruptcy cases, as well as "Are DIP and Committee Counsel Fiduciaries for Their Clients' Constituents or the Bankruptcy Estate? What is a Fiduciary, Anyway?" 17 *Amer. Bankr. Inst. L. Rev.* 291 (Winter 2009). Ms. Freeman received her B.A. with distinction from Mount Holyoke College and her J.D. from New York University School of Law in 1975, where she was a Root-Tilden Scholar.

Craig S. Ganz is a partner with Ballard Spahr in Phoenix and co-leads its Non-Bank Lending Team in the firm's Banking and Financial Services Industry Group. He is focused primarily in the areas

of real property, restaurant/hospitality, and finance/banking law. His experience also encompasses significant trial work on both the state and federal levels. As it relates to Mr. Ganz's real estate and finance practice, he frequently counsels clients on strategies ranging from asset acquisition and dispositions to leveraged transactions on both the buy and sell sides. He frequently consults with private-equity groups and REITs to establish internal and external strategies in order to implement a formal protocol to manage the transactional-side acquisition and disposition processes of the client. On the litigation front, Mr. Ganz defends and prosecutes actions on behalf of corporate clients, including hotels, REITs, private-equity groups and commercial real estate entities, along with balance-sheet and nontraditional lenders and borrowers. These litigation matters typically involve distressed assets, lender-liability claims, fraud actions, securities law violations, RICO actions, enforcement of real estate leases, broker commissions, enforcement of real property purchase agreements, enforcement of commercial contract guarantees, deficiency actions, loan default actions, garnishments, judgment enforcement proceedings and fraudulent transfer actions. In his reorganization practice, he guides clients in prominent retail bankruptcy proceedings. He also represents corporate creditors and debtors, advising clients on debtor financing issues, § 363 asset purchases, avoidance and preference actions, stay proceedings and claim analysis. In addition, he actively manages the national bankruptcy portfolios of several publicly traded clients and conducts in-house training for finance departments in order to eliminate or reduce insolvency risk. Mr. Ganz regularly represents creditors' committees and counsels clients on receivership-related issues. He received his B.A. in 1997 from the University of Arizona and his J.D. in 2001 from Southwestern Law School.

Gregory E. Garman is a founding member of Garman Turner Gordon LLP in Las Vegas and has been consistently rated one of the top bankruptcy and business restructuring attorneys in the country. His practice is concentrated in commercial and corporate bankruptcy and restructuring, and he regularly represents debtors, trustees, official committees, secured creditors and other parties in matters involving hospitality, lending, high tech, gaming, airlines and real estate, among others. Mr. Garman has an active legal practice that is focused on assisting companies with financial restructuring and business reorganization. He was named *The Best Lawyers in America's* "Lawyer of the Year" in 2015 for bankruptcy restructuring and was separately named "Lawyer of the Year" in 2013 for bankruptcy litigation. Mr. Garman recently finished assisting a prominent regional development company in the restructuring of more than \$250 million in long-term debt. He also represents more than \$350 million in statutory lienholders in the ongoing *Fontainebleau* bankruptcy cases pending before a Florida Bankruptcy Court, the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals and the Nevada Supreme Court. Mr. Garman previously represented Black Gaming LLC in its successful prepackaged bankruptcy, which resulted in the reduction of its long-term debt from \$225 million to \$67 million. He currently represents a who's who of developers, hedge funds and distressed companies. Prior to founding Garman Turner Gordon, Mr. Garman served as managing partner for Gordon Silver, a position he had held since 2008. He is a member of the Clark County Bar Association and the State Bar of Nevada, as well as ABI and the Turnaround Management Association, and holds a BV rating by Martindale-Hubbell. Mr. Garman received his B.A. in 1994 from Loyola Marymount University and his J.D. in 1997 from Loyola Law School.

Edward T. Gavin, CTP is a managing director and founding partner of Gavin/Solmonese LLC in Wilmington, Del., where he leads the firm's Restructuring and Fiduciary Services Practice and specializes in complex bankruptcy matters, representing debtors, creditors and committees as financial advisor, asset sale advisor, chief restructuring officer or in other responsible party roles. He

is frequently called upon to provide expert testimony in matters involving breach-of-fiduciary-duty and bankruptcy matters, including preferences. In addition, he is frequently appointed liquidating trustee, litigation trustee or plan administrator for post-confirmation liquidating trusts. Mr. Gavin is ABI's President and previously served as ABI's Vice-President-Development. He also co-chaired ABI's Financial Advisors & Investment Banking Committee, was co-chair and education director of ABI's Ethics Committee, and served on ABI's Civility Task Force and the ABI National Ethics Standards Task Force, leading that group's Committee Solicitation Protocols Subcommittee. Mr. Gavin is a 30th Anniversary Circle contributor to ABI's Endowment Fund and co-chaired ABI's Mid-Atlantic Bankruptcy Workshop from 2009-14. He also co-authored ABI's *Chief Restructuring Officer's Guide to Bankruptcy* and writes the "Turnaround Tactics" blog for *Forbes*. He is on Twitter as @tedgavin. Mr. Gavin attended the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, studying music theory and education.

