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# 2017 Winter Leadership Conference

## **Faculty Biographies**

**Sam J. Alberts** is a partner in Dentons' Restructuring, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Group in Washington, D.C. Ranked by *Chambers USA* for the tenth consecutive year, he is experienced in both in- and out-of-court restructurings, both in the U.S. and abroad. Named in *The Best Lawyers in America* (2017) for the seventh consecutive year and listed in *The Legal 500 US*, Mr. Alberts has represented creditors, debtors, committees, governmental and nongovernmental entities and other parties in many large and complex insolvency matters. He has investigation and first-chair litigation experience, and has performed significant work with respect to matters involving distressed health care entities and financial institutions. In 2016, Mr. Alberts was recognized in *The Deal Pipeline's* "Top Bankruptcy Lawyers" league table and as a "Local Litigation Star" in the District of Columbia by *Benchmark Litigation*. He is admitted to practice in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia, and before the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, Fourth Circuit and Ninth Circuit, the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, and the U.S. District Courts for the District of Columbia, Eastern and Western Districts of Virginia and the Western District of Washington. Mr. Alberts received his B.A. cum laude in 1987 from New York University and his J.D. in 1992 with honors from George Washington University School of Law.

**John R. Ashmead** is a partner in Seward & Kissel LLP's Bankruptcy and Reorganization Group and Business Transactions (M&A/Private Equity) Group in New York, where he specializes in workouts, chapter 11 cases (and foreign insolvency proceedings), bankruptcy/distressed acquisitions, bankruptcy-related litigation, structured finance transactions and private-equity investments, including acquisitions, mergers and divestitures. He represents lenders, other creditors, borrowers/issuers, equity-holders, acquirers, hedge funds, and members of and formal and informal stakeholder committees. Over the last several years, Mr. Ashmead has been involved in numerous distressed shipping matters, advising company-side lenders, investors and creditors. Previously, he was a law clerk to Hon. Cornelius Blackshear of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York from 1990-92. Mr. Ashmead is a Fellow of the American College of Investment Counsel and has been recognized as a leading lawyer in bankruptcy by *New York Super Lawyers* from 2010-14 and as a "Rising Star" by *Institutional Investor* in 2008. He received his B.S. in 1987 from St. John's University and his J.D. from Brooklyn Law School in 1990.

**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. Following law school, he clerked for Judge Procter R. Hug, Jr. of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit from 1992-93. Judge Barash is a member of ABI's Board of Directors. He also serves as a director of the Judicial Leadership Development Council and is a member of the NCBJ Committee on Judicial Security. He previously was a member of the board of directors for the Los Angeles Bankruptcy Forum. Judge Barash is a frequent panelist on bankruptcy law issues and has been a guest lecturer at the UCLA School of Law. He has also been involved in the local legal community as a pro bono attorney with the Public Counsel Chapter 7 Reaffirmation Hearing Clinic, and has been a volunteer judge for a course on negotiating and confirming chapter 11 plans at the UCLA School of Law and with UCLA's Mock Trial Competition. He currently serves as a director and immediate past president of the Junior Statesmen Foundation, a national, non-partisan organization sponsoring civics education programs for high school students. 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*.

**Bernadette M. Barron, CTP** is the principal of Barron Business Consulting in Chicago and has turnaround, receivership, financial-advisor, interim-management, operational, legal, tax and accounting expertise. She has more than 30 years of senior managerial experience, with assignments in more than 40 industries. The breadth of her experience is in middle-market companies with revenues ranging from under \$5 million to more than \$500 million. In addition to successfully guiding companies through a financial turnaround, Ms. Barron has taken companies through bankruptcy, liquidated corporate assets, negotiated equity and debt structures, and has been actively involved in the acquisition and divestiture of corporate assets and companies. Her roles have included being CRO, financial advisor for debtors and creditor committees, assignee for the benefit of creditors, receiver and liquidating trustee. Ms. Barron received her Bachelors in accounting from Wayne State University, her M.B.A. from DePaul University and her LL.M. from New York University.

**Sumant Batra** is a managing partner of Kesar Dass B. & Associates in New Delhi, India, and heads its insolvency and secured transactions practice. His areas of specialization are policy and regulatory advice, corporate insolvency and restructuring, foreign direct investment advisory, corporate and commercial transactions, debt recovery, private equity, real estate and corporate governance policy and compliance. Mr. Batra is president of the Society of Insolvency Practitioners of India, chief mentor to INSOL India and a past president of INSOL International, chairman of the ASSOCHAM National Council of Insolvency and Bankruptcy, member of the board of governors of the the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs of the Indian Government's Ministry of Corporate Affairs, senior international consultant to the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank Group, and senior international consultant to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris. He is rated as India's No. 1 insolvency lawyer by *Legal 500* and is a frequent speaker and writer.

**Alane A. Becket** is a managing partner at Malvern, Pa.-based Becket & Lee LLP, a Women's Business Enterprise, as certified by the Women's Business Enterprise National Council, that provides comprehensive nationwide representation of creditors in bankruptcy matters. She is also ABI's Vice President-Publications. AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell, Ms. Becket specializes in litigation strategy, and has been lead or co-counsel in some of the most successful and influential decisions in consumer bankruptcy over the last 15 years. She is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and has represented creditors and debt purchasers in commercial and bankruptcy matters and Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA) defense. She is a member of the National Association of Retail Collection Attorneys (NARCA), the National Association of Chapter Thirteen Trustees (NACTT) and the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees (NABT). Ms. Becket served on the editorial board of ABI's Consumer Bankruptcy website and is a past co-chair of ABI's Consumer Bankruptcy Committee. A frequent lecturer, she also co-authored *Consumer Bankruptcy: Fundamentals of Chapter 7 and Chapter 13, Third Edition* (ABI, 2011) and edited the 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2017 editions of the book series *Best of ABI: The Year in Consumer Bankruptcy*. Ms. Becket graduated from Pennsylvania State University and received her J.D. from Widener University School of Law.

**Daniel B. Besikof** is a partner with Loeb & Loeb LLP in New York and represents a wide variety of stakeholders in chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings, corporate restructurings and liquidations,

including debtors, lenders, administrative and collateral agents, indenture trustees, lessors, lessees, licensors, licensees, trade creditors, committees, investors and chapter 7 and liquidating trustees. His practice also focuses on representing defendants in bankruptcy-related litigation, including avoidance actions. Mr. Besikof advises clients in commercial litigation matters and has represented lenders and agents in the negotiation and documentation of secured and unsecured credit facilities involving term loans, revolving lines of credit and letters of credit. Prior to joining Loeb & Loeb LLP, he was an associate at Luskin, Stern & Eisler LLP. Mr. Besikof has been named a “New York Metro Rising Star” in *Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights* by Thomson Reuters (2011-15 editions) and is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell. He is a member of the Turnaround Management Association, ABI, the Association of the Bar of the City of New York and the Barry L. Zaretsky Roundtable Steering Committee. Mr. Besikof is admitted to the Bars of New York and Minnesota, and before the U.S. District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, as well as the U.S. Supreme Court. He received his B.S. in 2000 from the University of Wisconsin and his J.D. in 2004 from Brooklyn Law School, where he received the *American Bankruptcy Law Journal* Student Prize. Following law school, he was a judicial intern for Hon. Elizabeth Stong of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of New York.

**Martin J. Bienenstock** is chair of Proskauer’s Business Solutions, Governance, Reorganization & Bankruptcy Group in New York. He also teaches governance and reorganization as the Bruce W. Nichols Lecturer in Law at Harvard Law School and the University of Michigan Law School. Currently, Mr. Bienenstock is leading the representation of the Government Development Bank of Puerto Rico and the statutory creditors’ committee in the Caesars Entertainment cases, as well as helping many corporations modify their governance to increase share value, protect officers and directors, and be prepared in advance for shareholder activists. He was retained by General Motors specifically to advise the board and to develop and prepare the nearly instantaneous creation and protection of New General Motors using § 363. In addition, for the last nine years the *National Law Journal* has ranked him as one of the “100 Most Influential Lawyers in America.” Mr. Bienenstock received his B.S. in 1974 from the University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School of Business and his J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School.

**Mark A. Bogdanowicz** a shareholder at Howard & Howard Attorneys PLLC in Peoria, Ill., and regularly represents secured creditors in chapter 11 and chapter 12 bankruptcy cases. He has successfully navigated secured creditors through sales of debtors’ assets in bankruptcy, including situations in which the secured creditor was the ultimate buyer of the assets. He has also represented secured lenders in drafting agricultural loan agreements, negotiating plans of reorganization and cash collateral orders, and litigating valuation of collateral related to secured claims. Mr. Bogdanowicz is a member of ABI and serves on the Advisory Board of ABI’s Central States Bankruptcy Workshop. From 2008-15, he served on the ABI’s Labor and Employment Committee, which he co-chaired from 2014-15. Mr. Bogdanowicz is a coordinating editor for the *ABI Journal* and is a regular contributor. Among his most recently published articles on bankruptcy and bankruptcy-related subjects are “Fixing Our Infrastructure May Require Fixing the Bankruptcy Code: Preference Actions Threaten Municipal Contractors,” *ABI Journal*, Vol. XXXV, No. 9, September 2016 (with Lisa Gretchko), and “Legal Rights and Economic Realities: The Uncertain State of Public Pensions After Stockton,” *ABI Journal*, Vol. XXXIV, No. 2, February 2015. Mr. Bogdanowicz is admitted to practice before the state courts of Illinois, Indiana and Tennessee, as well as the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, the Federal District Courts for the Northern, Central and Southern Districts of Illinois, the Eastern District of Michigan,

the Northern and Southern Districts of Indiana and the Middle District of Tennessee. He received his A.B. *cum laude*, from Harvard University in 1995 and his J.D. from Vanderbilt University School of Law in 2000, where he was the articles editor of the *Vanderbilt Law Review*.

**Harold J. Bordwin** is a principal and managing director with Keen Summit Capital Partners LLC in New York and specializes in developing and implementing business strategies for maximizing the value of a company's real estate while mitigating its leasehold liabilities. He developed his experience in the context of financially stressed businesses. Mr. Bordwin has led his team to close, on an expedited basis, restructurings of real estate and lease portfolios, real estate sales, financings, sale-leasebacks, joint ventures and recapitalizations, and M&A transactions. He has more than 25 years of advisory and transactional experience and has handled the valuation, assessment, disposition and/or restructuring of thousands of owned and leased properties throughout North America. Mr. Bordwin has provided expert valuation and witness testimony, been interviewed and quoted by numerous publications, and spoken at numerous seminars and conferences. He has represented business owners, tenants, financial institutions, and private-equity and hedge funds, among others. Previously, Mr. Bordwin was a principal with KPMG LLP and was an associate at the law firms of Strock & Strock & Lavan and McKenna, Conner & Cueno. He is a member of ABI, the Turnaround Management Association and the International Council of Shopping Centers, and is a licensed real estate broker, a General Securities Representative (Series 7), a Registered Principal (Series 24), and Securities Agent (Series 63) and an Investment Banking Representative (Series 79). Mr. Bordwin received his undergraduate degree in government from Wesleyan University in 1982 and his J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center in 1985, where he was a staff member of *Law & Policy in International Business* and published articles in the *Ecology Law Quarterly* of the University of California at Berkeley Boalt Hall School of Law.

**Janine A. Bowen** is a shareholder and practice group co-leader of the Technology & Innovations Group in the Atlanta office of LeClairRyan, PC. Her practice focuses on commercial transactions involving technology and intellectual property. These include licensing and acquisition of technology, commercialization of internet-based assets and sophisticated buy- and sell-side cloud service agreements, health care IT and mobile technologies. Ms. Bowen negotiates and drafts technology and commercial agreements, and handles technology disputes. She is a Certified Information Privacy Professional. Prior to practicing law, Ms. Bowen worked at Accenture and IBM. She received her B.S. and M.S. in industrial engineering from Clemson University and her J.D. from Georgia State University College of Law.

**Wendy D. Brewer** is a partner with JensenBrewer, LLC in Fishers, Ind., practices in the areas of business bankruptcy and restructuring, commercial foreclosure, bankruptcy and commercial litigation, loan documentation, contract drafting and analysis, and providing general counsel advice for both small and large businesses. She has a long history of representing banks and borrowers, creditors and debtors, and businesses and business owners, in all aspects of workout and restructuring matters. Ms. Brewer is a member of ABI, the Seventh Circuit, Indianapolis and Indiana State Bar Associations, and the Indiana Association for Corporate Renewal (IACR) (for which she is president of its board of directors). She is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. Ms. Brewer has been a frequent speaker on bankruptcy and restructuring topics, including serving as an adjunct instructor in bankruptcy at IUPUI. She has also been recognized as

an *Indiana Super Lawyer* from 2008-13 and 2015-17, as one of Indiana's Top 25 Women Attorneys in 2010, 2012, 2013, 2016 and 2017 and as one of Indiana's Top 50 Lawyers in 2017, and she was recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America* from 2010-18, including as the Best Lawyers' 2016 and 2018 Indianapolis Mortgage Banking Foreclosure Law "Lawyer of the Year." Ms. Brewer received her B.A. *magna cum laude* from Florida State University in 1992 and her J.D. in 1995 with high honors from Florida State University College of Law, where she was an associate editor of the *Journal of Land Use and Environmental Law* and a member of the Order of the Coif.

