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Faculty Biographies

Mark A. Adomanis is an executive director in Restructuring Advisory with Perella Weinberg Partners in New York, where he plays a significant role in the firm's operations and client engagements. He is experienced in financial restructuring and investment banking. Previously, Mr. Adomanis was involved in providing financial advisory services and investment banking for various clients, including work on bankruptcy cases. He received his B.A. in government from Harvard University, his M.Phil. in Russian and East European studies from the University of Oxford, his Master's degree in international studies from the University of Pennsylvania's Lauder Institute and his M.B.A. in finance from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business.

Omar J. Alaniz is the managing partner in the Dallas office of Reed Smith LLP and represents distressed companies, including in out-of-court workouts and chapter 11 restructurings. He regularly advises boards of directors in considering liability management solutions. He also represents other key stakeholders in distressed situations. Mr. Alaniz's industry experience includes energy, industrial, real estate, financial services, utilities, aviation and health care. He has appeared in bankruptcy and appellate courts throughout the country, including the Texas and U.S. Supreme Courts. Mr. Alaniz was recognized by *Chambers USA* from 2015-22, and he was invited to join the American College of Bankruptcy and the National Bankruptcy Conference. He received the Sandra Day O'Connor Award for Professional Excellence at a ceremony held in the U.S. Supreme Court, and he is the former chair of the Texas State Bar's Bankruptcy Section. Mr. Alaniz was an adjunct faculty member at SMU Dedman School of Law for several years and currently teaches a 12-week chapter 11 course to young insolvency professionals. He also coached the SMU Duberstein moot court team to five national championships — the most in the competition's history. Mr. Alaniz has made significant contributions to DEI matters, serving in leadership roles in DEI Committees of the American College of Bankruptcy and ABI. He is the U.S. co-chair of Reed Smith's PRISM Group and serves on the board of directors of the Dallas Hispanic Law Foundation and the National LGBTQ+ Bar Association. He also received the Texas Lawyers' first "Diversity and Inclusion Champion" award in 2022. Mr. Alaniz received his B.A. in economics at Austin College in 2000 and his J.D. from the University of Texas School of Law in 2003, where he was a Susman Godfrey Moot Court Champion.

Vincent F. Alexander, CFE is a partner in the Fort Lauderdale, Fla., office of Shutts & Bowen LLP and a member of its Creditors' Rights and Bankruptcy Practice Group. He is an experienced restructuring lawyer, litigator and trial attorney. He focuses his practice on bankruptcy, creditors' rights, out-of-court restructurings, distressed-asset sales and insolvency-related matters. Mr. Alexander regularly represents debtors, creditors, equityholders, trustees and other fiduciaries, individuals, businesses and unsecured creditors' committees in chapter 7, 11 and 15 bankruptcy proceedings and related litigation, including avoidance actions and claim disputes. He also has experience successfully representing clients across a wide range of industries in complex litigation matters, including fraud, trade secret and restrictive covenants, breach of contract, unfair and deceptive trade practices, fiduciary issues, officer and director, sports and entertainment, and judgment domestication and enforcement. He represents his clients in restructuring work and complex commercial litigation cases in state and federal courts throughout Florida and the U.S. Before becoming a lawyer, Mr. Alexander was a linebacker in the NFL with the New York Jets and Arizona Cardinals, and was a mortgage banker for a large national lender. He received his B.A. in economics and commerce in 2003 from the University of Pennsylvania and his J.D. *cum laude* in 2009 from the University of Miami School of Law, where he was a member of the Moot Court Board and the Order of the Barristers.

Hon. Martin R. Barash is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Central District of California in Woodland Hills and Santa Barbara, 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 been a partner at Klee, Tuchin, Bogdanoff & Stern LLP in Los Angeles since 2001, where he represented debtors and other parties in chapter 11 cases and bankruptcy litigation. He first joined the firm as an associate in 1999. Earlier in his career, Judge Barash worked as an associate of Stutman, Treister & Glatt P.C. in Los Angeles. He also has served as an adjunct professor of law at California State University, Northridge. Following law school, Judge Barash clerked for Hon. Procter R. Hug, Jr. of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit from 1992-93. He is a former ABI Board member, for which he served on its Education Committee and currently serves on its Committee for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and he is a judicial advisor to ABI's annual Southwest Bankruptcy Conference and its Consumer Practice Extravaganza. Judge Barash is a former member of the Board of Governors of the Financial Lawyers Conference and currently serves a judicial director of the Los Angeles Bankruptcy Forum, where he is a member of its Committee on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. He also is a volunteer for the Los Angeles chapter of Credit Abuse Resistance Education (CARE) and was recognized nationally as the CARE Volunteer of the Year for 2022. Judge Barash has served on numerous committees of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California and currently serves as chair of its Education Committee, which is responsible for conducting educational programs for judges, law clerks and externs. He is a frequent panelist and lecturer on bankruptcy law and a co-author of the national edition of the *Rutter Group Practice Guide: Bankruptcy*. 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*.

Theodore O. Bartholow, III is a partner with Kellett & Bartholow PLLC in Dallas, where he focuses on representing consumers from around the country in individual and class-action litigation against financial services providers and related entities, including mortgage-servicers, debt-collectors and other consumer creditors, with a focus on matters arising in and related to consumer bankruptcy. He also has substantial experience representing consumer creditors in connection with chapter 11 bankruptcies filed by consumer lenders and mortgage-servicers, including active roles in the recent Think Finance (N.D. Tex.) and Ditech (S.D.N.Y.) bankruptcies, in which he was particularly active on behalf of his consumer clients. Mr. Bartholow is a member of the John C. Ford American Inn of Court, received the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys' Distinguished Service Award in 2016, and represented the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys at a "Mortgage Mini-Conference" focusing on development of Bankruptcy Rule 3002.1 held by the Rules Committee of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges in 2012. His written work has been published in the *ABI Journal*, among other publications, and he has spoken at ABI conferences and at numerous other national conferences, including the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges Annual Conference (2017), the National Consumer Law Center's Consumer Rights Litigation Conference (2016, 2020), the National Association of Consumer Advocates and the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys, in addition to frequent presentations at local and regional continuing legal education events and webinars. In connection with representation of his consumer clients, Mr. Bartholow has been quoted by "NBC News," *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Chicago Tribune*, *The Dallas Morning News*, *ProPublica* and "CNN Money," among others. He received his undergraduate degree in philosophy from the University of Texas in 1998 and his J.D. in 2002 from the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in New York, where he was executive editor of the *Cardozo Journal of International and Comparative Law*.

Alicia M. Bendana, CFE is a shareholder with Lugenbuhl, Wheaton, Peck, Rankin & Hubbard in New Orleans, where she practices business bankruptcy law and commercial litigation with an emphasis on prosecuting and defending complex and multi-layered litigation claims on behalf of trustees, debtors, creditors, creditors' committees, and other interested parties in chapter 7 and 11 bankruptcy proceedings. She represents clients as lead or co-lead counsel in the prosecution of officer and director liability litigation, legal and accounting malpractice liability litigation, fraud and RICO litigation, fraudulent-transfer/preference-avoidance litigation, contract disputes, insurance disputes, the partitioning of marital property in bankruptcy court, the excepting of debts from discharge, the opposing of plans of reorganization and the proposing of competing plans, and the purchase of assets from bankruptcy estates. Ms. Bendana is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by both the American Board of Certification and the Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization. She is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell and is listed in *Chambers and Partners USA* in the areas of bankruptcy and restructuring. Additionally, she is recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America* for her work in bankruptcy, creditor/debtor rights, insolvency and reorganization law, and bankruptcy litigation, and she is listed among *Lawdragon's* 500 Leading U.S. Bankruptcy and Restructuring Lawyers. She also is listed in *Super Lawyers* in the areas of business bankruptcy, business litigation and debtor/creditor rights and in *New Orleans Magazine* as one of the "Top Lawyers" in the city. Ms. Bendana has authored numerous articles for professional publications, is a frequent lecturer at professional programs, and is currently an adjunct associate professor of trial advocacy at Tulane University School of Law. She received her B.A. in 1986 from Hollins College and her J.D. in 1992 from Tulane University Law School.

Barbara Bennett is a partner in the Nashville, Tenn., office of Frost Brown Todd LLP and is vice chair of the firm's Committee on Artificial Intelligence. She is a nationally recognized health care, data privacy and AI governance attorney who has been involved since the beginning at the intersection of internet technology and the law. Ms. Bennett holds an AI Governance Professional (AIGP) certification from the International Association of Privacy Professionals. Noted for her M&A, data privacy and governance, and strategic business advice, she has led transactions and provided counsel for sophisticated and complex health care and other businesses that have included numerous multinational Fortune 50 companies. Ms. Bennett has counseled clients that include health plans, hospital systems, behavioral health businesses, labs, pharmaceutical and device manufacturers, and companies providing IT, revenue-cycle, turnkey management and data-analytics services. She has been a successful senior partner in a top-10 global law firm, and she has more than a decade of in-house legal and business experience, including as general counsel. Ms. Bennett is a member of the Tennessee Bar Association's AI Task Force, the International Women's Forum, and the Tennessee Bar Commission on the Status of Women and Minorities. She received her B.S. *magna cum laude* in mathematics from Vanderbilt University and her J.D. from Vanderbilt University Law School, where she was admitted to the Order of the Coif and served as articles editor of the *Vanderbilt Law Review*.