Mark Gorton is a shareholder with Boutin Jones in Sacramento, Calif., and has been representing all types of parties in debtor-creditor and insolvency related matters for nearly 30 years. He also has experience in real estate and lending matters. Mr. Gorton primarily represents creditors and facilitates commercial lending and real estate transactions. He has also been counsel for bankruptcy trustees, chapter 11 debtors and creditors' committees. Mr. Gorton is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell and is admitted to practice in California and before the California State Supreme Court, the Ninth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals and the U.S. District Courts for the Northern, Eastern, Southern and Central Districts of California. He is a former president of the Sacramento County Bar Association's Bankruptcy Section and a member of the American Bar Association, a member and former bar council member of the Sacramento County Bar Association, a member and former director of the Sacramento Valley Bankruptcy Forum, and a member of ABI, the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees, and the State Bar of California's Real Estate, Business Law and Insolvency Sections. In addition, he serves as a volunteer mediator in the Bankruptcy Dispute Resolution Program for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of California. Mr. Gorton received his B.A. in economics with honors from Whittier College in 1978 and his J.D. in 1981 from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law.

Peter J. Gurfein is a partner in the Los Angeles office of Landau Gottfried & Berger LLP. His practice focuses on representing creditors' committees, equityholders and equity committees, trustees, and chapter 11 debtors in the airline, health care, retail, telecommunication, entertainment, high tech, and real estate industries. Mr. Gurfein has appeared in cases involving bank insolvencies and insurance company insolvencies, and in chapter 11 cases of high-net-worth individuals. A former prosecutor, he is experienced in the prosecution and defense of bankruptcy fraud investigations and officer and director liability. Mr. Gurfein is a past chair of the Los Angeles Bankruptcy Forum and former editor-in-chief of the *California Bankruptcy Journal* and the California State Bar Insolvency Section eBulletins. He has lectured extensively on corporate-governance issues and the obligations of directors in the zone of insolvency, the sale of assets under distress, prepackaged plans of reorganization and bankruptcy in the hospitality industry. Mr. Gurfein received his B.A. from New York University and his J.D. from George Washington University School of Law.

Oren B. Haker is a partner in the Corporate group of Stoel Rives LLP in Portland, Ore., where he focuses on financial restructuring and business reorganizations, as well as complex commercial disputes. He represents secured lenders, bondholders and trade creditors in both in-court and out-

of-court restructurings, strategic investors in distressed companies, chapter 11 debtors, unsecured creditors' committees, acquirers of assets in chapter 11 proceedings and liquidating trustees. Mr. Haker's experience includes all aspects of the bankruptcy process, including cash collateral disputes, intercreditor disputes, § 363 asset sales, reclamation and § 503(b)(9) issues, § 524(g) asbestos trusts, chapter 11 plan and post-effective date trust formulation, contested plan confirmation, claims resolution, and fraudulent conveyance and preference litigation. He has also advised officers and directors on fiduciary duties and zone of insolvency issues. Mr. Haker has represented clients in the agricultural, automotive, airline, health care, energy, gaming, telecommunications, media, banking, financial services and real estate industries. Prior to joining the firm, he practiced law in the financial restructuring departments at Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP and Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP, and with the corporate insolvency group at Milberg LLP. Mr. Haker is listed in *Oregon Super Lawyers* for 2014 and is an adjunct professor of law in bankruptcy at the University of Washington School of Law Columbia Law School. He is admitted to practice in Oregon, New York and Washington. Mr. Haker received his B.A. in history in 1996 from Rice University and his J.D. in 2003 from Columbia Law School in 2003, where he was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar and served on the *Columbia Law Review*.

Hon. M. Elaine Hammond is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of California in San Jose. Prior to taking the bench in 2012, her practice focused on representing debtors and creditors in commercial bankruptcy cases and out-of-court restructurings. Judge Hammond was a partner with the San Francisco firm of Friedman Dumas and Springwater LLP, and before that she was an associate with Murphy, Sheneman, Julian & Rogers. Judge Hammond began her legal career as a law clerk for Hon. Edward D. Jellen, now retired, also of the Northern District of California. She received her undergraduate degree from Duke University and her J.D. with honors from the University of North Carolina School of Law.

Hon. Mary Jo Heston is a Bankruptcy Judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Washington in Tacoma, appointed Jan. 31, 2017. Previously, she was a shareholder at the Seattle law firm of Lane Powell PC and served as the U.S. Trustee for Region 18, which takes in Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington. In addition, she was an adjunct faculty member at Seattle University School of Law from 1984-2006 and at the University of Washington School of Law from 1997-99. Judge Heston has been a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy since 2001 and served as a member of its Pro Bono Committee from 2013-16. She worked with the Consumer Education and Training Services program, serving as a board member since 1996 and as president from 2013-15. She is currently a member of the University of Oregon's law school outreach program. Judge Heston received her undergraduate degree *cum laude* from the University of Washington in 1975 and her J.D. *cum laude* from the Seattle University School of Law in 1980.