**James L. Bromley** is a partner with Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP in New York and provides restructuring and litigation advice to debtors, creditors, sponsors, strategic investors and government actors. Over the course of his career, he has worked in the financial services, telecommunications, shipping, automotive, manufacturing, energy, mining, aviation and retail industries, among others. Mr. Bromley has played a leading role in many of the world's most high-profile distressed situations, including representing the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and Securities Exchange Commission in the failure of Lehman Brothers, the United Auto Workers in the bankruptcies of General Motors and Chrysler and Daewoo, and the U.S. Nortel entities in two of the most complex international insolvencies. He also has substantial first-chair trial experience before state, federal and international courts, including in the groundbreaking Nortel allocation trial before courts in Delaware and Ontario, recently named "Global Dispute of the Year" by *The American Lawyer*. Moreover, he is committed to his pro bono work, including serving as co-lead counsel with the Southern Poverty Law Center in a four-week jury trial obtaining unanimous verdicts that the practice of conversion therapy violates New Jersey's consumer fraud statute. Recognized by the business and legal press, including *The American Lawyer*, which named him a "Dealmaker of the Year"; *Benchmark Litigation*, which named him "Bankruptcy Lawyer of the Year"; and *Chambers USA*, which has named him a leading insolvency practitioner for over 10 years running, Mr. Bromley also has taught cross-border restructuring at Harvard Law School and speaks frequently on restructuring topics. He received his B.A. *summa cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa from Boston University in 1986 and his J.D. from Columbia Law School in 1989, where he served as an editor of the *Columbia Law Review*.

**Hon. William H. Brown** retired in 2006 as a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Tennessee and resides in Carbondale, Colo. During his career on the bench, he had been designated to sit in the Middle District of Tennessee, Southern District of Florida, Eastern District of Michigan and Western District of Kentucky. He also served a four-year term on the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the Sixth Circuit from 1999-2002. He currently conducts mediation in bankruptcy and commercial law matters, has conducted mock trials, and has testified as an expert witness in bankruptcy court proceedings. Judge Brown is a member of ABI and served on its Executive Committee, and he is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy. He has also authored or co-authored several texts, including *Bankruptcy Exemption Manual*, *2005 Bankruptcy Reform Legislation with Analysis* (1st and 2nd editions), *Bankruptcy and Domestic Relations Manual* and the *Law of Debtors and Creditors* (all published by Thomson West), and he is a principal contributing editor for *Norton Bankruptcy Law and Practice*. In 2008, Judge Brown joined Hon. Keith M. Lundin as co-author of *Chapter 13 Bankruptcy*, published by Bankruptcy Press. He currently serves as an advisor to the Academy for Consumer Bankruptcy Education, the education arm of the National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees. He received his J.D. from the University of Tennessee College of Law, where he was a member of the Order of the Coif.

**Hon. Kevin J. Carey** is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Delaware in Wilmington, first appointed in 2005 and serving as Chief Judge from 2008-11. He previously served as a U.S. bankruptcy judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, appointed on Jan. 25, 2001. Judge Carey began his legal career clerking for Hon. Thomas M. Twardowski, then served as clerk of court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. He is the Third Circuit representative on the Administrative Office's Bankruptcy Judges Advisory Group and a member of the Third Circuit Judicial Council's Facilities and Security Committee. Judge Carey is a past global chairman of the Turnaround Management Association, is a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges and is an ABI Executive Committee member. Judge Carey is a part-time adjunct professor at Temple University's Beasley School of Law and St. John's University's LL.M. in Bankruptcy program, and is a contributing author to the *Collier Forms Manual* and *Collier on Bankruptcy*. He received his B.A. in 1976 from Pennsylvania State University and his J.D. in 1979 from Villanova University School of Law.

**James S. Cassel** is chairman of Cassel Salpeter & Co., LLC in Miami, a middle-market investment banking firm. He has negotiated, structured and executed various types of transactions including mergers, acquisitions and divestitures; corporate and transactional financing, including venture capital, mezzanine and conventional financing; and public offerings and private placements. He has particular experience in developing financial restructuring plans, negotiating with creditors and guiding debtors through bankruptcy proceedings. Mr. Cassel frequently lectures on timely issues relating to middle-market investment banking. He has served on boards of directors of several companies, in addition to the National Investment Banking Association, an organization of middle-market investment banking firms, as well as M&A International, a worldwide group of investment banking firms. His professional involvements have also included membership in the American Association of Arbitrators and the NASD Board of Arbitrators. In addition, he was president as well as a board member of the South Florida Chapter of the Association for Corporate Growth. Mr. Cassel was a member of the Board of Directors of Equity One, a NYSE-listed REIT from April 2005 until May 2014, and served on the audit governance and compensation committees. He was also a member of the City of Miami, Florida Budget Task Force (2010). In July 2017, he was appointed to the Miami Sports & Exhibition Authority. A member of the New York and Florida Bars, Mr. Cassel received his B.S. from American University in 1976 and his J.D. from the University of Miami School of Law in 1979.

**Rudy J. Cerone** is a member of McGlinchey Stafford PLLC in New Orleans and a former chair and president of the American Board of Certification. A frequent lecturer on both business and complex consumer bankruptcy issues for more than 20 years, he also served as on ABI's Executive Committee as Secretary, co-chaired ABI's Bankruptcy Litigation Committee from 2005-06 and chaired its Hospitality, Entertainment Venues and Gaming Subcommittee from 2001-05. Mr. Cerone serves as a commissioner on the ABI Commission on Consumer Bankruptcy (2017-present) and as a co-chair of its Caribbean Insolvency Symposium (2015-present). He also is former chair, president and board member of the American Board of Certification. Mr. Cerone currently is a member of the State Bar of California, the Louisiana State Bar Association (for which he chaired its Consumer Protection and Bankruptcy Section from 1994-97), the Bankruptcy Law Advisory Commission of the Board of Legal Specialization, the Bar Association of the Federal Fifth Circuit and the American Bar Association. An author and lecturer on both business and complex consumer bankruptcy issues, he is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification (1993) and by the Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization (1997), and is also a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy. Mr. Cerone received his B.A. *summa cum laude* from the University of California at San

Diego and his J.D. *cum laude* from Boston College Law School, where he was a member of the Order of the Coif and received a “Best Law Review Editor” award as executive editor of the *Boston College International & Comparative Law Review*.

**Esben Christensen** is a managing director with AlixPartners LLP in New York and leads companies through complex operational and financial cross-border restructurings. He has nearly two decades of experience primarily within domestic and international transportation as a line manager, an interim executive, and a trusted advisor consistently executing high-impact cost management and restructuring strategies on his assignments. Mr. Christensen focuses on whole-company turnarounds, cross-border assignments, EBITDA-improvement programs, interim management and financial restructurings. Throughout his career, he has held positions in Denmark, Norway and most recently in the U.S. and has extensive experience in Asia, Europe, South America and the Caribbean. A native of Denmark, Mr. Christensen studied economics at Copenhagen Business School and Montclair State University, from which he graduated *summa cum laude* with a degree in economics.

**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. 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.

**Hon. Daniel P. Collins** is Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Arizona in Phoenix, appointed as bankruptcy judge on Jan. 18, 2013, and as chief judge on March 17, 2014. 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 chaired the Bankruptcy Section of the State of Arizona from 1995-96 and was a lawyer representative to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. He was granted the St. Thomas More Award in 2017. Mr. Collins is a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, ABI, Arizona Bankruptcy American Inn of Court, Federal Bar Association, National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees, State Bar of Arizona and the Maricopa County Bar. He currently serves on ABI’s Board of Directors and on the board of the Federal Bar Association’s Phoenix Chapter. He is also a member of the University of Arizona Law School Board of Visitors and was one of the founders of the Arizona Bankruptcy American Inn of Court. Judge Collins is a frequent speaker

on such topics as professionalism and civility, fraudulent transfers, discharge litigation, trial practice, reaffirmation agreements, the intersection of bankruptcy and marital dissolution, receiverships, bankruptcy sales, bankruptcy claims classification, trustee representation, pensions in bankruptcy, bankruptcy appeals and debtor/creditor law. He received both his B.S. in finance and accounting in 1980 and his J.D. in 1983 from the University of Arizona.

**J. Patrick Darby** is executive vice president, general counsel and corporate secretary of HealthSouth Corp. in Birmingham, Ala. Before joining HealthSouth in 2016, he was a bankruptcy lawyer at Bradley Arant Boult Cummings and an adjunct professor at the Cumberland School of Law. He has represented debtors in chapters 11 and 9 and out-of-court restructurings, and secured lenders, bondholders, construction companies, buyers of distressed assets, trade vendors and preference/fraudulent-transfer defendants. Mr. Darby's significant health care cases include filing two chapter 11s for Carraway Methodist Hospital, restructuring Cooper Green Mercy Hospital in the Jefferson County chapter 9 case, representing the buyers of hospitals and other health care properties in several chapter 11 and chapter 9 cases, and representing debtors and lenders in various assisted living, skilled nursing facility and other health care cases. He also was part of the defense team in the AseraCare False Claims Act case. Mr. Darby is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy. While in practice, he was listed in *Chambers USA*, *The Best Lawyers in America* and *Alabama Super Lawyers*. Mr. Darby received his undergraduate degree from Dartmouth College and his J.D. *magna cum laude* from Washington & Lee School of Law, where he was editor in chief of its law review. He subsequently clerked on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

**Stacey A. Dasaro** is an associate with BakerHostetler in New York and is focused on developing her law practice on bankruptcy law and litigation, utilizing her background in finance to strengthen her approach to clients' needs. Currently, she is involved in representing Irving H. Picard, Securities Investor Protection Act (SIPA) trustee for the liquidation of Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities LLC in connection with BakerHostetler's role as court-appointed counsel. Ms. Dasaro is a member of the New York City Bar Association, the New York County Lawyers Association and the American Institute of Restructuring Advisors. She is admitted to practice in New York and before the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. Previously, Ms. Dasaro spent time at a Big 4 accounting firm and clerked for Hon. Chief Bankruptcy Judge Carla Craig of the Eastern District of New York and Hon. Sean H. Lane of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York. She received her B.S. in policy analysis and management from Cornell University in 2005 and her J.D. *cum laude* from New York Law School in 2013, where she received a Government Fellowship Award and was a teaching fellow.

**Laura Day DelCotto** is the founder of DelCotto Law Group in Lexington, Ky., and has focused on chapter 11, commercial loan restructures and workouts, individual debtors and creditors for more than 25 years. She is admitted to practice in Kentucky Supreme Court, the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, the Southern District of Indiana and the U.S. Supreme Court. Ms. DelCotto is a member of ABI, the American Bar Association and the Turnaround Management Association. She also co-founded IWIRC's Kentucky Chapter and is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. Ms. DelCotto is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy and the American Bar Foundation, and has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* every year since 2007. She has also

been listed as a Top Attorney in Kentucky in *Super Lawyers* for 2017. Ms. DelCotto received her B.S. magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa in 1983 from the University of the South at Sewanee, and her J.D. with distinction in 1986 from the University of Kentucky College of Law.

**Douglas E. Deutsch** is a partner with Clifford Chance US LLP in New York and has represented creditors' committees, secured and unsecured creditors and indenture trustees. He also represents U.S. and non-U.S. business entities in complex commercial disputes. Mr. Deutsch is a regular speaker and writer on bankruptcy law topics and is recommended for corporate restructuring in *The Legal 500*. He currently serves as ABI's Vice President-Education. Mr. Deutsch previously co-chaired the ABI/FCBA Conference, the ABI/Bloomberg Distressed Lending Conference and ABI's Mid-Level Professional Development Program. He received his B.S. from Drew University and his J.D. from St. John's University School of Law, where he was editor-in-chief of the *ABI Law Review*. After graduation, he clerked for the Western District of Texas and then worked as an associate at a Texas law firm. He subsequently returned to St. John's to obtain his LL.M. and was awarded the first American Bankruptcy Institute Scholarship.

**Hon. Mary Grace Diehl** is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Georgia in Atlanta, appointed in February 2004. Prior to taking the bench, she was a partner in the litigation section of Troutman Sanders LLP and chaired its Bankruptcy Practice Group. During her years in private practice, she was consistently named in *The Best Lawyers in America* and *Chambers US: America's Leading Business Lawyers*. Judge Diehl is a past president of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, and serves on the Boards of Directors of ABI and the Turnaround Management Association. She is also a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and serves on its board of directors, and she is a former president of the Southeastern Bankruptcy Law Institute. Judge Diehl received the Woman of the Year in Restructuring Award in 2008 from IWIRC (International Women in Restructuring Confederation) and is a regular speaker at CLE programs. She served as a trustee of Canisius College from 2008-14 and has been an adjunct professor of law at Emory Law School. Judge Diehl received her B.A. *summa cum laude* from Canisius College in Buffalo, N.Y., and her J.D. *cum laude* from Harvard Law School.