Steven N. Berger is a founding shareholder at Engelman Berger, P.C. in Phoenix and focuses his practice on resolution of commercial and debtor/creditor disputes and restructurings. He has represented debtors, creditors, creditors' committees, trustees, examiners, lessors and asset-purchasers, and he has acted as a trustee and examiner in a variety of business bankruptcy and reorganization cases during his 40 years in practice. Mr. Berger draws on that experience in assisting parties to reach settlements in his practice as a private mediator for all types of commercial disputes. He completed the course known as "Mediating the Litigated Case" from the Straus Institute at Pepperdine

University. Mr. Berger started his legal career clerking for Hon. Thomas Tang of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals from 1984-85. He practiced at two of Arizona's largest firms before co-founding Engelman Berger in 1999. Mr. Berger has been an active member and held numerous leadership positions in the Bankruptcy Section of the State Bar of Arizona, planned bankruptcy CLE programs for several Bar Conventions, and served as a member and then chair of the Continuing Legal Education Committee of the State Bar of Arizona. He also was a founding member, vice president and program chair for the Arizona Bankruptcy American Inn of Court, and served as a lawyer representative to the Ninth Circuit from the District of Arizona. In March 2013, Mr. Berger was inducted as a Fellow into the American College of Bankruptcy. He is an active participant in various college boards, committees and projects. Mr. Berger received his B.A. in finance from Arizona State University in 1980 and his J.D. with highest distinction in 1984 from the University of Arizona, where he was an articles editor for the *Arizona Law Review*.

James V. Block is a partner at Krautkramer & Block LLC in Wausau, Wis., where his consumer bankruptcy practice includes representing individuals and small businesses in bankruptcy, foreclosure and collection actions. He also has served as a chapter 7 panel trustee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in the Western District of Wisconsin since 2012. Mr. Block was awarded a National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges Cornelius Blackshear Presidential Fellowship for 2017, and in 2023 he was honored as one of ABI's "40 Under 40." In addition, he is a Wisconsin State Bar Bankruptcy board member and was recently welcomed to the 2024 class of the Fellows of the Wisconsin Law Foundation, and he was the editor for ABI's treatise *The Best of ABI 2023: The Year in Consumer Bankruptcy*. Mr. Block received his B.A. in political science and economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with comprehensive honors and his J.D. *cum laude* from the University of Wisconsin Law School.

Hon. Hannah L. Blumenstiel is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of California in San Francisco. Prior to her appointment on Feb. 11, 2013, Judge Blumenstiel was an associate (2003-08) and then a partner (2008-12) with Winston & Strawn LLP, where she focused her practice on creditors' rights litigation in state and federal court, including bankruptcy court. From 2001 to 2003, Judge Blumenstiel was an associate with Murphy Sheneman Julian & Rogers LLP, where she represented debtors, creditors and trustees in bankruptcy cases and adversary proceedings. She served as a law clerk to Hon. Charles M. Caldwell of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Ohio (Eastern Division) from 1998 to 2001, and from 1997-98, she represented the State of Ohio's interests in bankruptcy cases as an assistant attorney general with the Revenue Recovery Section of the Ohio Attorney General's Office. Judge Blumenstiel is ABI's Vice President-Research Grants and serves as an Executive Editor of the *ABI Journal*. She received her J.D. from Capital University Law School in 1997 while working full-time for the Columbus Bar Association as director of its *pro bono* initiative, "Lawyers for Justice," and her B.A. from Ohio State University in 1992.

Laura S. Bouyea, CPA is a partner with Venable LLP and is co-leader of its Bankruptcy & Creditors' Rights Group in Baltimore. She represents debtors, secured and unsecured creditors, creditors' committees, bankruptcy trustees, liquidating agents, and other parties-in-interest in bankruptcy cases and related matters, including pre-bankruptcy counseling and planning, cash-collateral use, debtor-in-possession financing, automatic stay litigation, asset sales, plan litigation, fraudulent conveyance litigation, claim disputes, and claim administration. She also represents lenders, including special servicers of commercial mortgage-backed securities, in all aspects of the creditor/distressed debtor

relationship, including loan modifications, foreclosure sales, receivership actions and sales, guaranty claims and lender-liability actions. Ms. Bouyea has represented clients in a variety of sectors and industries, including real estate, retail, government, health care and manufacturing. She also has experience in distressed real estate and bankruptcy matters and serves as the chairperson of the Work-outs, Foreclosure and Bankruptcy Committee of the American Bar Association's Real Property Trust and Estates Section. Ms. Bouyea has represented lenders secured by real estate in bankruptcies of all sizes and levels of complexity, has served as lead counsel in hundreds of receiverships and foreclosures across the country of commercial properties of all types, obtained judgments on guaranties of commercial real estate loans, and defended lenders secured by real estate in lender-liability actions. Prior to law school, she earned her certified public accountant license and worked as an auditor for Arthur Andersen. Ms. Bouyea received her B.S./B.A. in accounting *cum laude* from the University of Richmond in 1999, and her J.D. with honors in 2003 from the University of Maryland School of Law.

John Bringardner is executive editor of Leveraged Capital Markets at ION Analytics in New York, where he oversees a global team of nearly 200 journalists and analysts across Debtwire, Xtract and Creditflux. He previously served as Debtwire's managing editor for Emerging Markets, global legal editor and courts editor, for which he provided breaking news and analysis on everything fixed income, from primary issuance to distressed debt, restructuring and bankruptcy. Over the past two decades, Mr. Bringardner's reporting on a wide range of legal and financial news has appeared in many outlets, including *Forbes*, *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, *WIRED*, *LCD News*, *Law.com* and *The American Lawyer*. He received his B.A. in history and philosophy in 2002 from the University of Texas at Austin and his M.A. in French studies from New York University in 2003.

B. Summer Chandler is an associate professor of law at the Paul M. Hebert Law Center of Louisiana State University and the Cynthia Felder Fayard Professor of Law in Baton Rouge, La. She also holds a Professorship of Professional Ethics. Prof. Chandler's research centers on bankruptcy and professional ethics, and she teaches business and commercial law courses. Prior to joining the academy, she practiced for 15 years in large national and international law firms, focusing her practice on business bankruptcy, commercial real estate related litigation and transactions, and other business transactions and disputes. She also taught at the Georgia State University College of Law and the Concordia University School of Law. Prof. Chandler frequently writes and lectures on bankruptcy, business law, and ethics and professionalism. She is also engaged in a number of professional organizations, including ABI and the American Bar Association. Prof. Chandler received her undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina at Asheville and her J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School.

Hon. Daniel P. Collins is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Arizona in Phoenix, appointed on Jan. 18, 2013. He served as chief judge from 2014-18. Previously, Judge Collins was a shareholder with the Collins, May, Potenza, Baran & Gillespie, P.C. in Phoenix, practicing primarily in the areas of bankruptcy, commercial litigation and commercial transactions. He was the 2023 president of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy, is on the Ninth Circuit's Trial Improvement Committee, is on the JCUS's Bankruptcy Judges Advisory Group, and served on ABI's Board of Directors. He also is a founding member of

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the Arizona Bankruptcy American Inn of Court. Judge Collins received both his B.S. in finance and accounting in 1980 and his J.D. in 1983 from the University of Arizona.

H. David Cox is the founding member of Cox Law Group PLLC in Lynchburg, Va., and practices bankruptcy law throughout the Western District of Virginia. Prior to entering private practice, he clerked for the late Hon. William E. Anderson. He co-edits the treatise *Bankruptcy Practice in Virginia*, co-authored the fourth edition of ABI's *Consumer Bankruptcy: Fundamentals of Chapter 7 and Chapter 13 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code*, was published in the *Norton Annual Survey of Bankruptcy Law* (2019 edition), and has lectured at numerous regional and national CLE programs. Mr. Cox is a member of the National Bankruptcy Conference, a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, chair of the Bankruptcy Law Section of the Virginia Bar Association and a faculty member of the mandatory Virginia State Bar Harry L. Carrico Professionalism Course, and he serves on ABI's Board of Directors. He received his B.A. in 1992 from Virginia Tech and his J.D. in 1995 from the University of Richmond - TC Williams School of Law.

J. Patrick Darby is executive vice president, general counsel and corporate secretary of Encompass Health in Birmingham, Ala. Before joining Encompass Health 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.

Hon. Roopali H. Desai is a U.S. Court of Appeals Judge for the Ninth Circuit in Phoenix. She previously worked as an outreach coordinator at a children's advocacy center. Prior to entering law school, Judge Desai was director of residential services at a domestic violence shelter from 2001-02. she subsequently served as the legal counsel and campaign attorney for Sen. Kyrsten Sinema. After graduating from law school, Judge Desai clerked for Chief Judge Mary M. Schroeder of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit from 2005-06. From 2006-07, she was an associate at Lewis & Roca in Phoenix, then in 2007 joined the Phoenix law firm of Coppersmith Brockelman as an associate, becoming a partner in 2013. Judge Desai was named one of *USA Today's* 2022 "Women of the Year." She is a member of the ACLU. Judge Desai received her B.A. in 2000 and her Master's in public health in 2001 from the University of Arizona, and her J.D. in 2005 from the University of Arizona's James E. Rogers College of Law.

Terri H. Didion is an Assistant U.S. Trustee for the Las Vegas Office in Region 17. She previously served as an Assistant U.S. Trustee in the Los Angeles and Riverside, Calif., Offices in Region 16,

and she has been a U.S. Trustee Appellate Coordinator for Regions 15 and 17, as well as a trial attorney for the U.S. Trustee in the Fresno and Santa Ana, Calif., and Honolulu Offices. Ms. Didion has conducted numerous bankruptcy trainings at the National Advocacy Center of the U.S. Department of Justice. For three years, she taught bankruptcy fraud courses for the FBI at Quantico. Prior to joining the U.S. Trustees Program, Ms. Didion clerked for Hon. Lynn Riddle (ret.) of the Central District of California and the late Hon. George M. Brody of the Southern District of California. She received her J.D. from San Joaquin College of Law.