David M. Johnson, CFA is a managing director with Sherwood Partners, Inc. in Mountain View, Calif., and has 17 years of experience in financial advisory and business restructuring roles including operational improvement, cash management, creditor negotiation and litigation resolution. During his tenure at Sherwood, Mr. Johnson has advised investors, lenders and/or management of over 125 companies. Prior to joining Sherwood in 2007, Mr. Johnson was a director of asset management at a publicly-traded REIT. Specializing in underperforming properties, he managed the workout, exchange and/or disposition of over \$500 million of commercial real estate. Before that, Mr. Johnson was a managing director of a boutique investment bank where he provided advisory services to pri-

vately held companies in the food and direct-mail industries. Additionally, he assisted in the launch of the firm's activist hedge fund, identifying and investing in underperforming companies. Mr. Johnson also spent four years with an international turnaround management firm in various capacities, including as vice president of a \$150 million business services company. Other activities included providing interim management, forensic accounting and valuation services for multiple clients, including a national health care organization. Mr. Johnson received his B.A. in mathematics and economics from Franklin & Marshall College.

Jordan A. Kroop is a partner in the Bankruptcy & Restructuring group of Perkins Coie LLP's Corporate practice in Phoenix. He represents debtors, official committees, acquirers and significant creditors in chapter 11 matters involving publicly traded and privately held companies throughout the nation. He has also represented secured lenders, committees, lessors and institutional lenders. Since 1998, Mr. Kroop has coauthored and regularly updated the two-volume treatise *Bankruptcy Litigation and Practice: A Practitioner's Guide*, now in its fourth edition. He also co-authored a chapter on chapter 11 and sports franchises in the *Collier Guide to Chapter 11* (LexisNexis 2011, rev'd 2012, 2013) and co-authored *The Executive Guide to Corporate Bankruptcy* (Beard Books). Among the prominent chapter 11 matters he has handled is representing the NHL's Phoenix Coyotes as debtor's counsel and leading the team to its eventual sale. He has also represented the Boston Celtics and Milwaukee Bucks in reorganization matters. In addition to his background counseling sports franchises, Mr. Kroop provides chapter 11 representation to reorganizing clients in manufacturing, real estate development, construction, hospitality gaming and technology. He has represented a large REIT, a consumer electronics manufacturer, makers of construction materials, and an iconic Manhattan restaurant in its chapter 11 filing. Mr. Kroop serves as an adjunct professor of law at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University. He also instructs at ABI's Litigation Skills Symposium and has taught at the University of the Pacific's McGeorge School of Law in Salzburg, Austria. Mr. Kroop is recognized in *Southwest Super Lawyers* and *The Best Lawyers in America*, and was one of a handful lawyers named among the "Outstanding Young Bankruptcy Lawyers" in the U.S. by *Turnarounds & Workouts*. He received his A.B. *magna cum laude* from Brown University and his J.D. from the University of Virginia.

Richard D. Liebman, CPA is a managing director in Grant Thornton LLP's Transaction Tax Services practice in Chicago and has more than 30 years of experience in tax-structuring and due-diligence services to many private-equity firms and strategic buyers. He has worked on deals ranging from \$10 million acquisitions of privately held companies to \$1 billion-plus public company transactions. In addition to his transaction work, Mr. Liebman has significant experience in several specialized tax areas, including consolidated federal income tax returns, net operating loss limitations and bankruptcy tax. His bankruptcy tax experience spans his career and has included companies and consolidated return groups in the hospitality, medical products, retail and various manufacturing industries, including the global bankruptcy of a multibillion-dollar auto industry original equipment manufacturing group. Mr. Liebman joined Grant Thornton following a 30+-year career at a Big Four accounting firm. He is a frequent speaker at tax forums, including TEI and the Kent Law School Federal Tax Conference, and has authored numerous tax articles. Mr. Liebman is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Illinois CPA Society. He received his B.S. in business and economics from the Illinois Institute of Technology and his J.D. with honors from Northwestern University School of Law.

John W. Lucas is a partner in Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP's San Francisco office, where he represents debtors and creditors in chapter 11 cases and companies in out-of-court restructurings with an emphasis on transportation, financial products, automotive, retail and technology. His recent debtor representations include Blue Earth, Inc., Response Genetics, Inc., NewZoom, Inc., Z'Tejas Restaurants, Elephant Bar Restaurants, Highway Technologies, American Suzuki Motor Corp. and Mesa Airlines. Mr. Lucas is a co-author of *Debtor-in-Possession Financing: Funding a Chapter 11 Case* (ABI 2012), *First Day Motions: A Guide to the Critical First Days of a Bankruptcy Case, Third Edition* (ABI 2012) and "The Role and Retention of the Chief Restructuring Officer" in *The Americas Restructuring and Insolvency Guide* (Globe White Page 2008-09). He is a graduate of the University of California at Los Angeles and received his J.D. from the University of Oregon School of Law, where he was a member of the *Oregon Law Review*.