**Jenny L. Doling** is a founding partner of DOLING SHAW & HANOVER, APC, in Palm Desert, Calif., where she represents trustees, creditors and debtors in chapter 7, 11, 12 and 13 bankruptcy matters. She is an active member of the bankruptcy bar. Ms. Doling speaks nationally on bankruptcy topics for NACBA, NACTT, NCBJ and ABI. She is the California State Chair for NACBA and a second term board member for IEBF, a chapter of CBF. She is also the current IEBF program chair and president-elect. Ms. Doling serves on the Central District of California Bar Advisory Committee to the Judges. In addition, she is an ABI Chapter 13 Committee member for its Commission on Consumer Bankruptcy. Ms. Doling is admitted to practice in all state and federal courts in California and Nevada. She is also admitted to practice before the U.S. Ninth and Tenth Circuit Courts of Appeals. In 2013, she was honored with the national Distinguished Services Award by NACBA, and in 2016, she received the Hammes-Shulman Legislative Advocacy Award for her work on SB308 to change the California homestead exemptions. Ms. Doling is the professor of Bankruptcy Law at the California Desert Trial Academy.

**Hon. Dennis R. Dow** is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Missouri in Kansas City, appointed on Nov. 10, 2003, by the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals. Prior to taking the bench, he was a partner with the firm of Shook, Hardy & Bacon LLP, where he represented trustees in chapter 7 cases involving significant assets, individual and corporate debtors in proceedings under chapters 7 and 11, and secured, unsecured and priority creditors and lessors in chapter 7, 11, 12 and 13 cases, and had been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* in the area of bankruptcy law every year since 1995. He also tried numerous adversary proceedings and contested matters, including preference actions, objections to discharge, dischargeability complaints and objections to confirmation of chapter 11 plans. Judge Dow is a *pro tem* member of the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel. He also serves on the Judicial Conference Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules and chairs its subcommittee on forms. Judge Dow is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, inducted in March 2013, and was selected in November 2014 to become a conferee of the National Bankruptcy Conference. He is a member of the Board of Governors of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges and serves as a member of the faculty of the Advanced Consumer Bankruptcy Practice Institute. Judge Dow is a member of the Missouri and Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Associations, and serves as ABI's Secretary. He received his B.A. with honors from the University of Wyoming and his J.D. from Washburn University School of Law, where he was notes editor of the *Washburn Law Journal*.

**Hon. Robert D. Drain** is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of New York in White Plains. Since his appointment, he has presided over such chapter 11 cases as *Loral*, *RCN*, *Cornerstone*, *Refco*, *Allegiance Telecom*, *Delphi*, *Coudert Brothers*, *Frontier Airlines*, *Star Tribune*, *Reader's Digest*, *A&P*, *Hostess Brands*, *Christian Brothers* and *Momentive*. He also has presided over the ancillary or plenary cases of *Corporacion Durango*, *Satellites Mexicanas*, *Parmalat S.p.A.* and its affiliated U.S. debtors, *Varig S.A.*, *Yukos (II)*, *SphinX*, *Galvex Steel*, *TBS Shipping*, *Excel Maritime* and *Nautilus*, and has served as the court-appointed mediator in a number of chapter 11 cases. Prior to his appointment to the bench in May 2002, Judge Drain was a partner in the bankruptcy department of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison, where he represented debtors, trustees, secured and unsecured creditors, official and unofficial creditors' committees, and buyers of distressed businesses and distressed debt in chapter 11 cases, out-of-court restructurings and bankruptcy-related litigation. He was also actively involved in several transnational insolvency matters. Judge Drain is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, a board member of ABI and the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, and a member of the International Insolvency Institute, and he is a past member and secretary of the Bankruptcy and Reorganization Committee of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. He was an adjunct professor for several years at St. John's University School of Law's LL.M. in Bankruptcy Program and is currently an adjunct professor at Pace University School of Law. He has also lectured and written on numerous bankruptcy-related topics and is the author of a novel, *The Great Work in the United States of America*. Judge Drain received his B.A. *cum laude* from Yale University and his J.D. from Columbia University School of Law, where he was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar for three years.

**David Dunn** is a managing partner with Cross Sound Management LLC in Wilton, Conn. Previously, he was with Arrowgrass Capital Partners (US) LP, Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld LLP, Sidley Austin and Greenberg Traurig. Mr. Dunn received his undergraduate degree from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale and his J.D. from St. John's University School of Law.

**Hon. Randall L. Dunn** is a retired U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Oregon in Portland, appointed in 1998. Previously, Judge Dunn was the managing partner of the Portland office of the law firm of Copeland, Landye, Bennett and Wolf, LLP, where his practice focused on corporate/business, securities and bankruptcy law. In the bankruptcy area, he represented a number of creditors' committees in chapter 11 cases, but his work also encompassed representation of creditors and debtors in matters ranging from preference defenses to representing individual debtors in chapter 7. In addition, he did substantial loan documentation work and worked extensively in business-entity formation and on mergers and acquisitions. Judge Dunn is a past president of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, having served previously as NCBJ Treasurer and Secretary, as well as on its Board of Governors. He has chaired the Federal Bar Association's Bankruptcy Section and spent five years as editor-in-chief of its newsletter publication, *Bankruptcy Briefs*. In addition, he has been very active in the Oregon State Bar Debtor-Creditor Section, serving four terms on its Executive Committee, one term as Treasurer and two years as editor-in-chief of the *Oregon Debtor-Creditor Newsletter*. He also has worked on several of the Section's subcommittees. Judge Dunn has chaired the Ninth Circuit's Bankruptcy Education Committee and served as the representative of Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Judges on the Ninth Circuit Executive Committee, the planning body for the Ninth Circuit Conference. In 2006, Judge Dunn was appointed to the Ninth Circuit's Bankruptcy Appellate Panel (BAP) and has served as its Chief Judge. He received his undergraduate degree with honors from Northwestern University and his J.D. in 1975 from Stanford University Law School, where he was an articles editor of its law review.

**Hon. Michael A. Fagone** is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Maine in Bangor, appointed in April 2015. Previously, he was co-chair of Bernstein Shur's Business Restructuring and Insolvency Practice Group in Portland, where he specialized in bankruptcy and insolvency law. While practicing law, he was recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America* and by *Chambers USA* as one of the top bankruptcy lawyers in Maine. Judge Fagone is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification and serves on ABI's Board of Directors. He received his B.A. from Amherst College in 1993 and his J.D. *summa cum laude* from the University of Maine School of Law in 1997.

**Robert J. Feinstein** is the managing partner of the New York office of Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP, which he opened in 2011. He represents debtors, creditors' committees, equity committees, acquirers and examiners in business reorganizations and related litigation. He also has experience representing debtors, foreign representatives and other case constituencies in cross-border insolvency cases. Mr. Feinstein's recent engagements include lead counsel to the official creditors' committees in the A&P, Sports Authority, Aeropostale, Jevic Holding Corp., Haggen Holdings, ERG Resources, Freedom Communications, AMF Bowling Worldwide, Circuit City Stores, Flying J, Reddy Ice and Wet Seal chapter 11 cases; conflicts counsel to the creditors' committees appointed in the ResCap and Chrysler LLC cases, and the ad hoc committee of major motion picture studios in the Blockbuster chapter 11 case. On the debtor side, he represents Digital Domain Media Group, and he represented boxer Mike Tyson and General Media, Inc., publisher of *Penthouse* magazine, in their chapter 11 cases. Mr. Feinstein is an adjunct professor in the St. Johns University LL.M. Program and frequently writes and lectures on bankruptcy topics. He received his B.A. from Lafayette College and his J.D. *magna cum laude* from Boston University School of Law.

**Stephen D. Finestone** is a partner in Finestone Hayes LLP in San Francisco, where he has handled numerous reorganizations for a wide range of businesses and individuals, including real estate developers, wholesale and manufacturing businesses, restaurants and health care providers. He has represented parties selling and acquiring assets out of bankruptcy estates, including operating businesses, hotels and other real estate assets. Mr. Finestone also represents creditors, both secured and unsecured, in bankruptcy matters. He has years of experience filing chapter 7 cases for entities and individuals, and he handles a wide variety of litigation in bankruptcy court, including prosecuting and defending dischargeability complaints, objections to discharge and avoidance actions. In addition to his work at the trial court level, Mr. Finestone has handled many appeals before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the Ninth Circuit and the district court. He also handles commercial litigation in state and federal courts and has served as an expert witness on bankruptcy matters. Mr. Finestone is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale Hubbell and has been selected a *Northern California Super Lawyer* in the area of bankruptcy law every year since 2008. He was a member of the Bench-Bar Liaison Committee for the Northern District of California from 2012-16 and co-chaired the committee from 2014-15. He has been on the Insolvency Law Committee of the Business law section of the State Bar of California since 2014 and is currently serving as the chair of the subcommittee on legislation. Mr. Finestone received his B.A. in 1981 from the University of California at Santa Barbara and his J.D. in 1986 from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law.

**Charles M. Forman** is a founder and senior member of Forman Holt (FormanLaw LLC) in Paramus, N.J. He has served as a panel trustee in New Jersey for more than 35 years, handling over 18,000 cases, including some of the most challenging in the region. He has also served as a panel trustee on a temporary basis in Delaware. Mr. Forman is the only panel trustee to have been recognized by the Office of the U.S. Trustee with the Director's Award for Outstanding Achievements by a Private Trustee. In 2016, he received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the *New Jersey Law Journal*. Mr. Forman currently serves as president of the New Jersey Bankruptcy Lawyers Foundation and has served as president of the New Jersey Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. He received his B.S.I.E. from the Newark College of Engineering and his J.D. from Seton Hall University Law School.

**Robert J. Frezza, CIRA, CVA, CPA** is a director with Deloitte CRG Financial Advisory Services LLP in New York and has more than 30 years of experience providing financial advisory services to clients across numerous industries in the U.S. and Europe. He is highly experienced in leading creditors and debtors through complex restructuring engagements, both in out-of-court and in-court proceedings. Additionally, he has experience in M&A and refinancing transaction due diligence projects for private-equity/hedge funds, private-equity-backed portfolio companies, lenders and acquisitive companies. Mr. Frezza has been an adviser to U.S./Canada Great Lakes commodities shipper on cash forecasting, business plan development, route optimization and cost-saving initiatives; the senior lenders of American Commercial Lines, the U.S.'s largest inland barge company, both before and throughout its bankruptcy over a two-year period; U.S. Shipping, Inc., a Jones Act coastwise shipper of petroleum products and specialty chemicals in the U.S. coastwise trade; the official of unsecured creditors of WR Grace, a \$3.5 billion global specialty chemicals company; a \$1.3 billion trucking and logistics company in their refinancing of \$250 million of senior debt; and the senior lenders of two restructurings of a \$600 million construction-related products company. In addition, he has been CRO for a \$200 million health care uniform company, an expert witness on behalf of unsecured creditors related to solvency of major chemicals company, and a financial advisor to a multi-bank syndicate

of numerous companies ranging in size from \$250 million to \$1.5 billion in revenue in the trucking, consumer products, and manufacturing and distribution businesses. Mr. Frezza received his B.B.A. from the Lubin School of Business at Pace University.

**Alan L. Friel** is a partner in BakerHostetler's Los Angeles office, where he coordinates the firm's Retailing and e-Commerce industry initiative and is a member of its Advertising, Marketing and Digital Media; Privacy and Data Security; Content & Platforms; and Software teams. He represents clients in acquisitions, financing, distribution, development, publishing and financing transactions, especially in cases where complex intellectual property and regulatory concerns exist. Mr. Friel has been contributing to the development of the legal and business paradigms of cyberspace since the days of CD-ROM and bulletin board services, and negotiated the first experimental internet production agreements with traditional Hollywood talent unions — SAG, DGA and WGA — in the 1990s. He is an assistant professor at UCLA in a multidisciplinary project at the Graduate School of TV, Film and Digital Media, and is an adjunct professor at Loyola Marymount School of Law. Mr. Friel is ranked among the Top Rated Lawyers in Technology by *American Lawyer Media*, was recognized by *Legal 500* in its Technology, Media and Telecom (Technology/Data Protection and Privacy) ranking, and was named one of the Most Influential Lawyers in Digital Media and E-Commerce Law in the *Los Angeles Business Journal*. He received his B.S. from Georgia State University, his E.P.M. from the University of California, Los Angeles Anderson School of Management and his J.D. from Northeastern University School of Law.