Erin Diers is a partner in Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP's Corporate Reorganization department in New York, where she focuses on bankruptcy, restructuring and commercial litigation. Her diverse practice includes the representation of debtors and creditors in a wide range of matters, including in- and out-of-court restructurings, debtor-in-possession financing and bankruptcy litigation, including avoidance actions. She also provides bankruptcy advice in connection with financing transactions. Ms. Diers maintains an active *pro bono* practice, representing clients in prisoners' rights, immigration and family law cases. Ms. Diers was recognized in 2022 as an ABI "40 Under 40" honoree and as an "Outstanding Young Restructuring Lawyer" by *Turnarounds & Workouts*. She also has been recognized as a "Rising Star" by *New York Super Lawyers* for seven consecutive years, and was recommended in *The Legal 500 United States* in the area of Finance – Restructuring (including Bankruptcy): Corporate from 2021-23. In 2022, Ms. Diers participated on panels at ABI's VALCON 2022 conference and for IWIRC NY's "Hot Topic Series." She also has published articles in such periodicals as *Airline Economics*, the *ABI Journal* and the *New York Law Journal*. Ms. Diers is an ABI member, a devoted mentor to young women at her firm, and an active participant in groups that focus on the connection, development and promotion of women in the insolvency industry. She co-chairs her firm's Women's Roundtable, and she is a member of her firm's Mentoring Task Force, a board member of the New York Chapter of the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation (IWIRC), and a member of the International Aviation Women's Association. Ms. Diers received her undergraduate degree *magna cum laude* from American University and her J.D. from Columbia Law School.

Caroline R. Djang is a member of Buchalter PC's Insolvency and Financial Law practice group in the firm's Orange County office in Irvine, Calif. She practices in the areas of insolvency, bankruptcy, and litigation, and she has experience representing various creditors, trustees, debtors and committees in bankruptcy cases and adversary proceedings. Ms. Djang is a chapter 11 subchapter V trustee for the Central District of California and a frequent speaker on the Small Business Reorganization Act. She also is a certified mediator and is serving by appointment to the Bankruptcy Mediation Program Panel for the U.S. Central District of California Bankruptcy Court. Ms. Djang is president of the Orange County Women Lawyers Association and is on the board of directors of the Orange County Bar Association. Prior to entering into private practice, she was a judicial law clerk at the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for seven years, clerking for U.S. Bankruptcy Judges Ellen Carroll, Vincent P. Zurzolo, Sheri Bluebond and Richard M. Neiter. She is admitted to practice in all of the U.S. District Courts in California and is listed in *California Super Lawyers*. She also received the "Top Champion" for DEI Award in 2024 from the Orange County Coalition for Diversity in the Law. Ms. Djang received her B.A. in English and history from the University of Pennsylvania and her J.D. from Loyola Law School.

Richard H. Drew III is an Assistant U.S. Trustee with the Office of the U.S. Trustee in Shreveport, La. He began practicing with the Corporate and Financial Litigation Section of the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Division, where he represented the U.S.'s interests in chapter 11 bankruptcies and in other commercial litigation. In 2015, Mr. Drew joined the U.S. Trustee Program in his home state of Louisiana, then in 2019 joined the Shreveport field office. In 2021, he has also served as the Acting Assistant U.S. Trustee for the San Antonio field office. Mr. Drew received his J.D. from the Louisiana State University Law Center.

Alexandra Dugan is a partner with Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP in Nashville, Tenn., and regularly represents financial services and mortgage company clients with compliance matters, including risk-management and remediation, state investigations, regulatory compliance and operational implementation of legal guidelines. Her practice focuses on bankruptcy compliance and regulatory concerns. She also is a member of the firm's Auto Finance and Payment Systems industry teams. Ms. Dugan provides daily guidance to clients on bankruptcy-related regulatory and compliance matters, supervises large-scale remediation projects, designs and presents bankruptcy training programs, implements changes to business practices that are required as a result of new statutes and regulations, and works through operational matters that arise daily in a client's bankruptcy department. She works directly with her clients' internal legal department and business leaders to identify the most efficient and effective measures to ensure compliance with federal, state and local requirements and mitigate risk. She also routinely responds to inquiries from government entities, including the Department of Justice (DOJ), on behalf of her clients. In addition to her compliance work, Ms. Dugan represents mortgage companies in litigation matters across the country — including advising clients and local counsel concerning best practices. Her practice also includes representation of debtors and secured creditors in chapter 11 cases, out-of-court workouts, reorganizations, restructurings and liquidations. Her practice spans a wide range of industries, including bank and nonbank lenders, investors in distressed assets, legal, automotive and commercial real estate. Mr. Dugan is a member of the Conference on Consumer Finance Law (CCFL) and the American Bar Association, for which she serves as Pro Bono Subcommittee chair for its Consumer Financial Services Committee and as webmaster of its Bankruptcy Court Structure and Insolvency Committee. She also is a member of the National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees and the Nashville Bar Association's Mortgage Committee, and she is a Certified Regulatory Compliance Manager (CRCM) by the American Bankers Association. Ms. Dugan received her B.A. *cum laude* in 2008 from Vanderbilt University and her J.D. in 2011 with honors from Emory University School of Law, where she was admitted to the Order of the Coif.

Dennis F. Dunne is a partner with Milbank LLP in New York and a member of the firm's Global Executive Committee. He is also global chair of the firm's Financial Restructuring Group, and he represents companies and creditors in reorganization cases and out-of-court workouts, acquirors of financially distressed companies, providers of financing, and boards of directors of public and private companies. Mr. Dunne plays a leadership role in these matters, frequently as counsel to companies or official and unofficial committees representing key creditor constituencies, such as bondholders, agents for lender syndicates, and large debt or equity-holders. He also regularly represents private-equity funds, hedge funds and other financial institutions acquiring control positions in financially distressed companies, both in and out of court. In addition, Mr. Dunne assists prospective providers of debtor-in-possession financing in structuring, structures and documents exchange and tender offers, and regularly advises boards of directors of public companies on corporate governance and fiduciary duty matters in the restructuring context. His engagements have ranged across a wide array

of industries, including automotive, airline, apparel, cable and broadcasting, chemical, construction, gaming, health care, housing, infrastructure, manufacturing, pharmaceutical, energy, retail, shipping, telecommunications and textiles. Mr. Dunne is a Fellow and served as the Second Circuit Regent in the American College of Bankruptcy, and he frequently speaks on restructuring and related topics at conferences around the country. He is also a Fellow in the International Insolvency Institute, and has been elected as conferee to the National Bankruptcy Conference (NBC), for which he currently serves on its executive committee. He also is a member of the Federal Bar Council. Mr. Dunne is a co-author of *Collier on Bankruptcy* and co-authored a chapter titled, "Evaluating strategic debt buy-backs: How to pursue effective de-leveraging strategies" in *Navigating Today's Environment: The Directors' and Officers' Guide to Restructuring*. He is a frequent speaker at conferences sponsored by ABI and the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges. Mr. Dunne has been listed in the *K&A Register of the Leading Bankruptcy and Financial Restructuring Lawyers and Financial Advisors in the United States*, as well as in *Chambers Global*, *Chambers USA*, *The World's Leading Lawyers for Business*, *Lawdragon 500* and *The Best Lawyers in America*, and he was listed as one of *Turnarounds & Workouts*' "Top Restructuring Lawyers" of 2008, 2011 and 2014. He received his B.A. from Williams College and his J.D. from New York University School of Law.

David W. Gaffey is a partner in the Falls Church, Va., office of Whiteford, Taylor & Preston, LLP. He focuses his practice on bankruptcy and restructuring matters, the purchase and sale of distressed assets, and advising distressed and insolvent companies. Mr. Gaffey has significant experience representing debtors, creditors' committees, secured and unsecured creditors, trustees, and distressed companies in chapter 11 reorganizations, chapter 7 liquidations, out-of-court workouts, involuntary bankruptcies, bankruptcy litigation, and insolvency and default matters. Previously, he clerked for Hon. Kevin R. Huennekens in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia in Richmond from 2011-12. Prior to his clerkship, he was an attorney in the Disclosure Unit of the U.S. Office of Special Counsel, the federal agency that handles whistleblower claims of wrongdoing within the executive branch of the federal government, from 2010-11. Mr. Gaffey was selected to participate in the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges Next Generation Program in 2018, and he has served as a member of the NCBJ Next Generation Program Committee since 2019. He also served as president of the Northern Virginia Bankruptcy Bar Association from 2020-21 and has been a member of the NVBBA board of directors since 2016. He is a member of the Virginia State Bar Bankruptcy Section Board of Governors. Mr. Gaffey has been recognized by *Chambers USA* for Bankruptcy/Restructuring, Virginia; in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Litigation - Bankruptcy and Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law; and in *Virginia Business Magazine* as a "Legal Elite" for Bankruptcy/Creditors' Rights. He also is a co-author of the *LexisNexis Practical Guidance Practice Notes on Chapter 15 International Insolvencies*. Mr. Gaffey was honored in 2023 as one of ABI's "40 Under 40." He received his B.A. *magna cum laude* in 2006 from Duke University and his J.D. with honors in 2010 from The George Washington University School of Law..