Douglas L. Lutz is a member of Frost Brown Todd LLC in Cincinnati and is the former chair of the firm's Bankruptcy and Restructuring Group. His practice is primarily focused on finance and reorganization law, primarily in the area of bankruptcy and out-of-court workouts. Mr. Lutz actively represents corporate debtors, borrowers, secured lenders, landlords, creditors' committees and court-appointed receivers and trustees in bankruptcy cases, restructurings and out-of-court workouts. He also represents purchasers of entire businesses or business segments both in and out of chapter 11 and regularly counsels equity funds in matters involving distressed acquisitions. Mr. Lutz is an at-large member of ABI's Executive Committee. He is listed in the 2007-18 editions of *The Best Lawyers in America*, *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* and *Ohio Super Lawyers*. Mr. Lutz received his B.S. in 1987 from Miami University of Ohio and his J.D. in 1991 from the University of Toledo College of Law, where he served as an editor of its law review.

Hon. Brenda Kay Martin is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Arizona in Phoenix.

David Nelson is counsel with Boies Schiller Flexner LLP in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., where he specializes in white collar litigation and defense, representing companies and their officers and directors in investigations involving insider trading, financial reporting and other securities law violations. His particular focus is on investigations by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the U.S. Department of Justice, but he has experience handling other regulatory inquiries, as well as internal company investigations. He also advises registered investment advisers and other regulated entities on compliance matters. Mr. Nelson's representations have included some of the most prominent firms and individuals in the financial services industry. Prior to joining the firm, he headed the SEC's regional office in Miami, overseeing the administration of a 120-person office with jurisdictional responsibility for the southeast U.S. He directed the inspection and regulatory oversight of broker-dealers, transfer agents, investment companies and investment advisors, and the investigation and litigation of violations of federal securities laws. Several matters of national and precedential significance were brought under his watch. Earlier in his career, Mr. Nelson served in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York as part of a unit investigating and prosecuting securities-related crimes. He received his B.A. in politics from Princeton University and his J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center.

Samuel A. Newman is a partner in the Los Angeles office of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP and a member of its Business Restructuring and Reorganization Group and the Corporate Department. His

practice involves representing creditors, debtors and other parties-in-interest in chapter 11 cases. He also advises buyers, sellers, lenders and borrowers in transactions involving distressed assets. Mr. Newman has been named as one of California's leading lawyers in business and restructuring by *Chambers USA – America's Leading Business Lawyers* and been recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America* in the area of Bankruptcy and Creditor-Debtor Rights Law. He has also been named as a *Southern California Super Lawyer* in the area of Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights. Mr. Newman is admitted to practice law in California. Prior to joining Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, he held political and fundraising positions with the Democratic National Committee (DNC) in Washington, D.C., and served in legislative and policy positions for Sen. John Glenn (Ohio) and Reps. Gary Ackerman (N.Y.) and Rob Andrews (N.J.). Mr. Newman received his B.S. in foreign service from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service in 1992 and his J.D. *magna cum laude* from Georgetown University Law Center, where he was elected to the Order of the Coif.

Hon. Charles D. Novack is a Bankruptcy Judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of California in Pasadena, appointed on May 13, 2010. Prior to joining the court, he worked in private practice in Oakland, Calif., for 16 years, where he focused on bankruptcy matters. He also taught as an associate professor at California State University, East Bay. Judge Novack received his bachelor's degree from Rutgers University and his J.D. from the University of California at Hastings.

Randy Nussbaum is an attorney with Sacks Tierney P.A. in Scottsdale, Ariz., and has assisted individuals and businesses with complex bankruptcy protection (debtor and creditor), transaction and litigation matters for nearly 40 years. He has represented secured and unsecured creditors, surety companies, creditors' committees, lessors, professional athletes, doctors, lawyers, and trustees in chapter 7, 11 and 13 proceedings, including adversary actions (bankruptcy litigation). The cases have involved such diverse matters as real estate, construction, manufacturing, trucking, asset-based lending, bankruptcy related to divorce, and high-value and complex individual bankruptcies. Mr. Nussbaum is a Certified Bankruptcy Specialist by the Arizona Board of Legal Specialization and is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. He has been named to the *Super Lawyers* "Top 50" list of Arizona attorneys multiple times and has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* annually since 2010, having recently received its 2019 Bankruptcy "Lawyer of the Year" award in Scottsdale. Mr. Nussbaum is a 1990 graduate of Scottsdale Leadership and has volunteered for the organization for nearly 30 years, serves on its advisory board, and is a recipient of the prestigious Frank W. Hodges Alumni Achievement Award. He also served as a Sterling Awards Jurist for the Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce and received the Chamber's Volunteer of the Year Award for 2017. In 2018, he was inducted into the Scottsdale History Hall of Fame. Mr. Nussbaum received his B.A. *cum laude* and in 1977 his J.D. in 1980 from Arizona State University, graduating in the top 25 percent of his class.