**Julia Frost-Davies** is a partner with Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP in Boston, where she focuses her practice on the representation of creditors in complex chapter 11 cases. A seasoned commercial litigator, she counsels clients facing commercial and bankruptcy litigation and appeals, and regularly represents investors and lenders throughout the capital structure on all aspects of restructuring and related litigation, including debtor-in-possession financing, distressed M&A transactions, claim and plan negotiation and litigation, and out-of-court workouts. Ms. Frost-Davies frequently leads trial practice workshops for ABI and co-authored *Debtor in Possession Financing Orders: Line by Line* (Aspatore Books 2008). In addition, she serves as treasurer and a director of the Honorable Tina Brozman Foundation. Ms. Frost-Davies is a past chair of the board of trustees of the Women's Bar Foundation and served on the board of editors for the *Boston Bar Journal*. Her recent representative matters include acting as counsel to DIP lenders in Energy Future Holdings and related cases; representation of the UMWA health and retirement funds in connection with the chapter 11 cases of Alpha Natural Resources, Inc., Arch Coal, Inc., Patriot Coal Corp., Peabody Energy Corp. and Walter Energy, Inc.; representation of pre-petition secured lenders in Relativity Fashion, LLC; and representation of noteholders in receivership proceedings involving a 55-megawatt biomass-fueled electric generating facility. Ms. Frost-Davies is admitted to practice in Massachusetts and before the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the First and Tenth Circuits, and the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts. She has been recognized as an *IFLR1000* "Rising Star" in Restructuring and Insolvency for 2014, as a "Top 40 Under 40" in the *Boston Business Journal*, and as a *Massachusetts Super Lawyer*. Ms. Frost-Davies is a graduate of the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and received her J.D. *summa cum laude* from New England School of Law, where she served as managing editor of the *New England Law Review*.

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

**Karim Guirguis, PMP, CAE**, is chief information officer of the American Bankruptcy Institute in Alexandria, Va., the nation's largest association of bankruptcy professionals, comprised of over 12,000 members in multidisciplinary roles, including attorneys, bankers, judges, lenders, professors, turnaround specialists, accountants, auctioneers and others. He oversees ABI's Interactive Media and Technology Department, which is responsible for ABI's website, videos, podcasts, distance-learning programs and multimedia production. Mr. Guirguis provides vision and leadership in transforming and conducting the company's internal and external IT plans. He joined the ABI staff in 2002 after several positions in website architecture and computer animation, most recently with Disney MGM Studios in Florida. Mr. Guirguis's work has earned several awards from his peers, including the prestigious Horizon Award for ABI's video honoring its founders, as well as the Webby Award for his work with Tiffany Inc. and Polo.com. He is a regular presenter on cutting-edge technology issues for professional educators such as the American Society of Association Executives, for which he serves on its technology board. Mr. Guirguis received his B.S. in electrical engineering from Cambridge University in England and his Master's in multimedia and animation from George Mason University, and he is working toward completing an executive M.B.A. program at the Harvard Business School.

**Lance Gurley** is a managing director at Blackhill Partners in Dallas, where he advises clients on mergers and acquisitions, complex restructurings and private placements of debt and equity securities. He regularly represents public and private companies, and advises their respective boards of directors and senior management on developing solutions for reorganizing capital structures and business operations. Mr. Gurley's clients include companies in a range of industries, including energy, maritime, manufacturing and consumer products/retail. He has also advised private-equity funds, distressed investors and commercial banks on a range of mergers and acquisitions and restructuring initiatives. Mr. Gurley holds FINRA Series 7, 22, 24, 63 and 79 licenses, is a Registered General Securities Principal, and is a member of ABI and the Turnaround Management Association. In addition, he was selected as a recipient of the Emerging Leaders Award, presented by *The M&A Advisor*. Mr. Gurley received his B.A. from the University of Mississippi with concentrations in psychology, history and English.

**Jennifer C. Hagle** is a partner with Sidley Austin LLP in Los Angeles and has more than 25 years of experience representing clients in bankruptcy and out-of-court restructurings. She is regularly recognized for her knowledge as a bankruptcy and restructuring lawyer and her ability to develop creative exit strategies, drive consensus and achieve better-than-expected results efficiently and effectively. Ms. Hagle's practice principally focuses on representing holders of senior secured, mezzanine and subordinated debt in both public and private middle-market and large-cap deals. Her clients include banks, hedge funds and other financial institutions in a wide range of industries, including aviation, media, clean energy (ethanol and biofuels), technology, internet gaming, retail and restaurants, technology, health care, hospitality, real estate and for-profit higher education. In 2017, Ms. Hagle was named a Fellow of the American College of Commercial Finance Lawyers (ACCFL), and in 2014, she was named a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy for the class of 2015. She is listed in the 2008-17 editions of *Chambers USA*, in the *Los Angeles Daily Journal's* 2014 list of "100 Leading Women Lawyers in California," in *The Best Lawyers in America* for 2013-18) and in *Southern California Super Lawyers* for 2012-17. In 2014, she received the award for "Mentoring: Private Practice Lawyer of the Year" from *Chambers USA Women in Law* and an "Innovator" award from ALM's *The Recorder* for her "mentor[ing] of female attorneys on social media use, co-authoring papers and developing the building blocks of their practices." Ms. Hagle received her B.A. from UCLA in 1983 and her J.D. from the University of California, Hastings College of Law in 1987.

**Hon. Bruce A. Harwood** is Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of New Hampshire in Manchester, first appointed in March 2013. He also serves on the First Circuit's Bankruptcy Appellate Panel. Prior to his appointment, Judge Harwood chaired the Bankruptcy, Insolvency and Creditors' Rights Group at Sheehan Phinney Bass + Green in Manchester, N.H., representing business debtors, asset-purchasers, secured and unsecured creditors, creditors' committees, trustees in bankruptcy, and insurance and banking regulators in connection with the rehabilitation and liquidation of insolvent insurers and trust companies. He was also a chapter 7 panel trustee in the District of New Hampshire and mediated disputes arising in debtor/creditor relations. Judge Harwood was program co-chair of ABI's Northeast Bankruptcy Conference for four years, served on ABI's Board of Directors (Communication, Information and Technology Committee) and was Northeast Regional Chair of the ABI Endowment Fund's Development Committee. He is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy and was consistently recognized in the bankruptcy law section of *The Best Lawyers in America* and in *New England Super Lawyers*, as well as in *Chambers USA* with a "Band 1" ranking in the field of corporate/commercial bankruptcy. Judge Harwood received his B.A. from Northwestern University and his J.D. from Washington University School of Law.

**Henry E. Hildebrand, III** has served as standing chapter 13 trustee for the Middle District of Tennessee in Nashville since 1982 and as standing chapter 12 trustee since 1986. He is also Of Counsel to the Nashville law firm of Lassiter, Tidwell, Davis, PLLC. He is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and the Nashville Bar Foundation. Mr. Hildebrand is Board Certified in Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. He chairs of the Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee of the National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees (NACTT) and sits on the board of directors for the NACTT Academy for Consumer Bankruptcy Education, Inc. He is also an adjunct faculty member of the Nashville School of Law and St. John's University School of Law. In addition, he serves on ABI's Commission on Consumer Bankruptcy. Mr. Hildebrand graduated from Vanderbilt University and received his J.D. from the National Law Center of George Washington University.

**Ariane R. Holtschlag** is an associate attorney with the Law Office of William J. Factor in Chicago, where her practice is focused primarily in the field of consumer bankruptcy and is equally divided among representing trustees, debtors and creditors in chapters 7 and 13. She also represents individuals and small businesses in chapter 11. Ms. Holtschlag has spoken at several bankruptcy education programs and also volunteered for CARE, speaking to high school students about credit and bankruptcy. In 2017, she was chosen as one of ABI's inaugural "40 Under 40" award recipients in recognition of her achievements. Ms. Holtschlag received her undergraduate degree in 2004 from Illinois Wesleyan University and her J.D. from the University of Iowa in 2007.

**Nicole R. Horton** is an executive director in Ernst & Young's U.S. Transaction Advisory Services practice in Los Angeles. She has more than 14 years of experience providing restructuring and investment banking services both in and out of bankruptcy to companies and all classes of creditor constituencies. Previously, she was a vice president in international banking at a regional bank in California, specializing in trade finance and asset-backed lending and working with different debt-structure and derivative instruments. Ms. Horton's experience includes living wills, financial restructurings, refinancings, mergers and acquisitions, valuations, debt-structure analysis, capital raises, developing and analyzing business plans and cash-flow models, and evaluating strategic alternatives. She has represented clients across a broad range of industries, including financial services, real estate, retail and consumer products, agriculture, hospitality and entertainment, as well as the public sector. She has also been involved in a significant number of recovery and resolution engagements, ranging from complex financial institutions with a global presence to regional firms, as well as clearinghouses and other industry participants, and has been advising extensively on living will engagements related to the Dodd-Frank Act, including the development of resolution plans, including strategic analyses, for orderly wind-downs. Her clients have ranged from complex financial institutions with a global presence to regional firms. Ms. Horton received her B.A. in East Asian languages and culture with an emphasis in Mandarin Chinese, with honors and Phi Beta Kappa, from the University of Kansas, and her Masters of International Management with distinction and an emphasis in finance and German from the American Graduate School of International Management.

**Hon. Barbara J. Houser** is the Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Texas in Dallas. Upon graduation from law school, she joined Locke, Purnell, Boren, Laney & Neeley in Dallas and became a shareholder in 1985. Judge Houser then joined Sheinfeld, Maley & Kay PC in 1988 as the shareholder in charge of the Dallas office until she was sworn in as a bankruptcy judge on Jan. 20, 2000. In 1998, the *National Law Journal* named her one of the 50 most influential women lawyers in America. She was elected a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy in 1994. She was also elected a conferee of the National Bankruptcy Conference and served as president of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges from 2009-10. In addition, she is a past chairman of the Dallas Bar Association's Committee on Bankruptcy and Corporate Reorganization. In 2011, Judge Houser received the Distinguished Alumni Award for Judicial Service from the Dedman School of Law at Southern Methodist University, and she received the 2014 William L. Norton Jr., Judicial Excellence Award for her continuing contributions to the insolvency community. In addition, in October 2016 she received the Distinguished Service Award from the Alliance of Bankruptcy Inns of the American Inns of Court, and in March 2017, Chief Justice John Roberts appointed her to serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Judicial Center, the education and research arm of the Third Branch. She currently serves on ABI's Executive Committee and on the executive board of the SMU Dedman School of Law, for which she has taught a creditors' rights class as a visiting professor, and

she served as a contributing author to *Collier on Bankruptcy* (15th ed.) and the *Collier Bankruptcy Manual* (3rd ed.). Judge Houser received her undergraduate degree with high distinction from the University of Nebraska and her J.D. from Southern Methodist University Law School, where she was editor of its law review.

**Hon. David W. Houston, III** is a retired U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Mississippi and practices with Mitchell, McNutt & Sams in Aberdeen, Miss., where his practice is focused on commercial transactions, commercial litigation, bankruptcy and creditors' rights. As a judge, he also presided over cases in the Southern District of Mississippi, Middle District of Louisiana, and the Northern, Southern and Western Districts of Texas. Judge Houston conducted trials in numerous consumer and complex business cases and authored hundreds of published opinions. Prior to assuming the bench, he was a partner for 11 years in the Aberdeen, Miss., law firm of Houston, Chamberlain and Houston. He also served as a special agent with the FBI in Washington, D.C., Tampa, Fla., and New York City. Due to his experience in the area of alternative dispute resolution, he is available to conduct mediation and arbitration proceedings. Judge Houston received his B.B.A. in accountancy in 1966 and his J.D. in 1969 from the University of Mississippi.

**Rebecca Hume** is a partner at disputes and investigations specialist firm Kobre & Kim LLP in Gama-na Bay, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, where she handles cross-border insolvency litigation fraud and asset-tracing, international judgment enforcement and complex commercial disputes. Her practice covers both offshore and onshore regions, and she represents shareholders and other stakeholders in both solvent and insolvent liquidations. Ms. Hume, who was recognized by *Global Arbitration Review* as a leading lawyer in asset recovery, represents interests in the Cayman Islands and the U.K. in disputes related to the financial services and insurance industries, among others. Working frequently with onshore co-counsel, particularly in the U.S., she works to find multijurisdictional solutions to recover assets for creditors, trustees, investors, managers and independent directors of distressed investment funds. She advocates as well for financial institutions and governments. Ms. Hume received both her LL.B. and LL.M. from Nottingham Trent University.