Amir Gamliel is a partner with Perkins Coie LLP in Los Angeles and represents clients in business reorganizations, out-of-court restructuring work, and litigation involving complex financial transactions. He is experienced in the finance sector, covering areas including commercial mortgage-backed securities, technology, aerospace, real estate and retail industries. Mr. Gamliel counsels secured creditors, including through the largest master and special servicers in the U.S., as well as unsecured creditors ranging from licensors of intellectual property to major landlords, property lessors and committees. He advises financially troubled businesses regarding bankruptcy and nonbankruptcy

alternatives, and directors and officers of such businesses on mitigating litigation risk. Mr. Gamliel represents buyers in distressed asset and debt acquisitions, and he maintains a robust practice defending parties in preference and fraudulent-transfer avoidance actions. He also counsels on complicated supply-chain issues, including access and accommodation agreements, assignments for the benefit of creditors and orderly dissolutions. Experienced in business litigation in state and federal courts and arbitrations, Mr. Gamliel has tried cases ranging from contested plan confirmation hearings and avoidance actions (fraudulent transfer and preference litigation) in bankruptcy to business torts, trade secrets and commercial contract disputes outside of bankruptcy. He has successfully appealed decisions in both state and federal court, and he frequently represents parties in post-trial judgment-enforcement actions. Mr. Gamliel received his B.A. in business economics *magna cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa from the University of California, Los Angeles in 2006 and his J.D. in 2009 from UCLA School of Law, and he completed an executive program in 2017 at UCLA Anderson School of Management.

Mariaelena Gayo-Guitian is a partner with Venable LLP in Miami, where she focuses on complex commercial bankruptcy, financial restructuring, insolvency matters, business reorganization and creditors' rights. She regularly represents chapter 11 debtors in possession (DIPs), trustees and restructuring professionals in large complex cases throughout Florida. Ms. Gayo-Guitian has experience handling adversary matters involving bankruptcy claims, fraud claims, professional negligence and bankruptcy avoidance actions. She also has represented trustees and creditors in bankruptcy cases under chapters 7 and 11. As a complement to her bankruptcy practice, Ms. Gayo-Guitian also has experience in representing both assignors and assignees in assignments for the benefit of creditors in state court proceedings. She is a frequent lecturer and presenter on bankruptcy, restructuring, and related issues at conferences and seminars sponsored by the American Bar Association (ABA), The Florida Bar, and the Southern District of Florida Bankruptcy Bar Association. Ms. Gayo-Guitian is an active member of the Southern District of Florida Bankruptcy Bar Association and ABI, an advisory board member and a past co-chair of the ABI's International Caribbean Insolvency Symposium, and a member and past president of the Broward County Hispanic Bar Association. She also is a member of the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation (IWIRC) and the American Bankruptcy Association. Ms. Gayo-Guitian received her B.B.A. and political science degree *cum laude* from the University of Miami in 1985 and her J.D. in 1988 from the University of Miami School of Law, after which she clerked for former Chief Bankruptcy Judge Sidney M. Weaver in the Southern District of Florida.

Malissa Lambert Giles is a partner with the firm of Giles & Lambert, PC in Roanoke, Va., with additional offices in Blacksburg and Martinsville. She and the firm, which was formed in 1993, limit their current practice to the areas of bankruptcy and consumer rights, focusing on debtor and plaintiff representation. Ms. Giles has taught at numerous regional and national bankruptcy seminars and has been a frequent speaker at the Mid-Atlantic Institute on Bankruptcy and Reorganization and for the Virginia State Bar, the Virginia Bar Association and Virginia CLE. She has presented nationally for the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys and for ABI. Ms. Giles has served as editor of the *Bankruptcy Law News*, and has served as chair of the board of the Virginia State Bar's Bankruptcy Section. She currently sits on the Virginia Bar Association's Bankruptcy Council, and is a member of the IWIRC Virginia Board. Ms. Giles has been named a *Virginia Super Lawyer* in the area of consumer bankruptcy practice since 2007. She recently was appointed class counsel in *Harlow v Wells Fargo*, a national class action case which resulted in one of the largest bankruptcy class action

settlements in decades. Ms. Giles received her B.A. in 1987 from the University of Mississippi and her J.D. in 1991 from the University of Mississippi School of Law in Oxford.

David I. Gold is a senior vice president and associate general counsel at Bank of America in Washington, D.C., where he represents the bank on bankruptcy, workout and operational matters throughout the bank's various lines of business. Prior to joining Bank of America, he served as a trial attorney with the U.S. Trustee Program's Office of the General Counsel and Region 4, in private practice, and as a judicial law clerk for Hon. Stephen S. Mitchell (ret.) of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia. Mr. Gold received his B.A. in history in 1994 from the University of California, Riverside and his J.D. *cum laude* from the Thomas Jefferson School of Law in 2000.

Hon. John T. Gregg is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Michigan in Grand Rapids, appointed on July 17, 2014. He currently serves on the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the Sixth Circuit. Previously, Judge Gregg was a partner with the law firm of Barnes & Thornburg LLP, where he focused on corporate restructuring, bankruptcy and other insolvency matters. Judge Gregg served as chair of the education committee of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges for 2022, serves on ABI's Board of Directors, and is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, and he is a member of the American Law Institute. He is a frequent writer and speaker on bankruptcy and other commercial issues, and he has written and co-edited numerous secondary sources, including *Collier Guide to Chapter 11*, published by LexisNexis; *Strategies for Secured Creditors in Workouts and Foreclosures*, published by ALI-ABA; *Issues for Suppliers and Customers of Financially Troubled Auto Suppliers*, published by ABI; *Michigan Security Interests in Personal Property*, published by the Institute of Continuing Legal Education; *Handling Consumer and Small Business Bankruptcies in Michigan*, published by the Institute of Continuing Legal Education; *Interrupted! Understanding Bankruptcy's Effects on Manufacturing Supply Chains*, published by ABI; and *Receiverships in Michigan*, published by the Institute of Continuing Legal Education. Judge Gregg received his B.A. in 1996 from the University of Michigan and his J.D. in 2002 from DePaul University College of Law.

Hon. Paul R. Hage is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan in Detroit, sworn in on Sept. 30, 2024. Prior to his appointment to the bench, he was co-chair of the bankruptcy group at Taft, Stettinius & Hollister, LLP. Judge Hage is a member of ABI's Executive Committee and serves as Executive Editor of the *ABI Journal*. He is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy and serves as co-director of the Conrad B. Duberstein National Bankruptcy Moot Court Competition. In 2017, Judge Hage was selected as a member of ABI's inaugural "40 Under 40" class. He received his bachelor's degree from James Madison College at Michigan State University, his J.D. from Loyola University Chicago School of Law and his LL.M. in bankruptcy from St. John's University School of Law.

Hon. Michelle M. Harner is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Maryland in Baltimore, appointed in 2017. Prior to her appointment to the bench, she was the Francis King Carey Professor of Law and the Director of the Business Law Program at the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law, where she taught courses in bankruptcy and creditors' rights, business associations, business planning, corporate finance and the legal profession. Judge Harner lectured frequently during her academic career on various topics involving corporate governance, financially distressed entities,

risk management and related legal issues. Her academic scholarship is widely published, with her publications appearing in, among others, the *Vanderbilt Law Review*, *Notre Dame Law Review*, *Washington University Law Review*, *Minnesota Law Review*, *Indiana Law Journal*, *Fordham Law Review* (reprinted in *Corporate Practice Commentator*), *Washington & Lee Law Review*, *William & Mary Law Review*, *University of Illinois Law Review*, *Arizona Law Review* (reprinted in *Corporate Practice Commentator*) and *Florida Law Review*. Judge Harner has served as the Associate Reporter to the Advisory Committee on the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, the Reporter to the ABI Commission to Study the Reform of Chapter 11, and most recently chaired the Dodd-Frank Study Working Group for the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts. She also served as the Robert M. Zinman ABI Resident Scholar for the fall of 2015. She most recently served as the chair of the Dodd-Frank Study Working Group for the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, and she is currently serving as a member of the Advisory Committee on the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure and an associate editor of the *American Bankruptcy Law Journal*. Judge Harner is an elected conferee of the National Bankruptcy Conference, an elected Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, and an elected member of the American Law Institute. She previously was in private practice in the business restructuring, insolvency, bankruptcy and related transactional fields, most recently as a partner at the Chicago office of the international law firm Jones Day. Judge Harner received her B.A. *cum laude* from Boston College in 1992 and her J.D. *summa cum laude* from The Ohio State University College of Law in 1995.

Hon. Bruce A. Harwood is a retired U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of New Hampshire in Concord, appointed to the bench in March 2013, and currently resides in San Francisco. He also served a Chief Bankruptcy Judge prior to his retirement from the bench, and he served on the First Circuit's Bankruptcy Appellate Panel. Prior to his appointment to the bench, 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 a chapter 7 panel trustee in the District of New Hampshire and mediated insolvency-related disputes. Judge Harwood is ABI's President-Elect. He previously served as ABI's Secretary and Vice President-Communication, Information & Technology, as co-chair of ABI's Commercial Fraud Committee, as program co-chair and judicial chair of ABI's Northeast Bankruptcy Conference, and as Northeast Regional Chair of the ABI Endowment Fund's Development Committee. He also served on ABI's Civility Task Force. Judge Harwood is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy and was consistently recognized in the bankruptcy law section of *The Best Lawyers in America*, in *New England SuperLawyers* and by *Chambers USA*. He received his B.A. from Northwestern University and his J.D. from Washington University School of Law.