K. Kevin Otus is a managing partner with Onyx Asset Advisors in San Francisco and is responsible for the overall operations of the firm. His responsibilities include negotiating, contracting, overseeing and reviewing all disposition and valuation projects, as well as coordinating all sales and marketing efforts. He has conducted or advised on over 200 dispositions. Previously, Mr. Otus was a senior managing director with Gordon Brothers Group, responsible for sourcing and evaluating opportunities for the firm's Commercial & Industrial, Retail, Real Estate and Valuation practice groups; founder and president of Emerald Technology Valuations, LLC, responsible for the day-to-day management of

the firm; and president of Dovetech, Inc. He holds a Senior Member designation with the American Society of Appraisers and is a member of the Appraisal Foundation's Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP) and an executive board member of the Turnaround Management Association's San Francisco Chapter. Mr. Otus received his B.S. in finance from the University of San Francisco.

Thomas E. Patterson is a partner with Klee Tuchin Bogdanoff & Stern LLP in Los Angeles. He has represented debtors, creditors' committees and secured creditors in many large chapter 11 cases, and has also been involved in many significant insurer insolvency matters in California. Mr. Patterson has represented many chapter 11 debtors, including Brotman Medical Center, the developer of the Lake Las Vegas Resort and Development, Thorpe Insulation Co. (special appellate counsel in connection with a plan proposed under § 524(g) of the Bankruptcy Code), Imagyn Medical Technologies Inc., Aquarius Promotional Enterprises Inc. and Cool Fuel Incorporated. He also has extensive experience in representing secured creditors and the lenders, and has represented many committees. Mr. Patterson is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy and currently serves as Regent for the Ninth Circuit. He has participated extensively in continuing education panels for the American Law Institute, Financial Lawyers Conference, ABI, the Los Angeles County Bar Association and other organizations. Mr. Patterson was named the 2011 Century City Bankruptcy Attorney of the year and is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* and *Chambers USA*, among other honors. He has served as secretary (2004-05), vice president and seminar coordinator (2005-06), president (2006-07) and member of the board of governors (1998-2001, 2003-present) of the Financial Lawyers Conference, and has been a member of the Debtor-Creditor Relations Committee of the Business Law Section of the California State Bar (1992-95) and of the Bankruptcy Subcommittee of the Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Committee of the Los Angeles County Bar Association (1994-97). He is the author of "Current Issues Involving Adequate Protection in Real Estate Bankruptcies," 22 *California Bankruptcy Journal* 75 (1994), and is a contributing author to *Collier on Bankruptcy*. Mr. Patterson received his B.A. with first-class honors in philosophy from the University of Manitoba. He attended Oxford University on a Rhodes Scholarship, from which he graduated with a B.A. in jurisprudence (First Class) in 1984 and a Bachelor of Civil Law (First Class) in 1985. He subsequently served as a Bigelow Fellow and Lecturer in Law at the University of Chicago Law School from 1985-86.

Estela O. Pino is an attorney with Pino & Associates in Sacramento, Calif., and has more than three decades of experience in bankruptcy and bankruptcy litigation. She represents individuals in cases regarding violations of the automatic stay and/or the bankruptcy discharge. Ms. Pino previously practiced with several firms, including Weintraub, Genshlea, Hardy, Erich & Brown. She was recently involved as successor counsel for Erik and Renee Sundquist in their case against Bank of America before the U.S. Bankruptcy Court of the Eastern District of California, *Sundquist v. Bank of Am., N.A.*, 566 B.R. 563 (Bankr. E.D. Cal. 2017). As successor counsel, she also worked with co-counsel to negotiate a confidential settlement with Bank of America. Ms. Pino received her J.D. *magna cum laude* from the University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law in 1983, where she served as a staff writer for, and later as assistant editor of, the *Pacific Law Journal*, and was a member of the Order of the Coif and the Traynor Honor Society.

Cathy L. Reece chairs the Bankruptcy/Creditors' Rights Practice Group at Fennemore Craig, P.C. in its Phoenix office. She is experienced in commercial finance and real estate workouts and bankrupt-

cies. Ms. Reece represents the liquidating entity of Mortgages Ltd., a hard-money lender with a \$900 million loan portfolio secured by real estate. She represented the committee in the Baptist Foundation of Arizona cases with over 13,000 creditors and \$650 million of liabilities, a municipality, which is the owner and landlord of the arena, in the Coyotes Hockey bankruptcies, and the secured lender in the publicly traded *ILX Resorts* case. She has also represented secured lenders in large chapter 11 cases such as *Veris Gold USA*, *Einstein Bagel*, *Foster Grant*, *UDC Homes* and in numerous real estate cases involving shopping centers, apartments, industrial centers, golf courses, mines, health care facilities and hotels. Ms. Reece was selected Legal Advisor of the Year by M&A Advisor in 2014 and in 2016 received the Mining Deal of the Year and Cross Border Restructuring Awards for the sale of a gold mine in Nevada. She served as vice president and trustee of TMA Global and received its 2011 Individual Contribution Award. Ms. Reece is a Fellow and Regent of the American College of Commercial Finance Lawyers and is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law. She is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*, *Super Lawyers*, and *Benchmark's Top 250 Women in Litigation*. Ms. Reece received her J.D. in 1979 from Arizona State University College of Law.