**Michael E. Imber, CIRA** is a consultant based in the New York City metro area who specializes in municipal distress and performance improvement. He has more than 25 years of experience counseling clients on bankruptcies, workouts and municipal consulting assignments. He also co-authored several white papers in the municipal restructuring sector, including *Taking the Fiscal Pulse of Local Government*. Mr. Imber recently testified in front of the Connecticut General Assembly regarding the state's structural budget deficit and approaches for remediation. He has extensive municipal chapter 9 bankruptcy experience, having represented major unsecured creditors in the City of Detroit bankruptcy. He also generated 100 percent recoveries for the largest unsecured creditor claimants in the Jefferson County and the Mammoth Lakes chapter 9 cases. Previously, Mr. Imber was a senior director of the Public Sector Services Section of Alvarez & Marsal in New York and a senior vice president at the Centre Insurance Co., where he held global responsibility for the monitoring, restructuring and exit strategy for a multi-billion-dollar credit surety portfolio. He also previously served as director of the Business Recovery Services practice of PricewaterhouseCoopers, where he represented creditors' committees, banks and debtors in and out of the bankruptcy process. Mr. Imber is a Certified Emergency Manager in the State of Michigan and has served as a trustee of the Citizens Budget Commission, a nonpartisan fiscal watchdog group focused on New York State and New York City municipal

finance. He has been frequently quoted on municipal and state fiscal sustainability topics in the *Wall Street Journal*, *BusinessWeek*, *The Bond Buyer* and Bloomberg. Mr. Imber is a board member of the Municipal Analysts Group of New York and has served on the executive board of the Turnaround Management Association International. He is also a past president of TMA's New York City Chapter and a past trustee of the Citizens Budget Commission of New York. Mr. Imber received his B.S. in finance from the University of Illinois and his M.B.A. from Columbia University.

**Hon. Laurel M. Isicoff** is Chief Judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida in Miami, initially appointed on Feb. 13, 2006, and named chief judge on Oct. 1, 2016. She also serves on ABI's Board of Directors. Judge Isicoff is the secretary of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges and a member of the Pro Bono Committee of the American College of Bankruptcy. She is a past chair of the Public Outreach Committee of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges and continues to be active in outreach efforts to state court judges, district court judges, and in *pro se* and pro bono matters. She also currently serves as judicial chair of the Pro Bono Committee of the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar. Prior to becoming a judge, Judge Isicoff specialized in commercial bankruptcy, foreclosure and workout matters both as a transactional attorney and litigator for 14 years with the law firm of Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton after practicing for 8 years with Squire, Sanders & Dempsey, now known as Squire Patton Boggs. She also developed a specialty in bankruptcy and SEC receiverships involving Ponzi schemes. After law school, Judge Isicoff clerked for Hon. Daniel S. Pearson of the Florida Third District Court of Appeals before entering private practice. She is a past president of the Bankruptcy Bar Association (BBA) of the Southern District of Florida, and until she took the bench chaired the Pro Bono Task Force for the BBA. Judge Isicoff speaks extensively on bankruptcy and pro bono service around the country and to high school and college students in the South Florida area about financial literacy. She received her J.D. from the University of Miami School of Law in 1982.

**J. Eric Ivester** is a corporate restructuring partner with Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP in New York and currently represents SunEdison, Inc., *et al.* in one of the largest chapter 11 cases filed in 2016. Other significant chapter 11 debtor representations have included Exide Technologies, one of the nation's largest automotive and industrial battery manufacturers; Hostess Brands, the maker of Wonder Bread and Twinkies; Hayes-Lemmerz, the largest global producer of wheels for passenger cars and light trucks; Mark IV/Dayco Products, a tier-one automotive supplier; Kmart Corp.; Einstein Bros./Noah Bagel Corp.; and Montgomery Ward. Mr. Ivester's representations have also included Travelport Limited in connection with the out-of-court restructuring of \$2.1 billion of capital markets debt and term loans; Ipsen Pharma SAS in the chapter 11 case of Inspiration Biopharmaceuticals, Inc. and the sale of certain drug patents; Dayco Products LLC in the acquisition of the assets of Metavation LLC, a chapter 11 debtor; DISH Network Corp. in its \$1.4 billion acquisition of 100 percent of the equity of DBSD North America, Inc.; and MF Global Holdings, Ltd. in its chapter 11 filing. Mr. Ivester was selected for inclusion in *Chambers Global* in 2016 and 2017 and repeatedly has been selected for inclusion in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*, *The Best Lawyers in America*, *IFLR1000* and *Euromoney* and Legal Media Group's *Expert Guide to the World's Leading Insolvency and Restructuring Lawyers*. He is a board member of the *ABI Law Review* and is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy. Mr. Ivester received his B.A. in 1982 from the University of Oklahoma and his J.D. from the University of Oklahoma in 1985 with highest honors.

**Reginald W. Jackson** is a partner at Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP in Columbus, Ohio, where he is a member of its bankruptcy practice. He has represented secured creditors, chapter 11 debtors, trustees, creditors' committees, equity-holders, asset-purchasers, vendors and suppliers. His practice also includes all aspects of commercial collections and workouts, including loan restructurings, forbearance arrangements, receiverships and foreclosures. Mr. Jackson is a former ABI president and is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, having been inducted as a member of its 12th class on March 30, 2001. He was named one of America's "Top Black Lawyers" by *Black Enterprise Magazine* and was formerly chairman of the ABA Conference of Minority Partners in Majority/Corporate Law Firms. Mr. Jackson is a past president of the Ohio State Bar Foundation and from 2003-07 was a member of the Board of Governors of the Ohio State Bar Association. Since 1995, he has been honored in *The Best Lawyers in America*, and since 1994 he has been named an "Ohio Super Lawyer" and "Leading Lawyer" by *Chambers and Partners*. Mr. Jackson is a member of the Ohio State Bar Association and is admitted to the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals and the U.S. District Courts for the Northern and Southern Districts of Ohio. He has spoken on several occasions before the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, ABI's Annual Spring Meeting and Winter Leadership Conference, the Southeastern Bankruptcy Law Institute and the Midwest Regional Bankruptcy Seminar on a variety of bankruptcy and restructuring topics. Mr. Jackson received his undergraduate degree from Cornell University and his J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

**Soneet R. Kapila** is a founding partner of KapilaMukamal, LLP in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., where he focuses on litigation support, restructuring, insolvency, fiduciary and creditors' rights matters. He regularly advises clients about the insolvency implications involved in business transactions, and represents debtors, secured creditors and creditors' committees in formulating, analyzing and negotiating plans of reorganization. Mr. Kapila is a recognized expert in fraudulent conveyance, Ponzi scheme and insolvency issues. He has provided expert testimony and extensive litigation support services to law firms involving complex insolvency issues and in commercial damages. To that end, he has worked in conjunction with the SEC, the FBI and the U.S. Attorney's Office, and has served both as a consultant and expert witness for litigation matters in state and federal courts. Mr. Kapila is a federal bankruptcy trustee and has served as an examiner, chief restructuring officer, chapter 11 trustee, liquidating trustee, corporate monitor (SEC appointment), and state and federal court-appointed receiver of operating businesses in numerous matters in the Southern and Middle Districts of Florida. He has spoken to various groups, including New York Law School, St. Thomas University Law School, National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees, Receiver's Forum, Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Advisors, Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants, National Business Institute, National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees (NABT) and ABI on topics related to insolvency, underperforming businesses and insolvency taxation. Mr. Kapila is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and was named best trustee in the *Daily Business Review's* "Best of 2012." He is also on the board of directors and is a past president and past chairman of the Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Advisors, co-chairs ABI's Southeast Bankruptcy Workshop, and co-authored *Fraud and Forensics: Piercing Through the Deception in a Commercial Fraud Case* (ABI 2015). Mr. Kapila received his M.B.A. in 1978 from Cranfield School of Management.

**Gary L. Kaplan** is a partner at Farella Braun + Martel LLP in San Francisco and chairs the firm's Restructuring, Insolvency & Creditors Rights Group, which has earned national rankings from *U.S. News - Best Lawyers*. He represents debtors, secured and unsecured creditors, creditors' commit-

tees, trustees and receivers in a wide range of bankruptcy and nonbankruptcy matters. He also has extensive litigation experience in both bankruptcy and nonbankruptcy courts at the trial and appellate levels, including the U.S. Supreme Court. Among other high-profile representations, Mr. Kaplan has recently been lead counsel for Yellow Cab Cooperative in its chapter 11 bankruptcy case, and was co-lead counsel for Pacific Gas and Electric Co. and Pacific Lumber Co. in each of their chapter 11 bankruptcy cases, which were among the largest bankruptcy cases ever filed in their respective industries and resulted in those companies' successful reorganizations. He also has represented the unsecured creditors' committees in each of the Carey Limousine L.A. and Cascade Acceptance Corp. chapter 11 cases. Mr. Kaplan is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification and a Certified Legal Specialist in Bankruptcy Law by the State Bar of California, and he has been recognized as a *Super Lawyer* for a dozen years, as well as named Lawyer of the Year for Restructuring and Insolvency by *Corporate LiveWire*. He has lectured and written on a variety of bankruptcy and commercial law topics. Prior to his legal career, Mr. Kaplan was a financial analyst with First Boston Corp. (now Credit Suisse). He received his B.S. *magna cum laude* from the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business in 1986 and his J.D. from the University of California, Los Angeles School of Law in 1991.

**Robert J. Keach** is a shareholder at Bernstein, Shur, Sawyer & Nelson, P.A. in Portland, Maine, where he focuses on the representation of various parties in workouts and bankruptcy cases, including debtors, creditors, creditors' committees, lessors and third parties acquiring troubled companies and/or their assets. He served as co-chair of ABI's Commission to Study the Reform of Chapter 11. Mr. Keach has appeared before the bankruptcy courts in the Districts of Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Delaware, the Northern District of California and the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York. He has appeared as a panelist on national bankruptcy, lender liability and creditors' rights programs, and is the author of several articles on bankruptcy and creditors' rights appearing in the *ABI Law Review*, *Commercial Law Journal* and *ABI Journal*, among other publications. He is admitted to practice in Maine and Massachusetts. Mr. Keach is the chapter 11 trustee in the cross-border railroad reorganization of Montreal Maine & Atlantic Railway, Ltd. He also was the fee examiner in *In re AMR Corp.* (the chapter 11 cases of American Airlines and its parent and certain affiliates), *Exide Technologies* and *Mineral Park*, and is currently the fee examiner in *Relativity Media*. Mr. Keach has, *inter alia*, represented ad hoc committees in the *Homebanc Mortgage*, *New Century TRS Holdings* and *Nortel Networks* cases in Delaware, as well as a public utilities commission in the *FairPoint Communications* case in the Southern District of New York, and currently represents parties in *In re Sports Authority Holdings Inc.* (Delaware) and *In re Verso Corp.* (Delaware). He is also Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. Mr. Keach received his J.D. in 1980 from the University of Maine.

**Hon. Louis H. Kornreich** is a retired U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Maine in Bangor and is Of Counsel with Bernstein Shur in Bangor, where he mediates in complex cases. He was initially appointed on April 3, 2001, served as Chief Judge from 2004-11 and was redesignated as Chief Judge on July 1, 2013, until leaving the bench in April 2015. Judge Kornreich was also a member of the First Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel and was a visiting judge in the Districts of New Hampshire and Delaware. He also served as the representative for the First Circuit on the Bankruptcy Judges Advisory Group for the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts from 2011-14. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Kornreich was a senior partner and head of the commercial law and bankruptcy section at the law firm of Gross, Minsky & Mogul PA in Bangor. Judge Kornreich holds a certificate

of completion from the St. Johns/ABI Bankruptcy Mediation Training Program and is a registered mediator in the bankruptcy courts of the Southern District of New York, Delaware and Massachusetts. He has mediated disputes in many types of bankruptcy conflicts including plan confirmations, avoidance cases, disputed claims and adversary proceedings covering a wide range of issues. Judge Kornreich received his J.D. from Catholic University of America in 1974.

**Thomas R. Kreller** is a partner in the Los Angeles office of Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP and a member of the firm's Financial Restructuring Group. He joined the firm in 1997 and has been a partner since 2001. Mr. Kreller focuses on bankruptcy and corporate reorganization law and has represented debtors, lenders, equity-holders, committees and acquirers in bankruptcy cases, loan restructurings and out-of-court workouts. He has been listed as one of the leading lawyers in the nation by various publications, including *Chambers USA* and *The Best Lawyers in America*, every year since 2006. He has also been recognized as a *Southern California Super Lawyer* since 2005. Mr. Kreller is admitted to practice in California and before the U.S. District Courts for the Central, Eastern, Northern and Southern Districts of California, as well as the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. He received his B.S. from Millikin University, his M.B.A. from UCLA and his J.D. from UCLA School of Law.

**M. Natasha Labovitz** is a corporate partner and co-chair of the Debevoise & Plimpton LLP's Business Restructuring & Workouts Group in New York. She has advised a range of clients, including private-equity firms, fund investors and portfolio companies, in complex corporate restructurings and transactions, representing debtors and creditors in and out of bankruptcy and in cross-border insolvencies across multiple jurisdictions. Ms. Labovitz was named "Dealmaker of the Year" by *The American Lawyer* (2015) and received the Turnaround Management Association's 2016 "Transaction of the Year: Large Company Award" for her role in advising Altegrity in its chapter 11 proceedings and successful restructuring of more than \$1.8 billion in funded indebtedness. She is ranked by *Chambers USA* and *The Legal 500 US*, and she was recognized in 2014 and 2015 by *Turnarounds & Workouts* in its annual list of "12 Outstanding Restructuring Lawyers in the United States." She was also named "Law360 MVP" for 2015 by *Law360* for her restructuring work. Ms. Labovitz is a member of the Turnaround Management Association, ABI, the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation, INSOL International and the *Global Restructuring Review* editorial board. She received her B.A. *magna cum laude* from Columbia College, Columbia University in 1992 and her J.D. *magna cum laude* from New York University School of Law in 1996.