Otis Hendershott is Chief Technology and Data Officer with VMG Health in Manchester, N.H., and is accountable for overall technology/data strategy and execution for the enterprise. This role encompasses InfoSec, enterprise/data architecture, digital properties, vendor and partner management, tech product, I&O and technology support functions. Mr. Hendershott previously was with United Health Group's Optum Technology division. His expertise encompasses a wide spectrum of health care domains, including payor services, care delivery, pharmacy benefit management, complex conditions management, value-based care, electronic medical record implementations and utilization management. During his tenure at Optum, Mr. Hendershott played pivotal roles in shaping the organization's technological landscape. Notably, he led the establishment of a global software engineering organiza-

tion and was instrumental in developing an industry-leading clinical support tool tailored for oncologists. Additionally, he provided strategic direction and oversaw technology execution for Optum-Care's Northeast/Midwest Region, contributing significantly to the company's operational excellence and market positioning. He received a B.A. in 1997 in English language and literature/letters from State University of New York (SUNY) College at Potsdam, a B.A. in English from SUNY Geneseo in 2000, and his M.S. in health systems administration from the Rochester Institute of Technology.

Richard F. Holley is Of Counsel with Spencer Fane in Las Vegas, where he focuses his practice on creditor representation, including financial institutions, in complex chapter 11 cases and in pre-bankruptcy workouts. He also represents bankruptcy trustees in chapter 11 and chapter 7 cases. Mr. Holley's pre-bankruptcy workouts frequently involve state court enforcement actions, including actions to appoint receivers for commercial real estate and businesses, actions to recover personal property collateral, breach of contract-related claims, and deficiency actions against borrowers and guarantors. He also represents creditors and receivers in contentious bankruptcy proceedings and related state court litigation, and he handles matters involving complex landlord-tenant issues and retail properties. Mr. Holley previously was with the Holley Driggs Law Firm which merged with Spencer Fane in October 2024. He is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell and is a Fellow of the American Bar Association and American College of Bankruptcy, and he has been listed since 1995 in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy, Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law, and Litigation-Bankruptcy. He also has been listed since 2007 in *Mountain States Super Lawyers* for Bankruptcy and Debtor/Creditor Rights. Mr. Holley received his B.A. in 1984 from Brigham Young University and his J.D. in 1987 from Brigham Young University J. Ruben Clark School of Law.

Hon. Barbara J. Houser is a retired U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Texas in Dallas, now serving on recall status, and she is ABI's Immediate Past President. She previously was with Locke, Purnell, Boren, Laney & Neely in Dallas and became a shareholder there in 1985. In 1988, she joined Sheinfeld, Maley & Kay, P.C. as the shareholder-in-charge of the Dallas office and remained there until she was sworn in as a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge in 2000. While at Sheinfeld, Judge Houser led the firm's representation of clients in a variety of significant national chapter 11 cases. She lectures and publishes frequently, is a past chairman of the Dallas Bar Association's Committee on Bankruptcy and Corporate Reorganization, is a member of the Dallas, Texas and American Bar Associations, and is a Fellow of the Texas and American Bar Foundations. Judge Houser served as a contributing author to *Collier on Bankruptcy* for many years and taught creditors' rights as a visiting professor at the SMU Dedman School of Law. She was elected a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy in 1994, and in 1996, she was elected a conferee of the National Bankruptcy Conference. In 1998, the National Law Journal named Judge Houser as one of the 50 most influential women lawyers in America. After becoming a bankruptcy judge, she joined the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges and served as its president from 2009-10. Judge Houser has received a variety of awards and honors since taking the bench, the Distinguished Alumni Award for Judicial Service from the SMU Dedman School of Law in February 2011, ABI's Judge William Norton Jr. Judicial Excellence Award in October 2014, and the Distinguished Service Award from the Alliance of Bankruptcy Inns of the American Inns of Court in October 2016. She also received the Distinguished Service Award from the American College of Bankruptcy in October 2021. Judge Houser has served the judiciary in a number of capacities during her 21 years on the bench, including as a member of the Judicial Conference Committee on the Administration of the Bankruptcy System for seven years, as a member of the faculty that the Federal Judicial Center selected to teach new bankruptcy judges for

many years, and as a member of the board of directors of the Federal Judicial Center, which is chaired by Chief Justice John Roberts. In June 2017, she was appointed to serve as the leader of a five-federal-judge mediation team tasked with settling all of the issues in dispute in connection with the historic insolvency filings by the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and certain related instrumentalities under Title III of PROMESA. 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.

Chad J. Husnick is a partner in Kirkland & Ellis LLP's Restructuring Practice Group in Chicago. He represents debtors, creditors, equityholders and other stakeholders in all aspects of corporate liability management, restructuring, bankruptcy and insolvency proceedings. Mr. Husnick has represented clients in a variety of industries, including energy, retail, real estate, infrastructure, manufacturing, transportation and distribution, hospitality and gaming, automotive and printing. He regularly advises clients on corporate governance issues facing financially distressed companies, including liability-management strategies, fiduciary duties and executive compensation. Mr. Husnick has been recognized in the 2017-2424 editions of *Chambers USA, America's Leading Lawyers for Business*. He also was recognized in the 2022-24 editions of *The Legal 500 U.S.* Mr. Husnick was honored in 2018 as one of ABI's "40 Under 40." He is a conferee and member of the Executive Committee in the National Bankruptcy Conference, a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy, and a member of the International Insolvency Institute, ABI and Turnaround Management Association. In addition, he is a lecturer in the law at the University of Chicago Law School and a contributing author for *Collier on Bankruptcy*. Mr. Husnick received his B.S. with distinction in 2001 in political science and behavioral sciences and law from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and his J.D. with honors in 2004 from the University of Chicago Law School.

Mary L. Johnson is the Assistant U.S. Trustee for the District of New Mexico in Albuquerque. She returned to her native New Mexico after 22 years in New York City, where she practiced at both boutique and Am Law 100 firms doing domestic and cross-border complex commercial litigation, insolvency and bankruptcy. Ms. Johnson is a member of the State Bars of New Mexico and New York. She received her A.B. in psychology from Brown University, her J.D. from Boston University School of Law, and an Executive M.B.A. from IE Business School and Brown University.

Soneet R. Kapila, CPA, CFF, CFE, CIRA is a founding partner of KapilaMukamal, LLP in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and ABI's Immediate Past President and Acting Chair. For more than 30 years, he has concentrated his efforts in the areas of consulting in insolvency, fiduciary and creditors' rights matters. Mr. Kapila is a federal bankruptcy trustee and serves as an examiner, CRO, chapter 7 and 11 trustee, subchapter V trustee, liquidating trustee, corporate monitor (SEC appointments), and as a state and federal court-appointed receiver. He has been appointed in numerous matters in the Southern and Middle Districts of Florida. As a trustee plaintiff, Mr. Kapila has managed complex litigation in significant cases. He advises and represents debtors, secured creditors and creditors' committees in formulating, analyzing and negotiating plans of reorganization. As a recognized expert in fraudulent conveyance, Ponzi schemes and insolvency issues, Mr. Kapila has provided expert testimony and litigation-support services to law firms involving complex insolvency issues and commercial damages. He has worked in conjunction with the SEC, FBI and U.S. Attorney's Office, and he has served both as a consultant and expert witness for litigation matters in state and federal courts. Mr. Kapila

has spoken to various groups, including ABI, New York Law School, St. Thomas University Law School, and the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, Southeastern Bankruptcy Law Institute, National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees (NABT), Receiver's Forum, Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Advisors, Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Turnaround Management Association, University of Miami School of Law, Florida International University School of Law, American Bar Association and the National Business Institute on topics related to insolvency, underperforming businesses and insolvency taxation. He is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and a past-president and past-chairman of the Association of Insolvency & Restructuring Advisors, for which he serves on its board of directors. Mr. Kapila has served on the advisory boards of ABI's Southeast Bankruptcy Workshop and Caribbean Insolvency Symposium. He also co-authored ABI's *Fraud and Forensics: Piercing Through the Deception in a Commercial Fraud Case* (2015). Mr. Kapila received his M.B.A. in 1978 from Cranfield School of Management.

Alphamorlai L. Kebeh is an associate with Allen Matkins Leck Gamble Mallory & Natsis LLP in Los Angeles, where he focuses on bankruptcy transactional and litigation matters. He represents debtors, trustees and creditors across industries in chapter 7 and 11 actions and in other insolvency issues. Mr. Kebeh has experience drafting and analyzing documents for adversarial bankruptcy and related proceedings in federal and state court, including pleadings, settlements, and reorganization and liquidation plans. He is co-chair of the Los Angeles Bankruptcy Forum's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee and a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, the Beverly Hills Bar Association's Entertainment Law Section, the Langston Bar Association and ABI. Mr. Kebeh received his B.A. from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and his J.D. from UCLA School of Law.

Jane Kim is a managing partner at Keller Benvenuti Kim LLP, a San Francisco-based corporate bankruptcy and restructuring boutique law firm, where she represents debtors in possession, distressed companies and other parties in both in-court and out-of-court situations. Her recent engagements include representing Trinitas Farming, LLC and 17 almond ranch operators in the Central Valley of California, and Shift Technologies, Inc., an omnichannel automobile retailer, in their chapter 11 cases in the Northern District of California. She also serves as bankruptcy co-counsel for Pacific Gas & Electric Co. in its chapter 11 case, the largest chapter 11 filing in the Northern District of California in over a decade, which emerged from bankruptcy in July 2020 through a confirmed, largely consensual plan of reorganization. Before moving to California and joining Keller Benvenuti Kim in 2014, Ms. Kim practiced in New York at Cleary Gottlieb for over a decade. She is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy and has been recognized as a leading lawyer by publications and organizations including *Chambers USA*, *Super Lawyers*, *Benchmark Litigation California*, and *Lawdragon's* inaugural list of the 500 Leading U.S. Bankruptcy and Restructuring Lawyers. She also was selected to serve as a lawyer representative for the Northern District of California. Ms. Kim received her B.A. from Columbia College at Columbia University in 1999 and her J.D. from Harvard Law School in 2002.