Allison M. Rhodes is a partner in Holland & Knight LLP's Portland, Ore., and Los Angeles offices and the co-chair of the firm's Legal Profession Team. She focuses her practice on legal ethics and risk management, law firm organization and attorney disciplinary defense. Ms. Rhodes advises both law firms and lawyers on ethical and fiduciary issues related to lateral hiring, law firm dissolution and expulsion matters. In that context, she represents lawyers and law firms in litigation among themselves. Ms. Rhodes is a contributing author of the treatise *Legal Malpractice* 2015 edition (West) and is a contributing author to *Lawyer Mobility, the Law and Ethics of Law Firm Breakups* (Aspen). She is admitted to practice in Oregon and California. Ms. Rhodes received her B.A. in sociology from Lewis & Clark College and her J.D. *cum laude* from Northwestern School of Law of Lewis & Clark College.

Hon. Paul Sala is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Arizona in Phoenix, appointed on July 1, 2014. Previously, he practiced bankruptcy law in Phoenix for 26 years, the last 15 of which with Allen, Sala & Bayne, PLC, which he co-founded in 1999. Judge Sala's legal practice focused on representing individuals and companies in nonbankruptcy workouts and bankruptcy reorganizations. He also represented unsecured creditors' committees in many high-profile Arizona cases, including Dewey Ranch Hockey (Phoenix Coyotes), the Baptist Foundation of Arizona, Popular Stores and Sun Valley Waterbeds. In addition, he represented trustees in chapter 7 and 11 cases and was appointed in numerous cases to serve as a chapter 11 trustee and as a post-confirmation plan administrator. Judge Sala is a member of the State Bar of Arizona and was active in bar association activities. He was also a member of the President's Circle of the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees, was selected as a master in the Arizona Bankruptcy American Inn of Court, and was listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*, *Southwest Super Lawyers* and *Arizona's Finest Lawyers*. Judge Sala received his B.S. in 1984 and his J.D. in 1987 from the University of Utah.

Thomas J. Salerno is a partner in the Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights practice at Stinson Leonard Street (US) LLP in Phoenix, where he represents distressed companies, acquirers and creditors in financial restructurings and bankruptcy proceedings, pre- and post-bankruptcy workouts, and corporate recapitalizations. He works with clients from an array of industries, including casinos, resort hotels, sports teams, real estate, high-tech manufacturing, electricity generation, agribusiness, con-

struction, health care, airlines and franchised fast-food operations. Mr. Salerno has represented parties in insolvency proceedings in 30 states and five countries. He has been involved in restructurings in the U.S., U.K., Germany, France, Switzerland, and the Czech and Slovak Republics. In addition, Mr. Salerno taught comparative international insolvency at the University of Salzburg and Gray's Inn School of Law in London, and is an adjunct professor at the Sandra Day O'Connor School of Law at Arizona State University, teaching bankruptcy litigation and advanced chapter 11 bankruptcy. He is also a regular guest lecturer at the Eller MBA Program for the University of Arizona. Mr. Salerno has served as an expert witness on U.S. insolvency law in litigation in Germany, and represented Coyote Hockey LLC, the owners of the Phoenix Coyotes of the National Hockey League (NHL), in historic bankruptcy proceedings that resulted in an unprecedented solution: the NHL purchasing one of its own teams for the first time in the league's 90-year history. He headed the U.S. delegation to the Czech Republic in advising the Czech Government in the historic revamping of its bankruptcy law, which took effect in January 2008, and he has also advised on revamping insolvency laws in the Dominican Republic and Costa Rica. Mr. Salerno is a member of the UNCITRAL working group on its Insolvency Law Reform Project, completed in early 2007. He is a former ABI Board and Executive Committee member, a past director of the American Board of Certification, a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, and a member of the Plan Issues Advisory Subcommittee for ABI's landmark Bankruptcy Review Commission. Mr. Salerno received his B.A. *summa cum laude* from Rutgers University and his J.D. *cum laude* from Notre Dame Law School, where he served as an editor of the *Notre Dame Law Review*.

Matthew P. Sorenson is a managing director with Development Specialists, Inc. in Los Angeles and has been directly involved with on-site management and wind-down operations in a number of matters. His areas of expertise include real property management and liquidation, operational and human resource management, budgeting and schedules, cash management, preferential and fraudulent transfer analysis, tangible-asset valuation, intellectual property sales, estate closures, and final collections of remaining estate accounts receivable. Mr. Sorenson is a member of ABI, the California Receivers Forum and the California Bankruptcy Forum. He received his Bachelor's degree in economics with a minor in business administration from the University of Arizona.

Michael A. Stollo, CIRA is a financial analyst with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation in Washington, D.C., in its Corporate Finance and Restructuring Department. He monitors corporate transactions (*e.g.*, M&A, LBO, dividend recapitalizations, asset divestitures, etc.) that potentially increase risk to the pension insurance system and engage plan sponsors to mitigate that risk. Mr. Stollo also performs financial analyses, including assessments of cash flows, valuations, etc., to quantify the risk of transactions to the pension insurance system. In addition, he writes memoranda to recommend either engagement with pension plan sponsors or the need to terminate and trustee underfunded pension plans. His work involves negotiating resolutions with plan sponsors to address pension plan underfunding under ERISA, and assessing the creditworthiness of plan sponsors' controlled groups in order to properly structure negotiated settlements to minimize repayment risk. Mr. Stollo reviews collateral packages for secured settlements and serves on creditors' committees to represent PBGC's interests, as well as the interests of other unsecured creditors when working on liquidations or reorganizations of debtor entities in bankruptcy. Previously, he was an international trade specialist with Willkie Farr & Gallagher and a senior compliance specialist with the U.S. Department of Commerce. Mr. Stollo received his B.A. in political science from the University of Michigan and his M.A./M.B.A. in international affairs/business administration from American University.