**Michael R. Lane, CPA** is a managing director with Hammond Hanlon Camp LLC in Chicago and has more than 38 years of industry experience providing financial advisory services to health care clients across the nation. During this time, he has provided a variety of advisory services to health care providers, including acquisition, divestiture, restructuring and operational improvement services for hospitals, health systems, physician group practices, long-term care organizations and other ancillary services. His clients have included academic medical centers, multi-hospital systems, free-standing acute care hospitals, managed senior care providers, multi-specialty physician groups and home health organizations. Over the past 20 years, Mr. Lane has focused almost entirely on financial advisory services to distressed health care organizations with a focus on the hospital sector. He has provided restructuring services to providers out-of-court as well as within chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings, and has been interim Chief Executive Officer or Chief Restructuring Officer. He has also

served in capacity as a court-appointed receiver leading a troubled health care provider while reporting to a superior court judge in the receivership proceeding. Since joining H2C, Mr. Lane has advised numerous hospitals in chapter 11 proceedings and currently represents hospitals in two separate proceedings. Previously, he was a managing director at Navigant Capital Advisors, LLC in Chicago, where he led the health care restructuring efforts of the firm. His notable engagements have included Brotman Medical Center in Culver City, Calif., where he led the organization through a successful plan of reorganization in a chapter 11 proceeding as CEO, and Madison Center, Inc. a multi-facility behavioral organization as CEO and court-appointed receiver in a receivership proceeding in Indiana. Mr. Lane has served on nonprofit boards for educational organizations and is a frequent speaker at industry programs and seminars on topics related to health care, including access to capital, organizational restructuring and operational turnaround. He received both his B.S. and M.S. in Business Administration from Southeast Missouri State University.

**Prof. Robert M. Lawless** is a professor of law at the William S. Boyd School of Law of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. He has written extensively in the fields of bankruptcy and corporate law, with a special emphasis on interdisciplinary studies of law and finance. Prof. Lawless serves on the editorial boards of the *Financial Review* and the *American Bankruptcy Law Journal*. Prior to joining the faculty of the Boyd School of Law, he taught at the University of Missouri-Columbia. In addition, he has held visiting faculty appointments at the University of Illinois, Ohio State University and Washington University in St. Louis. Before teaching, Prof. Lawless practiced with the Washington, D.C., law firm of Zuckert, Scoutt & Rasenberger and clerked for Hon. Harlington Wood, Jr. of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit.

**Franklind D. Lea, CIRA**, is the president of Tactical Financial Consulting, LLC in Alpharetta, Ga., and has more than 30 years of professional experience and education in complex business and financial matters. He has broad expertise in commercial finance, insolvency, real estate, real estate finance and valuation. His experiences encompass business and project evaluation, damage claims and lost profits, debt and equity structuring and restructuring, feasibility analysis, financial analysis, investment management, lending and leasing, and valuation. Since the creation of Tactical Financial, Mr. Lea has provided services to companies, investors, lenders and secured creditors, unsecured creditors' committees and law firms. He has acted as an advisor and litigation consultant, and has provided expert witness reports and expert testimony for a number of matters related to damage claims, feasibility, financing, real estate and specialized bankruptcy issues such as the § 1111(b) election, § 1129 confirmation requirements, the indubitable equivalent and *Till* cramdown interest rates. Prior to becoming a consultant, Mr. Lea worked for financial institutions and commercial real estate firms in such roles as credit analyst, commercial loan officer, commercial credit manager and credit officer, specialty lender, workout officer and commercial real estate appraiser. His experiences include direct lending of approximately \$500 million to businesses and commercial real estate ventures and credit review and approval of approximately \$1.5 billion. He has also led numerous workouts and financial restructurings saving debtors and/or creditors hundreds of millions of dollars of potential losses while working with companies with market capitalization ranging from \$1 million to in excess of \$1 billion. Within these roles, he has participated in more than 200 court hearings and provided testimony through affidavits, depositions and direct examination within the courtroom. Mr. Lea sits on ABI's Board of Directors and is a member of its Education and Nominating Committees. He also co-chairs ABI's Asset Sales Committee and sits on the advisory board of ABI's Judge Alexander L. Paskay Memorial Bankruptcy Seminar. Mr. Lea received his B.S. in management and his M.B.A.

from Florida State University, and a Master's degree in real estate and urban analysis from the University of Florida.

**Johnny J. Lee, CPA, CIRA** is a managing director in Grant Thornton LLP's Transaction Services group in New York and has nearly 20 years of accounting, transaction, restructuring and financial advisory experience. His experience in health care includes currently serving as a advisor to a health care system in Texas in its operational turnaround cash management and as an advisor to Highmark, Inc. in its strategic initiatives. Having originally advised Highmark on its creation of one of the largest integrated health care delivery systems, Mr. Lee led the team in preparing financial projections and business plan analysis, and in discussions with representatives of state regulators to gain approval for the transaction, which totaled over \$2 billion in investment for seven hospitals and the build-out of a large physician network. His work also involved working with actuarial analyses, integrating and consolidation of financial reporting, analysis of potential revenue enhancement and cost-reduction opportunities, bondholder negotiations, quantifying contingencies, review of the structure of the transaction, and analysis of investments in capital improvements, including system upgrades/replacements. Mr. Lee has served as a key advisor and expert in health care affiliations, acquisitions or joint ventures where the financial projections and business plans developed served as the basis in negotiations of revenue/earnings share or cost-split arrangements and transition agreements. Additionally, he has served as a C-suite executive or interim-management team member in a transaction or bankruptcy. He also has served in numerous situations for companies as an accountant or to assist the audit team on technical accounting matters related to transactions or mergers. Mr. Lee has provided forensic and investigative services for FCPA investigation, performed diligence and quality-of-earnings review, advised lenders in the negotiation of credit facilities, and advised creditors in out-of-court negotiations. Prior to joining Grant Thornton, he served as a manager in the Reorganization Services Group at Deloitte Financial Advisory Services LLP and worked in the Accounting and Finance department of Gap Inc. Mr. Lee received his B.S. in accounting and finance from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

**Cory Lipoff** is a co-managing partner with Hilco Merchant Resources in Northbrook, Ill., and specializes in structuring and implementing sophisticated asset-redeployment strategies for retailers. Prior to joining Hilco in 2000, he was a partner in bankruptcy/commercial law at Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue, where he participated in numerous major retail chapter 11 cases including Federated Department Stores/Allied Stores Corp., Herman's Sporting Goods, Warehouse Club and Gantos. Mr. Lipoff has served as chairman of the Compensation Committee on the board of directors of Loehmann's, and on the board of advisors for the University of Florida, Miller Retail Center. During his tenure with Hilco Merchant Resources, he has led initiatives involving tens of thousands of store locations and inventory valued in excess of \$50 billion. Over the years, Mr. Lipoff has been called upon by many high-profile retail organizations and their advisors to maximize the value of inventory, fixtures and equipment. His list of notable clients includes Montgomery Ward, Circuit City, Borders Book Stores, Dick Smith, Toys 'R Us, Saks Fifth Avenue and Walgreens. Mr. Lipoff is a frequent speaker on legal, financial and bankruptcy issues. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin at Madison and his J.D. from Northwestern University School of Law.

**Prof. Lois R. Lupica** is the Maine Law Foundation Professor of Law at the University of Maine School of Law in Portland, Maine, where she teaches bankruptcy, secured transactions, sales and

negotiation, and is a nationally recognized scholar in the areas of consumer and commercial credit and bankruptcy law. She is currently one of three principal investigators of the Consumer Financial Distress Research Study, a randomized control trial examining the efficiency of the small claims court system, the consequences of various legal intervention programs and the value of financial education. From 2009-11, Prof. Lupica was the principal investigator for The Consumer Bankruptcy Fee Study, and The Consumer Bankruptcy Creditor Distribution Study, landmark research that examined the 2005 changes to Bankruptcy Code, and how those changes impact creditors, debtors, trustees and lawyers. Courts and bankruptcy practitioners are using the results of the study to help improve the fairness and efficiency of the system. Prof. Lupica's empirical research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, ABI's Anthony H.N. Schnelling Endowment Fund, the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges Endowment for Education, the Sears Consumer Protection and Education Fund, the Maine Economic Improvement Fund, Harvard University and the Arnold Foundation. She is the author of a leading casebook on bankruptcy law and *Developing Professional Skills in Bankruptcy*, a book designed to provide law students with the experience of addressing a series of problems that typically arise in bankruptcy practice. In 2012, Professor Lupica was inducted as a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy. She also received the Hon. Wesley W. Steen Prize for Best Bankruptcy Article in the *ABI Law Review* in 2012. Prof. Lupica sits on ABI's Board of Directors and serves on the advisory board for the *ABI Law Review*. She served as reporter for the Maine Ethics 2000 Task Force and as co-reporter for ABI's National Ethics Task Force, where she worked to develop proposals to address ethics issues encountered by bankruptcy professionals and judges. She also served as Special Counsel in the Bankruptcy & Restructuring section of Thompson & Knight LLP from 2008 to 2013. In 2015, she served as a pro bono consultant to the World Bank, where she worked with the Central Bank of Vietnam to develop a strategy for addressing their non-performing loans. Prior to joining Maine Law, Prof. Lupica was a clinical professor at Seton Hall University School of Law, where she developed a transactional clinical program that represented non-profit affordable housing developers in connection with their business and real estate transactions. She was in private practice from 1987-92, working on domestic and international transactions at the law firms of Arnold & Porter and White & Case in New York City. Prof. Lupica received her B.S. from Cornell University and her J.D. from Boston University.

**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 financial and restructuring mainly in the areas of bankruptcy and out-of-court workouts. Mr. Lutz frequently represents corporate debtors, secured creditors, creditors' committees, landlords, unsecured creditors and trustees in multimillion-dollar bankruptcy cases and out-of-court workouts. He also represents purchasers of businesses and business assets from financially distressed companies. Mr. Lutz has acted as the trustee in the liquidation of a securities broker-dealer under the Securities Investor Protection Act. In addition to his financial restructuring practice, he also represents several closely held corporations with regard to general business, commercial and real estate issues. Mr. Lutz is listed in the bankruptcy section of the 2007-14 editions of *The Best Lawyers in America* and was recognized by *Law & Politics* "Ohio Rising Stars" in 2005 and *Ohio Super Lawyers* from 2007-15. He 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.

**Samuel R. Maizel** is a partner in Dentons US LLP in Los Angeles and focuses his practice on restructuring, insolvency and bankruptcy in and out of court in all industries, and he leads the firm's health

care industry restructuring efforts nationwide. He has served as lead bankruptcy counsel to health care debtors and creditors' committees in chapter 9 and 11 cases, and has served as counsel to chapter 7 and 11 trustees, and as an examiner, chapter 11 trustee, patient care ombudsman and consumer privacy ombudsman. Before joining Dentons, Mr. Maizel was a partner in a national bankruptcy firm, and before that he represented the federal government in bankruptcy, district and appellate courts nationwide as a trial attorney in the U.S. Department of Justice's Commercial Litigation Branch. He has also served in the U.S. Army's Judge Advocate General's Corps, including service in Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm, for which he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal. Mr. Maizel has lectured extensively, is widely published, and been interviewed on television and radio on bankruptcy topics. He has been listed in *Super Lawyers* every year since 2007, is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell, and was named in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Health Care in its 21st edition. Mr. Maizel received his B.S. in 1977 from the U.S. Military Academy, his M.A. from Georgetown University in government in 1983 and his J.D. in 1985 from George Washington University School of Law, where he won the Jacob Burns Prize for excellence in appellate advocacy and served as president of the Moot Court Board.

**E. Lee Morris** is a shareholder with Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr, P.C. in Dallas, where he focuses on complex restructurings, asset acquisitions, controlled liquidations and high-stakes litigation in the bankruptcy and insolvency arena. During his tenure at Munsch Hardt, he has served in a number of leadership roles, including Chief Operating Officer, managing shareholder of the Houston office and as a member of the Management and Compensation Committees. Mr. Morris has nearly 25 years of experience and represents a broad range of parties, including debtors, chapter 11 trustees, lender group agents, ad hoc lender groups and individual lenders, indenture trustees, creditor committees, insurers, receivers, equityholders, and directors and officers in a number of different venues throughout the U.S. He is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. Ranked by *Chambers USA* as a "Leader in Their Field" of Bankruptcy/Restructuring, he is a frequent speaker on a variety of bankruptcy and creditors' rights issues, and regularly serves as part of the faculty for trial advocacy programs sponsored by the National Institute of Trial Advocacy. Mr. Morris began his legal career with a two-year judicial clerkship in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas. He received his B.A. in economics from the University of Texas at Austin and his J.D. *cum laude* from the University of Houston Law Center, where he served as an editor of the *Houston Law Review*.