Kenneth D. Kraft is a partner and manager of Denton's Toronto Insolvency Team, and a member of the firm's financial services law group. He focuses his practice on insolvency and finance, both secured and unsecured. Acting for lenders as well as borrowers, Mr. Kraft's expertise encompasses receiverships, informal workouts and all manner of restructurings under the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act and the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act. He has been involved in numerous Canada/

U.S. cross-border filings, along with proceedings in England, France, Australia and Israel. Mr. Kraft has been repeatedly recognized for his expertise in restructuring, insolvency and bankruptcy-related directories, including *Chambers*, *Lexpert* and *Canada's Best Lawyers*. He is a member of the International Insolvency Institute and INSOL, and he co-chairs ABI's International Committee. In 2009, Mr. Kraft was one of just two Canadian lawyers nominated for the BTI Client Service All-Star Team for Law Firms, which honors superior client service delivered to corporate counsel at Fortune 1000 and other large companies. In 2011, he was recognized for his expertise in Insolvency & Restructuring Law in *Corporate INTL Magazine's* "50 Best Lawyers in Canada." Mr. Kraft received his LL.B. in 1989 from York University, Osgoode Hall Law School and his LL.M. in 1996 from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Hon. Dominic W. Lanza is a U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona in Phoenix. He previously was an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Arizona. After graduating from law school, Judge Lanza clerked for Hon. Pamela Ann Rymer of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. He then practiced for five years as an associate in the constitutional and appellate law practice group of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Lanza served as Chief and Executive Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Arizona. He received his B.A. *summa cum laude* from Dartmouth College and his J.D. *cum laude* from Harvard Law School, where he served as editor and transition chair of the *Harvard Law Review*.

Dr. Emery G. Lee III is a senior researcher at the Federal Judicial Center in Washington, D.C., the research and education agency of the federal courts. Since 2010, he has served as FJC liaison to the Judicial Conference Advisory Committee on Civil Rules, studying, among other things, aggregate litigation, disclosure and discovery, and default judgments. From 2001-02, Dr. Lee clerked for Hon. Karen Nelson Moore of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. He received his Ph.D. in political science from Vanderbilt University in 1996 and his J.D. from Case Western Reserve in 2001.

Hon. Christopher M. Lopez is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of Texas in Houston, appointed on Aug. 14, 2019. He previously was a member of the Business, Finance & Restructuring Group of Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP and focused on representations ranging from top global corporations in mega-restructurings to middle-market debtor and creditor representations. Judge Lopez lectures across the country on bankruptcy issues. He also serves as an adjunct professor at Thurgood Marshall School of Law. Judge Lopez currently serves as a council member of the State Bar of Texas's Bankruptcy Law Section, an advisor to the State Bar of Texas Young Lawyers Committee, a member of the Nominations Committee for the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, and a member of the National Bankruptcy Conference. He received his B.A. in psychology in 1996 from the University of Houston, his M.A. in religion in 1999 from Yale Divinity School and his J.D. from the University of Texas School of Law in 2003.

Samuel R. Maizel is a partner at Dentons US LLP in Los Angeles and leads the firm's distressed health care industry restructuring efforts nationwide. His practice includes bankruptcy matters as well as financial restructurings, both in and out of court. Mr. Maizel has served as lead counsel to debtors, trustees, buyers of assets, state attorneys generals and creditors' committees, and has served as a trustee, examiner, patient care ombudsman and consumer privacy ombudsman in chapter 7, 9 and 11 cases. His most recent debtor representations include Curitec, a durable medical equipment supplier

that filed in Houston; Borrego Community Health Foundation, a chain of 19 federally qualified health care centers that filed in San Diego; Astria Health, a chain of nonprofit hospitals that filed in Yakima, Wash.; and Verity Health System of California, a chain of six hospitals and the second-largest nonprofit hospital bankruptcy case in U.S. history, which filed in Los Angeles. Mr. Maizel has lectured extensively, is widely published, and has been interviewed on television and radio. He is the only lawyer in the U.S. ranked in both health care and bankruptcy by *Chambers and Partners* and *The Best Lawyers in America*. A Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, Mr. Maizel was named a “Legal Visionary by the *Los Angeles Times* in 2023; recognized as one of its “Top 100 Lawyers for 2022” by the *Los Angeles Business Journal*; awarded the “Outstanding Lawyer Award” for distinguished service as outside counsel to nonprofit organizations by the American Bar Association in 2022; and named by the *Daily Journal* as one of California’s “Top Healthcare Lawyers” in 2021. In addition, Global M&A Network named him “Restructuring Lawyer of the Year” in 2020. In addition, he has been listed in *Super Lawyers* every year since 2007. Mr. Maizel received his B.S. in 1977 from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, 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.

Hon. Robert A. Mark is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of Florida in Miami, appointed in 1990, and he served as Chief Judge from 1999-2006. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Mark was head of the bankruptcy department of the Miami firm of Stearns, Weaver, Miller, Weissler, Alhadeff & Sitterson, PA. He is a frequent speaker at international programs sponsored by INSOL, III, IWIRC and ABI, and he has served for several years as the co-judicial chair of the ABI’s Caribbean Insolvency Symposium. Judge Mark is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and an author for *Collier on Bankruptcy*. His community activities include participation in a program that offers internships to minority law students, and participation in financial education programs for high school students through the Bankruptcy Bar Association’s CARE program, which teaches students about the dangers of credit card abuse. Judge Mark is a graduate of Boalt Hall School of Law, University of California at Berkeley.

Sylvia A. Mayer is the sole proprietor of S. Mayer Law PLLC in Houston and is an arbitrator, mediator and attorney with 30 years of legal experience in courts nationwide, including more than 10 years as a neutral. As a member of the National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals and a TMCA Credentialed Advanced Mediator, she serves on several arbitration and mediation rosters for civil, commercial, consumer, employment and health care disputes. As an experienced neutral, Ms. Mayer has served as arbitrator and mediator for disputes involving a wide variety of issues spanning a breadth of industries, including avoidance actions, banking, bankruptcy, business divorces, business separations, civil litigation, collections, commercial leasing, commercial litigation, construction, consumer, contracts, corporate governance, corporations, credit, director and officer liability, distribution, employment, energy, exploration and production, fiduciary duties, finance, financial services, fraud, fraudulent transfers, health care, hospitality, insolvency, insurance, landlord-tenant, lender liability, limited liability companies, manufacturing, mechanics and vendors liens, natural gas, oil and gas, oilfield services, partnerships, pharmaceutical, personal injury, pipelines and transportation, preference actions, professional liability, real estate, retail, royalties, sales, secured transactions, securities, surety bonds, telecommunications, torts, transportation and wholesale. She is listed on the American Arbitration Association (AAA) Arbitrator and Mediator Rosters, National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals (Texas) (NADN) Arbitrator and Mediator Rosters, American Health Law

Association (AHLA) Arbitrator and Mediator Rosters, International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution (CPR) Panels of Distinguished Neutrals, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) Arbitrator Roster, New ERA ADR, Inc. Neutrals Roster, Court Call ODR Roster for Arbitrators and Mediators, Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) Balanced Billing Arbitrator and Mediator Rosters, Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services Balanced Billing Arbitrator Roster, Virginia Bureau of Insurance Balanced Billing Arbitrator Roster, Washington Office of the Insurance Commissioner Balanced Billing Arbitrator Roster, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, District of Delaware, Register of Mediators and Arbitrators, U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas, Qualified Alternative Dispute Resolution Provider and Credentialed Advanced Mediator with Texas Mediator Credentialing Association (TMCA). Ms. Mayer is the founder and chair of the Houston Pro Bono Joint Initiative and sits on the State Bar of Texas ADR Council. In addition, she is a member of the ABI and the American Bar Association, ArbitralWomen, Association of Attorney Mediators, American Health Law Association, Association of Women Attorneys, Academy of Cami-Appointed Masters, Greater Houston Women's Chamber of Commerce, Houston Bar Association, National Association of Women Lawyers, State Bar of Texas, Texas Association of Mediators and the Texas Mediators Credentialing Association. Ms. Mayer received her B.A. in theater *cum laude* in 1987 from George Washington University and her J.D. *summa cum laude* in 1993 from the University of Houston Law Center.

Jennifer McConnell, CPA, CIRA is a director with AlixPartners, LLP in Chicago. She previously was a senior vice president with Mesirow Financial, a manager with Huron Consulting Group and a senior associate with Deloitte. Ms. McConnell is an IWIRC network chair and Treasurer of IWIRC Chicago. She received her B.S. in accountancy from the University of Illinois Gies College of Business.

Jennifer M. McLemore is a partner in the Financial Services & Real Estate Section at Williams Mullen in Richmond, Va., where she advises commercial creditors, business creditors, banks and credit unions in bankruptcy and bankruptcy litigation matters. She frequently represents clients in matters involving debtor-in-possession financing arrangements and asset-identification and recovery matters. She also represents clients in bankruptcy litigation situations involving avoidance actions, claim-objection disputes and discharge/dischargeability claims. Ms. McLemore has handled bankruptcy cases for numerous clients, including business owners, corporate entities and contract counterparties; commercial and retail landlords; banks and other lenders; unsecured creditors' committees, chapter 7 and 11 trustees, and debtors, and she serves as a subchapter V trustee in Virginia. She is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency & Reorganization Law (2013-present) and in *Virginia Super Lawyers* for Bankruptcy Law (2014-present), and has been named among Virginia's "Legal Elite" by *Virginia Business* for Bankruptcy/Creditors' Rights (2011-2017). Ms. McLemore is a past chair of the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation (IWIRC). She founded IWIRC's Virginia network in 2006, and in 2012, she received the IWIRC's Melnik Award, which is awarded to a member who has made an exceptional contribution to IWIRC, either through efforts over the past year or for the culmination of efforts over a period of years. Ms. McLemore serves on ABI's Board of Directors and co-chairs ABI's Southeastern Bankruptcy Workshop Advisory Board. In addition, she was a member of Leadership Metro Richmond's Class of 2016 and is a sustainer for the Junior League of Richmond. Ms. McLemore received her B.A. *cum laude* from Miami University (Oxford, Ohio) and her J.D. from the University of Richmond School of Law.