Bryce A. Suzuki is the managing partner of the Phoenix office of Byran Cave Leighton Paisner LLP, where he provides strategic business planning and dispute-resolution assistance to a diverse range of lenders, companies and business owners affected by potential or actual insolvency issues. He has handled commercial bankruptcy cases in jurisdictions across the country, as well as several successful appeals involving bankruptcy and insolvency issues. In collaboration with his colleagues in the firm's regulatory and FinTech practice areas, he also advises businesses, including early-stage and growing technology companies, in the field of cryptocurrency (Bitcoin), blockchain and related technologies. Mr. Suzuki is a frequent speaker on both bankruptcy matters and the legal implications of blockchain technology. Beginning in the fall of 2018, he will be teaching "Blockchain and the Law" as an adjunct professor at the ASU Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law. He currently serves on the board of trustees and on the Nominations Committee of TMA Global. Mr. Suzuki is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation, a Research Fellow of the ASU Center for Law, Science and Innovation, and the former chair of the Restructuring and Bankruptcy Committee for the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association. He received his B.A. and M.A. from Brigham Young University and his J.D. from the University of Iowa College of Law.

Hon. Mark S. Wallace is a Bankruptcy Judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California in Santa Ana, appointed on Jan. 20, 2011. Prior to beginning his legal practice, he clerked for Hon. William B. Enright of the Southern District of California from 1977-79. He then joined Meyer Hendricks Victor Osborn & Maledon, where he worked from 1979-91. He was later employed at Stutman, Treister & Glatt P.C. from 1991 until his appointment. Judge Wallace received his Bachelor's degree from Princeton University in 1974 and his J.D. from Columbia University in 1977.

Lei Lei Wang Ekvall is a partner with Smiley Wang-Ekvall, LLP in Costa Mesa, Calif., and concentrates her practice on insolvency and bankruptcy-related matters, including workouts, business reorganizations, creditors' rights, and trustee, committee and receiver representation in diverse industries such as hospitality, medical, real estate, technology, entertainment, manufacturing and retail. Ms. Wang Ekvall served a judicial clerkship to Hon. Alan M. Ahart, William J. Lasarow, Kathleen T. Lax, Kathleen P. March, and Vincent P. Zurzolo, all U.S. Bankruptcy Judges, from October 1992 to September 1993. From September 1993 to September 1994, she clerked for Bankruptcy Court Judge Hon. Kathleen P. March. Ms. Wang Ekvall is president and a board member of Legal Aid Society of Orange County, a board member of the Los Angeles Bankruptcy Forum, and a member of the Central District of California Attorney Discipline Committee. After serving on the board of the Orange County Bar Association for several years, she was elected and served as the 2010 president of the Orange County Bar Association. She currently serves on the board of the Orange County Bar Association's Charitable Fund and served as its president in 2011. Ms. Wang Ekvall has chaired various committees and sections of the Orange County Bar Association, including the Pro Bono Committee, the Resolutions Committee, and the Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section. She is a past president and director of the Orange County Bankruptcy Forum and the Orange County Asian American Bar Association, and has served as a co-chair and member of the Central District of California Lawyer Representatives to the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference. Among other recognitions, in 2015 Ms. Wang Ekvall was selected by the Orange County Bankruptcy Forum as the recipient of its prestigious Hon. Peter M. Elliott Memorial Award for her outstanding scholarship, ethics and service to the Orange County bankruptcy community. She rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell, and since 2008 has been named a *Southern California Super Lawyer*. In 2011 and 2014, she was named a Top

Bankruptcy Attorney by *O.C. Metro* magazine. Ms. Wang Ekvall is a frequent speaker on the topic of bankruptcy law and receiverships and co-authored *Bankruptcy for Businesses*, published in April 2007 by Entrepreneur Media, Inc., and distributed by McGraw-Hill. She received her undergraduate degree in information and computer science in 1988 from the University of California, Irvine and her J.D. in 1992 from the University of Southern California.