**Marianne S. Mortimer** is a corporate shareholder in the Bankruptcy and Restructuring practice of Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth, P.C. in Santa Monica, Calif., and has more than 10 years of experience advising clients on a variety of bankruptcy and restructuring matters. She has represented corporate debtors, creditors, and official and ad hoc creditor committees in numerous chapter 11 cases, as well as creditors and debtors in chapter 9 bankruptcy cases. In addition, she routinely advises companies on bankruptcy preparedness considerations, out-of-court restructuring options and various bankruptcy concerns. Ms. Mortimer's experience has also included counseling clients as third-party purchasers in numerous distressed transactions, including § 363 sales, chapter 11 plan sales, out-of-court asset and stock sales, assignments for the benefit of creditors and foreclosure sales. Her notable representations have included representing the City of San Bernardino in its chapter 9 bankruptcy case, the ad hoc committee of secured lenders in the chapter 11 bankruptcy case of Primus Telecommunications Group, Inc., *et al.*, the stalking-horse bidder in the chapter 11 bankruptcy case of Suncoast Roofers Supply, Inc., the ad hoc committee of convertible noteholders in The Great Atlantic &

Pacific Tea Company, Inc. *et al.*, the plan sponsor and purchaser in the chapter 11 bankruptcy case of Neff Corp., *et al.*, and numerous creditors in Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. *et al.* Prior to joining Stradling, Ms. Mortimer was a financial restructuring attorney in New York, and she is admitted to practice in both New York and California. She is a board trustee for the Turnaround Management Association and has been named a “Southern California Rising Star” by *Super Lawyers*. She frequently lectures on various bankruptcy topics, including bankruptcy considerations and secured creditor rights and interests in bankruptcy. Ms. Mortimer received her B.S. from Boston University and her J.D. from Brooklyn Law School, during which time she clerked for Hon. Conrad B. Duberstein, Chief Judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of New York.

**Matthew Niemann** is a managing director with Houlihan Lokey Capital in Los Angeles, which he joined 18 years ago. He is a senior member of the firm’s Financial Restructuring Group and founded the firm’s Real Estate Strategic Advisory Group. He also serves on the board of directors of William Lyon Homes and chairs the Compensation Committee and co-chaired the Pricing Committee for WLH’s IPO in May 2013. Over his 28-year career, Mr. Niemann has been involved in transactions across a range of industries, including real estate, retail, oil and gas, health care, industrial and media, among others. He is experienced in REIT, CMBS and retail restructurings, having been involved in some of the largest in history (*e.g.*, General Growth Properties, Allied/Federated Department Stores, etc.). He also regularly testifies as a financial expert in federal court. Prior to joining Houlihan Lokey, Mr. Niemann was with PricewaterhouseCoopers and practiced law with Bryan Cave in its Corporate, Banking & Real Estate practices. He also was with Cerberus Capital and was Chief Strategic Officer of GMAC ResCap, in charge of strategy for its \$6 billion portfolio of builder and developer real estate investments. Mr. Niemann holds a law and finance degree from St. Louis University, where he served on its *Law Review*. He was a guest lecturer at the Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University, a member of the Ph.D. Dissertation Committee at Webster University, and holds Series 7 and 63 FINRA registrations.

**Cynthia A. Nelson** is a senior managing director with FTI Consulting Inc.’s Corporate Finance practice in Los Angeles, where she assists stakeholders in evaluating, developing and implementing turnaround plans and restructurings in both judicial and non-judicial circumstances. She has assisted debtors, investors, lenders and creditors’ committees in analyzing and developing plans of reorganization, analyzing financing options and market rates of interest, evaluating asset-disposition and development plans to maximize value, conducting due diligence in connection with acquisition and financing, negotiating resolution of troubled credits, and providing litigation support and testimony in adversarial proceedings, including fraudulent transfer actions. In addition, Ms. Nelson has more than 25 years of experience in advising stakeholders with interests in real estate. She has extensive experience with development and operating companies, including those with interests in master-planned communities and residential, hospitality, retail, office and mixed-use properties. She has been involved in some of the largest and most notable real estate restructurings and other bankruptcies of the last several years, including advising the unsecured creditors’ committee for *General Growth Properties*, serving as the chapter 11 trustee in the *South Edge* case, advising American Suzuki Motor Corp. in connection with its successful restructuring and exit from the U.S. auto market, and advising the pension obligation bondholders in the chapter 9 proceeding of the City of San Bernardino, Calif. Previously, Ms. Nelson was a partner with PricewaterhouseCoopers’ Business Recovery Services group prior to its acquisition by FTI Consulting. She is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and a Certified Insolvency and Restructuring Advisor (CIRA). She is also a member of ABI, the As-

sociation of Insolvency & Restructuring Advisors, the International Council of Shopping Centers and the Turnaround Management Association. Ms. Nelson served as president of the Los Angeles Bankruptcy Forum, as vice director for the Los Angeles section of the American Planning Association and as chairperson for the California Hospital Medical Center Trustee Associates. She holds an M.B.A. and an M.P.L. from the University of Southern California, and a B.S. in urban planning from California State Polytechnic University.

**David G. Peake** is a chapter 13 trustee for the Southern District of Texas in Houston, appointed in June 1998. Previously, he had been in private practice, representing individuals and small businesses. Mr. Peake is licensed to practice law in Texas and is a member of the College of the State Bar of Texas, ABI, the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys and the National Association of Chapter Thirteen Trustees, for which he serves as its president-elect. He currently serves on the Chapter 13 Committee of ABI's Commission on Consumer Bankruptcy Law. Mr. Peake received his undergraduate degree from Macalester College and his J.D. from William Mitchell College of Law.

**Hon. Elizabeth L. Perris** is a retired U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Oregon in Portland, appointed in 1984, retired in January 2015 and having served as a recall judge through January 2016. She has also been an adjunct professor at Lewis & Clark College of Law and Willamette University School of Law. Judge Perris was a member of the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel from 1988-1993 and from 1998-2005. From 1976-84, Judge Perris worked in Oregon as a bankruptcy court law clerk, then served as a bankruptcy trustee and an attorney in private practice specializing in bankruptcy. She was a member of the U.S. Judicial Conference Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules from 2007-2014 and, as part of her Committee responsibilities, served as the chair of the Forms Subcommittee and Forms Modernization Project, which oversaw the modernizing of national bankruptcy forms. Judge Perris chaired the Bankruptcy Judges' Education Committee and was a board member of the Federal Judicial Center, through which she helped educate new bankruptcy judges from throughout the country. She also chaired the Bankruptcy Section of the Federal Bar Association, the Oregon State Bar (OSB) Continuing Legal Education Committee, and the OSB's Debtor-Creditor Section. While serving as a judge, she was a judicial mediator in many bankruptcy matters, including the chapter 9 cases filed by multiple cities, Detroit, Stockton, Mammoth Lakes, and Vallejo. A Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, Judge Perris received her A.B. from the University of California - Berkeley in 1972 and her J.D. from the University of California - Davis in 1975.

**Eric S. Rein** is chair of Horwood Marcus & Berk Chtd.'s Litigation Group and focuses his practice on creditors' rights, loan enforcement and creditor bankruptcy representation. He regularly advises secured creditors in workout and restructuring transactions, including forbearance agreements. He also assists secured creditors in recovering pledged collateral through Uniform Commercial Code sales and commercial mortgage foreclosures, in prosecuting claims based on fraud, nonperforming loans, intercreditor disputes and loan commitment litigation and in defending creditors against whom claims have been asserted. Mr. Rein has financial services litigation experience in state and federal venues at the trial and appellate levels. He also concentrates his practice in multijurisdictional litigation, specifically the recovery of foreign claims and assets, and is regarded for his knowledge of international legal systems. Consequently, he frequently serves as special counsel to the financial services

industry, corporations, attorneys, accountants, trustees, receivers and high-net-worth individuals. Mr. Rein has handled complex international banking and fraud matters in more than 40 jurisdictions throughout North and South America, Asia, Africa, the Caribbean and Europe, and he was the first U.S. attorney to employ the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty in Uruguay. He also was the first U.S. attorney to obtain Norwich Pharmacal relief in Vancouver, B.C. Mr. Rein has been interviewed by the Associated Press, Bloomberg News, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Forbes*, “CNNMoney,” *First Business*, *Lawyer Monthly* (which named him Asset Recovery Lawyer of the Year in 2014) and various industry trade publications. He also has authored several articles about the nuances of international litigation for such legal publications as the *ABI Law Review*, *New York Law Journal*, *Banking Law Journal* and *Latin American Law and Business Report*. He also has spoken to the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, Turnaround Management Association, International Bar Association, American Bar Association, LawLine.com and the Florida and New York Bar Associations. Mr. Rein maintains an international asset-recovery blog, where he writes about issues concerning the pursuit of assets around the world that have been concealed or transferred by fraudsters, post-judgment creditors, divorcing spouses and others. He is a graduate of Washington University and the University of Miami School of Law.

**William J. Rochelle, III** is ABI’s Editor-at-Large and resides in New York. Previously, he published for Bloomberg from 2007-15. Prior to his second career in journalism, Mr. Rochelle practiced bankruptcy law for 35 years, including 17 years as a partner in the New York office of Fulbright & Jaworski LLP. In addition to writing, he travels the country for ABI, speaking to bar groups and professional organizations on hot topics in the turnaround community and trends in consumer bankruptcies. Mr. Rochelle earned his undergraduate and law degrees from Columbia University, where he was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar.

**Melissa M. Root** is a partner with Jenner & Block in Chicago and frequently represents parties in large complex bankruptcy litigation matters, as well as debtors and trustees in chapter 11 cases. She is a member of the firm’s Restructuring and Bankruptcy, Bankruptcy Litigation and ERISA Litigation practices and co-chairs the firm’s Hiring Executive Committee. She is also a member of the Women’s Forum Steering Committee and served as co-chair of the firm’s Summer Program from 2012-15. Ms. Root’s practice also includes representing parties in bankruptcy related appellate matters. In addition to practicing before the Seventh Circuit, she served as counsel for the petitioners before the Supreme Court in *Wellness International Network, Limited v. Sharif*. She also served as counsel for the American Bar Association in connection with its *amicus curiae* brief filed in the U.S. Supreme Court in *Executive Benefits Insurance Agency v. Arkinson*, and as counsel for the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees in connection with its *amicus curiae* brief filed in the U.S. Supreme Court in *Baker Botts L.L.P. and Jordan, Hyden, Womble, Culbreth & Hozer, P.C. v. Asarco LLC*. In addition to her corporate restructuring and bankruptcy litigation practice, Ms. Root devotes significant time to pro bono work, including recently representing a federal *habeas* petitioner before the Seventh Circuit and a domestic violence community organization in its bankruptcy. She is also active in many professional organizations, including serving as co-chair of the Bankruptcy & Insolvency Litigation Committee of the American Bar Association. Ms. Root is active in ABI and the Chicago Network of the International Women’s Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation, for which she served as a member of its board of directors for many years, including as chair. In addition, she was selected to serve a two-year position on the Bench/Bar Liaison Committee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the

Northern District of Illinois. Ms. Root received her B.A. *magna cum laude* in 2000 from Bowling Green State University and her J.D. *cum laude* in 2003 from the University of Michigan Law School.

**Judith W. Ross** is the principal of the Law Offices of Judith W. Ross in Dallas and represents creditors, creditors' committees, debtors and other parties in complex bankruptcy matters. Her representations include The Prudential Insurance Company of America, ASARCO, Genbrand, VarTec and Verizon. Ms. Ross was named in *Who's Who Legal – Insolvency and Restructuring 2014*, is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbe, and has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* (2003-14), *Texas Super Lawyers* (2003-14), *Best Lawyers in Dallas* (2003-13), *Chambers USA* (2004-13) and *Who's Who Legal, Texas* (2008). She is a frequent writer and a member of the State Bar of Texas, the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Fifth and Tenth Circuits, the U.S. District Courts for the Northern, Southern, Eastern and Western Districts of Texas, the American Bar Association's Business Law Section, the Court-house Liaison Committee of the Northern District of Texas (for which she served as past president), the Dallas Bar Association's Bankruptcy and Commercial Law Section (which she chaired in 2000), the Council for the State Bar of Texas Bankruptcy Section, and the International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation (IWIRC) (serving on its board of directors from 2000-02), and she co-chairs the Chapter 11 Subcommittee of the Business Bankruptcy Committee of the American Bar Association. Ms. Ross received her B.A. in history in 1979 from Miami University of Ohio, her M.A. in history from the University of Texas at Austin, and her J.D. from the University of Texas at Austin Law School.