Tanya Meerovich, CFA, CFE, CIRA, CTP is a senior managing director with FTI Consulting, Inc. in New York and specializes in providing financial and strategic solutions to companies, their creditors and investors. She has worked with both public and private companies across many sectors. Ms. Meerovich has industry expertise in the financial services, real estate, nonprofit, insurance, health care, education, energy, manufacturing, infrastructure, print, entertainment and retail industries. Her advisory services include assisting senior management teams and various stakeholders in developing and implementing strategic alternatives, revenue enhancement initiatives and cost-reduction initiatives. In addition, she has experience in the review and assessment of business plans and financial models, preparation of financial projections and cash-flow models, financial analysis, cash management, asset management and liquidation, claims analysis, fraud investigations and forensic accounting. Ms. Meerovich's recent engagements include advising management teams and boards of AG Mortgage Investment Trust Inc, the Government Development Bank of Puerto Rico, Impac Mortgage, MFA Financial, Ocwen Financial, Puerto Rico Highways and Transportation Authority, Residential Capital (ResCap), Three Lions Entertainment, Workflow Management and several mortgage REITs. She also has advised senior secured lenders. Prior to joining FTI Consulting, Ms. Meerovich was in the Financial Services Advisory group of RSM Cayman Islands, where she was involved in a number of high-profile and complex cross-border insolvency engagements in the financial services sector. Prior to that, she worked for a securities broker-dealer in the Chicago area. Ms. Meerovich previously held NASD Series 24, 7 and 63 licenses and served on several boards, including the New York Chapter of the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation and Rock & Rawhide, a nonprofit organization. She is a member of ABI, the Association for Financial Professionals, the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, the Association of Insolvency & Restructuring Advisors, the Chartered Financial Analyst Institute, the New York Society of Security Analysts and the Turnaround Management Association. Ms. Meerovich received her B.S. in finance and business management from Roosevelt University.

Hon. Michael J. Melloy is a U.S. Court of Appeals Judge for the Eighth Circuit in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He is the first judge on the Eighth Circuit's U.S. Court of Appeals to have served as both a U.S. bankruptcy court and U.S. district court judge: He served on the Northern District of Iowa's Bankruptcy Court from 1986-92 and on its District Court from 1992 until his appointment to the U.S. Court of Appeals in 2002. Judge Melloy served in the U.S. Army from 1970-72 and in the U.S. Army Reserve from 1972-76. Prior to his judicial appointments, he practiced primarily civil litigation and also administrative law, real estate, bankruptcy and tax as an associate and then as a partner at O'Connor & Thomas in Dubuque from 1974-86. He also regularly co-chaired Tom Tauke's congressional campaigns. Judge Melloy received his B.A. *magna cum laude* in economics from Loras College in 1970 and his J.D. in 1974 with high distinction from the University of Iowa College of Law, during which time he interned at the Jo Daviess County, Ill., attorney's office.

Evan T. Miller is a partner with Saul Ewing LLP in Wilmington, Del., and a member of the firm's Bankruptcy & Restructuring Practice, where he handles corporate bankruptcy and restructuring matters for debtors (including those under subchapter V) and trustees. His representations also include official committees of unsecured creditors, asset-purchasers, vendors and landlords. Mr. Miller's clients span such industries as blockchain/cryptocurrency, technology, insurance, restaurants, retail, health care and aviation, both in and out of court. His work with cryptocurrency/blockchain matters includes advice on the treatment of digital assets in bankruptcy, including Bitcoin and nonfungible tokens (NFTs). Mr. Miller frequently represents clients in bankruptcy litigation, including preference

and fraudulent-transfer litigants. He is also a certified mediator for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware and is included on the Register of Mediators and Arbitrators maintained by the court. Mr. Miller is often called upon as an expert witness in the areas of restructuring and insolvency. He frequently speaks on these and related topics and serves as the editor for the 2024 edition of *Strategic Alternatives For and Against Distressed Businesses*. During his law school years, Mr. Miller interned for Hon. Chandlee Kuhn, Chief Judge of the Family Court of the State of Delaware, and was a judicial extern to Hon. Jane R. Roth of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. He was honored in 2001 as one of ABI's "40 Under 40," has been named one of "America's Leading Lawyers in Bankruptcy/Restructuring" by *Chambers USA* since 2022, and was named to the *Lawdragon 500 X – The Next Generation* list for 2023. Mr. Miller received his B.A. in 2004 from Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania and his J.D. *cum laude* from Widener University Delaware Law School in 2009 and with honors from the Delaware Law School's Institute of Delaware Corporate and Business Law. While in law school, he served as the internal managing editor of the *Widener Law Review* for the 2008-09 academic year.

Lindsay Zahradka Milne is a shareholder in the Business Restructuring and Insolvency Practice Group at Bernstein, Shur, Sawyer & Nelson in Portland, Maine, where she represents a broad array of corporate clients in matters including chapter 11 reorganizations, asset sales and acquisitions, bankruptcy-related litigation and appellate practice. Prior to moving to Portland in 2015, she practiced in the Financial Restructuring group at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld in New York, where she advised borrowers, committees, indenture trustees and bondholders in complex chapter 11 cases, including in GM, Friendly's, Kodak and Energy Future Holdings. Ms. Milne is experienced in disputes and transactions involving the Uniform Commercial Code, asset sales, fraudulent transfers, DIP financing, contested confirmations, valuation issues and appellate practice, among other topics. She is a member of the bars of New York, New Hampshire and Maine, sits on the board of the New England Network of the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation, and is a member of the Turnaround Management Association. She is also a member of ABI and served on the advisory board of its Northeast Bankruptcy Conference, and she was honored as one of ABI's "40 Under 40" in 2018. She also was named a *Super Lawyers* "Rising Star" in 2018, was recognized by *Chambers USA* for excellence in bankruptcy in 2020 and 2022, and in 2023 was recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy and Creditor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law. Ms. Milne has appeared as a panelist at national bankruptcy and creditors' rights programs and has authored articles appearing in ABI publications and others. She received her Bachelor's degree *magna cum laude* in cognitive science from Dartmouth College in 2007 and her J.D. *cum laude* from Fordham University in 2010, where she was an associate editor of the *Fordham Urban Law Journal* and a moot court competitor.

Clare Moylan, CFA, CIRA is a co-founder and principal of Gibbins Advisors, LLC in Nashville, Tenn., a consulting and restructuring advisory firm that specializes in the health care sector. She has nearly 20 years of experience in health care spanning turnaround and restructuring, operations management, strategic planning, business analysis and performance-improvement consulting. Ms. Moylan's experience covers the public, private and nonprofit sectors across the health care continuum, including hospitals, primary care, nursing homes, hospice, specialty practice clinics, senior living and home health care. Ms. Moylan serves as a volunteer non-executive director for The Skin Hospital, a nonprofit dermatology services provider with research and specialist training programs.

She received her B.B.A./Bachelor of Laws with first-class honors from Macquarie University, and she holds a Master Certificate in Healthcare Leadership from Cornell University.

Adam B. Nach is an attorney with Lane & Nach in Phoenix, where he provides legal services to lenders, landlords, receivers, bankruptcy trustees, assignees in assignment for the benefit of creditors matters and liquidating agents. He is a frequent lecturer on receivership law, bankruptcy law and creditors' rights, and he has written extensively on such matters for the Norton Bankruptcy Institute, the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees, the Arizona State Bar, and the National Business Institute and Strategic Alternatives For and Against Distressed Businesses. Mr. Nach is admitted to the United States Supreme Court, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and State Bar of Arizona. He is a Board Certified Bankruptcy Law Specialist – State Bar of Arizona and Board Certified in Creditors' Rights Law by the American Board of Certification, and he is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell. Previously, Mr. Nach was a judicial law clerk to former Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Arizona Robert G. Mooreman. He is a frequent lecturer on bankruptcy law and creditors' rights. Mr. Nach received his B.S. in accounting in 1985 from the University of Arizona, and his J.D. from California Western School of Law.

Jennifer L. Nassiri is a partner in the Finance and Bankruptcy Practice Group of Sheppard Mullin's Century City office in Los Angeles. She counsels secured and unsecured creditors, creditors' committees, licensors and licensees of intellectual property, landlords and tenants, equityholders and corporate officers, and special committees, among others, in the health care, retail, real estate, manufacturing, automotive and media and entertainment industries, in connection with pre-bankruptcy planning, restructurings and liquidations, both in chapter 11 and out of court. Ms. Nassiri has experience counseling chapter 11 debtors, lenders, special servicers, property owners, asset-purchasers, insiders and chapter 11 trustees, including liquidating trustees in a broad spectrum of complex issues in bankruptcy. Her practice includes chapter 11 plan litigation, § 363 sales, valuation disputes, debtor-in-possession financing, preference and fraudulent transfer litigation, and assignments for the benefit of creditors. She frequently counsels intellectual property licensors and licensees in distressed transactions and bankruptcy. Ms. Nassiri also has experience in the health care space, where she specifically guides clients through the complex world of distressed hospitals and nursing homes in chapter 11. She received her B.A. *cum laude* from the University of California, Los Angeles in 1996, where she was a member of the Golden Key National Honor Society, and her J.D. from Loyola Law School in 2000, where she made the Dean's List and was a member of the Phi Delta Phi Honor Society.