Hon. Madeleine C. Wanslee is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Arizona in Phoenix, sworn in on March 17, 2014. Previously, she was an associate and then partner at Gust Rosenfeld, PLC, where she was active in the firm's management committee and co-chaired the firm's bankruptcy practice group. Her practice focused on bankruptcy and creditors' rights, and she represented small businesses, financial institutions, corporations and state agencies. While in private practice, Judge Wanslee was a certified bankruptcy specialist. She also argued a number of appeals, including *United Student Aid Funds Inc. v. Espinosa* before the U.S. Supreme Court. Judge Wanslee is a member of the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Education Committee and chairs Arizona's Bankruptcy Court local rules committee. She is a charter Master of the Arizona Bankruptcy American Inn of Court and is past chair of the Ninth Circuit Lawyer Representatives Coordinating Committee, the Arizona Lawyer Representatives and the Bankruptcy Section of the State Bar of Arizona. She also served on the American Board of Certification's Standards Committee and on the Arizona State Bar's Bankruptcy Advisory Committee, which both certify bankruptcy specialists. Judge Wanslee received her B.F.A. and B.A. from the University of Arizona and her J.D. from Gonzaga University School of Law, where she served as a writer and executive editor of the *Gonzaga Law Review*. Following law school, she clerked for Chief Bankruptcy Judge Robert C. Jones of the District of Nevada.

Hon. Eugene R. Wedoff served as a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Illinois in Chicago from 1987-2015 and as chief judge from 2002-07. He is ABI's immediate past president and sits on the 15-member expert panel for ABI's Commission on Consumer Bankruptcy. Judge Wedoff presided over the chapter 11 reorganization of United Air Lines, was a member of the Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules from 2004-14 and served as its chair after 2010. He was the president of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges from 2013-14 and also served as a member of the NCBJ's Board of Governors, as its secretary, and as chair of its education committee. Judge Wedoff is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy, as well as a member of the National Bankruptcy Conference. He is the author of the chapter on professional employment in Queenan, Hendel and Hillinger, *Chapter 11 Theory and Practice* (LRP Publications 1994), has been an associate editor of the *American Bankruptcy Law Journal* and currently serves as a contributing editor of the *Thomson Reuters Bankruptcy Law Letter*. Judge Wedoff is a frequent lecturer and has served as a member of the Federal Judicial Center's Committee on Bankruptcy Judge Education. In 2016, he received the Judge William L. Norton Jr. Judicial Excellence Award; in 2009, he received the Lawrence P. King Award from the Commercial Law League; and in 1995, he received the Excellence in Education Award from the NCBJ. Judge Wedoff graduated from the college and law school of the University of Chicago.

Kenneth C. Weil is a practitioner with the Law Office of Kenneth C. Weil in Seattle. He is admitted to practice law in Alabama and Washington. Mr. Weil has been a member of the Tax Advisory Committee to the National Bankruptcy Review Commission and a founding member and past chair of the ABA Tax Section's Collections, Bankruptcy and Workouts Committee. His recent publications in-

clude *Tax Liabilities and Bankruptcy* (3rd ed., last updated 2014) and primary authorship of Chapter 21, “Utilizing Bankruptcy to Reduce Outstanding Tax Debts,” in *Effectively Representing Your Client Before the IRS* (7th ed. 2018). Mr. Weil received his B.A. in 1974 from Tulane University B.A. 1974, his J.D. in 1980 from the University of Alabama, his M.B.A. in 1982 from the University of Chicago and his LL.M. in Taxation in 1983 from New York University.

Christopher J. Wells, CPA, CFA, CIRA is a managing director with Alvarez & Marsal’s Turn-around & Restructuring group (NACR) in Phoenix. He has more than 20 years of financial restructuring experience and has advised or taken on management position responsibility on numerous turn-around or bankruptcy engagements. His industry experience includes investment management, health care, banking, retail, private universities, gaming, nutraceutical and general manufacturing. Most recently, Mr. Wells is serving as the formal investment manager of a liquidating \$250M distressed hedge fund based out of Bermuda. Prior to that role, he served as financial and restructuring advisor to Smile Brands Inc — one of the largest domestic dental support organizations (DSO). Mr. Wells’s notable chapter 11 and 7 debtor financial advisory roles include Washington Mutual Inc., Furniture Brands International, Conexant Systems (M&A Advisor “Restructuring of the Year” for 2013), WDC Exploration and Sun Healthcare. His interim management experience includes CFO/vice president of finance of a \$380M multi-specialty physician organization, CFO of USC Care Medical Group Inc., a nonprofit MSO that serves the faculty practice plans of USC, and both interim vice president of West Coast Operations and interim CFO of the outpatient surgery division of HealthSouth Corp. Prior to A&M, Mr. Wells spent four years in the restructuring group of a Big Five firm. He serves on the advisory board of ABI’s Southwest Bankruptcy Conference. Mr. Wells received his Bachelor’s degree *summa cum laude* in finance, accounting and entrepreneurship from the University of Arizona.

Steven J. Yeager represents Assembly District 9 in the Nevada Legislature in Las Vegas. In the 2017 session, he chaired the Assembly Committee on Judiciary. When the legislature is not in session, Mr. Yeager practices law at Battle Born Injury Lawyers, focusing on personal injury and criminal defense. Prior to that, he was a chief deputy public defender at the Clark County Public Defender’s Office in Las Vegas, a position he held for more than eight years. After law school, Mr. Yeager worked as an associate at Bryan Cave, LLP in Phoenix for five years, specializing in class action and commercial litigation defense. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and his J.D. from Cornell Law School.