**Hon. Deborah J. Saltzman** is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Central District of California in Los Angeles, appointed March 18, 2010, and also hears cases in the Northern Division in Santa Barbara. Prior to her appointment to the bench, she practiced bankruptcy law in Los Angeles for 12 years, spending most of her career with O'Melveny & Myers LLP. While in practice, she represented debtors, secured and unsecured creditors, asset-purchasers, creditors' committees and landlords in chapter 11 and out-of-court restructurings, as well as in related financing transactions and litigation. Judge Saltzman is the chair of the Central District Bankruptcy Court's Education Committee and designs educational programs for the court's judges, law clerks and externs. She also regularly teaches continuing education programs for the bar and speaks on issues related to bankruptcy and restructuring. Judge Saltzman is a member of the national Next Generation CM/ECF working group to develop updates to the electronic filing systems for the nation's bankruptcy courts. She also recently participated in a conference regarding the proposed national chapter 13 form plan and related updates to the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure. Judge Saltzman is a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, ABI, the Financial Lawyers Conference, the Los Angeles Bankruptcy Forum and the Inland Empire Bankruptcy Forum. She received her B.A. in 1991 from Amherst College Phi Beta Kappa and her J.D. in 1996 from the University of Virginia School of Law.

**Roger G. Schwartz** is a partner in the New York office of Latham & Watkins LLP, where he is a member of its Finance Department and is active in the firm's insolvency practice. He focuses his practice on representing administrative agents, secured lenders, and strategic and financial buyers and sellers of stocks, assets or debt, primarily in financially distressed situations (both in and out of formal insolvency proceedings), creditors' committees, and debtors in chapter 11 cases and workouts. In addition, Mr. Schwartz represents equity sponsors, special committees of boards of directors, and the U.S. government in connection with complex U.S. and international bankruptcy and insolvency

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**Chad J. Shandler, CPA, CGMA** is a partner with CohnReznick LLP and the national director of its Restructuring & Insolvency Advisory and Dispute Resolution Services practices in New York. In this role, he provides corporate restructuring and financial advisory services to financially troubled companies, trustees, secured creditors and creditor groups with creative solutions to maximize value by advancing restructuring alternatives, developing financial and operating plans, and negotiating with stakeholders. In litigation matters, he has been retained as an expert to plaintiffs and defendants involving lost profit, breach of contract, anti-trust and fraudulent conveyance. Mr. Shandler has conducted investigations and analyzed situations involving asset acquisition and divestitures and merger transactions, board of directors' decisions, preferential and fraudulent transfers, Ponzi schemes, investor fraud, parent/subsidiary relationships, embezzlement and corporate mismanagement. His engagements have spanned several industry sectors, including senior living and health care, higher education, nonprofit, manufacturing, telecommunications, retail and publishing. Mr. Shandler received his B.S. from Washington University.

**Bradley D. Sharp** is a senior managing director with the Los Angeles office of Development Specialists, Inc. and has more than 20 years of experience providing crisis-management, financial advisory and third-party fiduciary services. He has advised and operated companies in numerous industries, including consumer finance, real estate development, high tech, manufacturing, food and agriculture. Mr. Sharp has served as chief restructuring officer as well as trustee under chapters 7 and 11, and post-confirmation. He is also an expert witness with respect to fiduciary duties, banking, finance and securitizations. Mr. Sharp has co-chaired ABI's Business Reorganization Committee. Prior to joining DSI, he was a vice president and senior commercial loan collection officer with Bank of America, NT&SA. Mr. Sharp received his B.S. in accounting with an emphasis in business computer information systems from Mesa College in Grand Junction, Colo.

**E. Patrick Shea** is a partner with Gowling WLG in Toronto, where he practices commercial law with a focus on commercial insolvency. He is a certified specialist in bankruptcy and insolvency law and has acted for a variety of clients in large corporate restructurings and insolvency matters across many industries. He is also one of less than a dozen lawyers to be certified by the Law Society of Upper Canada as a specialist in bankruptcy and insolvency law, and in 2015 was awarded the Law Society Medal, the highest award that the Law Society of Upper Canada can confer on a member. Mr. Shea has acted for a variety of clients in large corporate restructuring and insolvency matters in the entertainment, retail, automotive, airline, food and beverage, pharmaceutical and other industrial sectors. He has also acted as an outside advisor/consultant to the Canadian and Jamaican governments on the reform of their insolvency legislation. A former chair of the Canadian Bar Association's Insolvency

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**Wendell J. Sherk** is a solo attorney with SherkLaw in St. Louis, practicing primarily in consumer bankruptcy and debtor representation. He is the Missouri co-chair for the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys, and a member of ABI and the Missouri Bar Association, and he contributes to the [bankruptcy.law.network.com](http://bankruptcy.law.network.com) blog. Mr. Sherk received the 2014 Michael Roser Excellence in Bankruptcy Award and the 2005 Judge Robert Brauer Innovations in Bankruptcy Law Award. He graduated from Washington University in 1986 and Washington University School of Law in 1989.

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**Daniel J. Stermer** is a managing director with Development Specialists, Inc. in Miami and has more than 20 years of private and public sector experience, including serving as an assistant attorney general for the Department of Legal Affairs for the State of Florida, assigned to the Economic Crimes Litigation Unit; as a special assistant U.S. attorney in the Southern District of New York assigned to the Organized Crime Unit; and as an assistant district attorney with the Bronx County District Attorney's Office. Mr. Stermer served as receiver for the Hess Kennedy Receivership Estate, a matter commenced by the Florida Attorney General's Office alleging deceptive and unfair trade practice act violations against a number of debt-settlement and debt-consolidation entities that failed to provide services as promised to more than 90,000 consumer clients nationwide. As receiver, he obtained in excess of \$150 million in debt-forgiveness for consumers and trade line deletions for more than 15,000 consumers, and conducted an extensive claims procedure including more than 20,000 submitted claims, resulting in a \$0.305-per-approved-claimant distribution. Additionally, Mr. Stermer is mayor of the City of Weston, Fla., serving in his second term (November 2016 through November 2020) after having served November 2012 through 2016, elected to both terms as mayor without opposition, and he served as commissioner of the City of Weston from 2002-10, ending his term due to term limits. He was also named in the 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013 and 2012 *South Florida Legal Guide's* list of Top CPA and Financial Professionals, and in the 2009 *Daily Business Review's* list of Most Effective Lawyers - South Florida. Mr. Stermer received his B.A. from the University of New York at Binghamton and his J.D. from Touro College Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center.

**Donald J. Swanson** is a shareholder with Koley Jessen, L.L.O. in Omaha, Neb., and has represented many committees (both official and ad hoc) in bankruptcy to maximize recovery from scarce assets. He has also helped creditors maximize value and minimize loss in hundreds of cases. Mr. Swanson publishes a blog on bankruptcy and mediation topics at [www.mediatbankry.com](http://www.mediatbankry.com). He has helped promote mediation as a dispute resolution tool in bankruptcy, both locally and nationally, and he chairs the Nebraska Bankruptcy Court Mediation Committee and led the charge to get local mediation rules adopted. He also serves on the leadership team for ABI's Mediation Committee. Mr. Swanson is admitted to practice in Nebraska, Iowa, South Dakota, the U.S. District Courts for the Northern and Southern Districts of Iowa, the District of Nebraska and the District of South Dakota, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit and the U.S. Supreme Court. Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification, he has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy and Creditor-Debtor Rights Law and Litigation – Bankruptcy from 2008-18, holds an AV-Preeminent Rating by Martindale-Hubbell, has been featured in *Great Plains Super Lawyers* for Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights and in *Super Lawyers* from 2009-17, and is a court-approved mediator in both the U.S. District and Bankruptcy Courts of Nebraska. Mr. Swanson received his A.A. from Grace University in 1976, his B.S. in political science from the University of Nebraska - Omaha in 1977, and his J.D. from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln in 1980, where he was an associate editor of the *Nebraska Law Review*.

**Hon. Deborah L. Thorne** is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Illinois in Chicago, appointed on Oct. 22, 2015. She is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, a member of the Board of Governors for the Seventh Circuit Bar Association and ABI's Vice President-Communication and Information Technology. Previously, Judge Thorne was a partner with Barnes & Thornburg LLP in Chicago. Her practice included the representation of creditors and other parties in insolvency proceedings, and she frequently served as a federal equity receiver in commodity fraud cases brought by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. In addition, she served as co-chair of the Women's Initiative for the firm and as a federal equity receiver in cases involving commodity fraud in the Northern District of Illinois. Judge Thorne is a past chair of both the Chicago Bar Association's Bankruptcy Committee and the Seventh Circuit Bar Association's Bankruptcy Committee. She authored ABI's *Preference Defense Handbook, The Circuits Compared* and is one of the authors of ABI's *Interrupted! Understanding Bankruptcy's Effects on Manufacturing Supply Chains*. In addition, she has been included in *The Best Lawyers in America* in the area of bankruptcy and creditor-debtor rights law, was recognized as a *Leading Lawyer in Illinois* and has been recognized by *Illinois Super Lawyers* every year since 2003. Judge Thorne received her B.A. from Macalester College, her M.A.T. from Duke University and her J.D. with honors from Illinois Institute of Technology Chicago-Kent College of Law.

**Tara Twomey** is Of Counsel to the National Consumer Law Center and the project director for the National Consumer Bankruptcy Rights Center in Carmel, Calif. Previously, she was a lecturer in law at Stanford, Harvard and Boston College Law Schools. Ms. Twomey is a former clinical instructor at the Hale and Dorr Legal Services Center of Harvard Law School, where her practice focused in part on sustainable homeownership for low- and moderate-income homeowners. She is also a contributing author of several books published by the National Consumer Law Center, including *Foreclosures* and *Bankruptcy Basics*.

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**K. Scott Van Meter** is a managing director in Berkeley Research Group's Houston office and has more than 30 years of diverse professional experience in bankruptcy and restructuring, accounting, law, management, forensic and investigative accounting, and litigation consulting. Prior to his career in consulting, he practiced bankruptcy law at Bracewell in Houston and Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson in Tampa, Fla., and Miami. His legal experience includes corporate re-

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**Ilana Volkov** is a member in Cole Schotz P.C.’s Bankruptcy and Corporate Restructuring Department in Hackensack, N.J., and has more than 25 years of experience representing debtors, unsecured creditors’ committees, pre-petition and DIP lenders, purchasers of assets, commercial landlords and other contract parties, shareholders, and other parties-in-interest in all aspects of complex business reorganizations, distressed M&A transactions and related litigation. She also is experienced in cross-border insolvency proceedings. Ms. Volkov is a frequent speaker on restructuring topics, including cross-border insolvencies and the intersection between bankruptcy and maritime law. She is a member of the New Jersey State Bar Association’s Bankruptcy Law Section), ABI, the American Bar As-

sociation's Business Law and International Law Sections, the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation (IWIRC) and the New York City Bar Association's Committee on Bankruptcy and Corporate Reorganization. Ms. Volkov founded the IWIRC-NJ Network in 2004, was a member of its board of directors, and served on the international board of IWIRC for many years. For her work, she received the 2016 IWIRC-NJ Network Woman of the Year Award. Ms. Volkov received her B.A. from Columbia University and her J.D. from the University of California at Los Angeles School of Law, during which time she interned for Hon. Calvin K. Ashland, then-U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Central District of California and a member of the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

**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 president and sits on the 15-member expert panel for ABI's newly created 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.

**John C. "Kit" Weitnauer** is a partner with Alston & Bird LLP in Atlanta and the Practice Group Leader for its Bankruptcy & Financial Restructuring Team. His recent experience includes representing clients with significant roles in the Lehman Brothers, Residential Capital, Enron, Taylor Bean & Whitaker, Spectrum Brands and IndyMac Bancorp bankruptcies. Mr. Weitnauer served as plaintiffs' trial counsel (along with local co-counsel) in a five-week jury trial in Oregon that resulted in a verdict that found over \$965 million in transfers were made with the actual intent to hinder, delay or defraud his client and that also awarded \$350 million in punitive damages to his client. A Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy, in 2014 he was named the Atlanta Bankruptcy Litigation "Lawyer of the Year" by *The Best Lawyers in America*, which has listed him since 1996. He has also been profiled in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* in the field of Bankruptcy/Restructuring since 2007. Mr. Weitnauer authored ABI's *The Bankruptcy Court's Watchdog: The Appointment, Role and Power of Examiners Today*, he co-authored *Business Valuation and Bankruptcy* and *Problem Loan Strategies*. He also is a contributing editor of *Norton Bankruptcy Law and Practice* and the *Bankruptcy Litigation Manual*. Mr. Weitnauer was president of the Turnaround Management Association's Atlanta Chapter from 2016-17 participated in ABI's Commission to Study the Reform of Chapter 11. He received his B.A. in 1974 from Washington and Lee University and his J.D. in 1977 from the University of Georgia.

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