Liz Nguyen is an attorney at the Law Office of Mark J. Giunta in Phoenix, where her practice focuses on debtor/creditor rights, business disputes and commercial litigation in state and federal court, including a broad range of contested and adversary matters in bankruptcy court. She also represents debtors and creditors in chapter 11 reorganizations and chapter 13 and 7 proceedings. In addition to her law practice, she is an at-large member of the Ninth Circuit Conference Executive Committee. Ms. Nguyen is the president-elect for the Arizona Asian American Bar Association and the immediate past president of the Arizona Bankruptcy Inn of Court. She recently became a co-chair of the Bankruptcy and Restructuring Committee for the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association. She also serves as a judge *pro tem* for the Maricopa County Justice Courts and as an associate magistrate for the Apache Junction Municipal Court. Ms. Nguyen received her B.A. in English literature from Arizona State University in Tempe and her J.D. from Phoenix School of Law.

Randy Nussbaum is an attorney with Sacks Tierney P.A. in Scottsdale, Ariz., and has assisted individuals and businesses with complex bankruptcy protection (debtor and creditor), transaction and litigation matters for more than 40 years. He has represented secured and unsecured creditors, surety companies, creditors' committees, lessors, professional athletes, doctors, lawyers, and trustees in chapter 5, 7, 11 and 13 proceedings, including adversary actions (bankruptcy litigation). The cases have involved such diverse matters as real estate, construction, manufacturing, trucking, asset-based lending, bankruptcy related to divorce, and high-value and complex individual bankruptcies. Mr. Nussbaum is a Certified Bankruptcy Specialist by the Arizona Board of Legal Specialization and is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification, for which he currently serves as president. He has been named to the *Super Lawyers* "Top 50" list of Arizona attorneys multiple times and has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* annually since 2010; he was selected as its "Lawyer of the Year" (Scottsdale) for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights in 2019 and for Bankruptcy Litigation in 2021 and 2024. Mr. Nussbaum is a 1990 graduate of Scottsdale Leadership and has volunteered for the organization for nearly 30 years, serves on its advisory board, and is a recipient of the prestigious Frank W. Hodges Alumni Achievement Award. He also served as a Sterling Awards Jurist for the Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce and received the Chamber's Volunteer of the Year Award for 2017. Mr. Nussbaum is the president of the American Board of Certification for 2024 and has presented at ABI programs annually since 2011. In 2018, he was inducted into the Scottsdale History Hall of Fame. Mr. Nussbaum received his B.A. *cum laude* and in 1977 his J.D. in 1980 from Arizona State University, graduating in the top 25 percent of his class.

Brad Orelowitz, CPA is a managing director of The Michel-Shaked Group in Boston. For more than 30 years, he has provided business consulting services to boards of directors, investors, shareholders, law firms and governmental agencies nationwide, including more than 25 years with MSG. Prior to joining MSG, Mr. Orelowitz was the CFO of a retail business and an audit manager for a public accounting firm. His practice at MSG focuses on valuation, bankruptcy, damages, accounting, securities, capital markets, employment, and pensions and retirement plan issues. Mr. Orelowitz has performed valuations, solvency and damages analyses in numerous industries, including cable, drug distribution, education, energy, financial services, health care, industrial, insurance, leisure, manufacturing, media, medical, pharmaceuticals, real estate, retail, software, sports franchises, technology, telecommunications, tire and rubber and tobacco. A significant number of his assignments involved financial distress, restructuring, solvency, fraudulent conveyance and preference matters. In bankruptcy assignments, he has represented debtors, lenders, creditors and equityholders. Mr. Orelowitz has written on topics such as valuation, bankruptcy, pension and ERISA issues. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), ABI and the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation (IWIRC), and he has contributed several articles on valuation and bankruptcy to the *ABI Journal*. He has also delivered seminars to law firms and has taught business school classes on valuation as a guest lecturer. Mr. Orelowitz received his Bachelor of Commerce with accounting and auditing majors and a Bachelor of Accounting Science with honors from the University of South Africa, and his M.B.A. with high honors from Boston University.

Hon. Karen B. Owens is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Delaware in Wilmington. Prior to her appointment, she was a director in the Bankruptcy and Insolvency group of Ashby & Geddes, P.A., where she maintained a diverse practice, representing corporate debtors, estate professionals, various secured and unsecured creditor constituencies, and other interested parties in reorganization and liquidation proceedings and bankruptcy-related litigation. Prior to joining Ashby & Geddes,

Judge Owens started her career at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom as a corporate restructuring associate, and later went on to clerk for Hon. Brendan Linehan Shannon of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware. She is an adjunct professor in the Bankruptcy LL.M. Program at St. John's University School of Law in New York, co-president of the Delaware Bankruptcy American Inn of Court, a member of the board of directors of the Philadelphia/Wilmington Chapter of the Turnaround Management Association, and a member of the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation. Judge Owens received her Bachelor's degree from Pennsylvania State University, where she was Phi Beta Kappa, and her J.D. *summa cum laude* from American University's Washington College of Law, where she served as an associate managing editor for the *American University Law Review* and as legal intern to Hon. Stephen S. Mitchell of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia.

James R. Porter, ACA, JIEB, CIRA, CPE is a senior managing director in Accordion Partners's Turnaround & Restructuring Practice in Charlotte, N.C. He has 30 years of experience working with clients across multiple industries, but he has focused on health care for the last 15 years. Mr. Porter has a broad range of experience in helping organizations solve problems involving the complicated interactions of business processes, workforce and regulatory matters. He has worked in the U.K. and the U.S. in both formal (*e.g.*, chapter 11 bankruptcy) and informal (*e.g.*, workout) situations. In addition to his C-level advisory experience, Mr. Porter has served in management capacities as CFO and treasurer at a number of distressed hospitals. Prior to joining Accordion Partners, he was a senior manager at ToneyKorf Partners, where he was involved in numerous situations involving merger activity with distressed hospitals. Prior to that, he was a principal in Grant Thornton's Restructuring practice, where he was responsible for all aspects of the client lifecycle, from relationship development through the execution of complex, transformational initiatives that drove significant operational improvements for his clients. Mr. Porter's consulting career has spanned numerous industries, including health care, manufacturing and telecom. He received his B.S. in mechanical engineering from Nottingham University, U.K.

Kimberly A. Posin is a restructuring partner with Latham & Watkins in Los Angeles and has more than two decades of experience advising debtors and creditors on high-profile matters and on a range of restructuring-related transactions. She regularly represents corporate debtors, secured lenders, creditors and other interested parties in all aspects of distressed situations, including chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings, out-of-court restructurings, foreclosures, assignments for the benefit of creditors, and related disputes and litigation. Ms. Posin's clients range from name-brand global companies to Silicon Valley startups in a diverse range of industries. She frequently handles matters in all of the major U.S. jurisdictions, including Delaware, New York and Texas. Ms. Posin is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy, and she regularly speaks and writes about restructuring issues. She received her B.S. in 1999 from the University of Southern California and her J.D. in 2002 from the University of California, Berkeley School of Law (Boalt Hall).

Luis E. Rivera, II is the deputy chair of the Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights practice group at GrayRobinson, P.A. in Fort Myers, Fla. He is experienced in counseling clients in business litigation, bankruptcy, creditors' rights and insolvency. A 2017 ABI "40 Under 40" honoree, Mr. Rivera serves as a trustee of Florida Gulf Coast University and president of the Middle District of Florida *Pro Se* Legal Assistance Clinic, Inc. Since 2010, he has served as a panel trustee for the Middle District of

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Carolina Velaz Rivero is a member at Marini Pietrantonì Muñiz LLC in San Juan, P.R., and co-chairs its Bankruptcy & Insolvency Practice. She concentrates her practice in all aspects of distressed situations and bankruptcy, representing institutional lenders, strategic investors, special-situation funds and other stakeholders in in-court and out-of-court restructurings, bankruptcy and litigation matters. She is also involved in complex commercial litigation, including the defense of lender-liability suits and contract litigation. Ms. Rivero represents financial institutions, private-equity funds, purchasers of distressed debt, and secured and unsecured creditors, and she regularly lectures on federal jurisdiction and insolvency and bankruptcy matters. She was a 2018 ABI “40 Under 40” honoree and has been a member of ABI’s International Caribbean Insolvency Symposium Advisory Board since 2022. Ms. Rivero is the immediate past president of the Federal Bar Association’s Hon. Raymond L. Acosta Puerto Rico Chapter and the current vice president for the First Circuit as part of the national Federal Bar Association. In 2024, she was inducted to the 2024 Fellows Class of the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association. Ms. Rivero is a board member of the Puerto Rico Chapter of the Instituto Iberoamericano de Derecho Concursal, as well as a member of the International Women’s Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation and the Puerto Rico Bankruptcy Bar. She has been ranked by *Chambers and Partners* Latin American Guide from 2020-25 as a leader in Dispute Resolution: Bankruptcy, and she has been recognized by *Legal 500* as a “Next Generation Partner” since 2022. In addition, she has been ranked by *The Best Lawyers in America*’s Puerto Rico edition since 2021. Ms. Rivero received her Bachelor’s degree in government from Dartmouth College and her J.D. from the University of Puerto Rico, where she was an assistant editor of the *University of Puerto Rico Law Journal*.

Hon. Shad M. Robinson is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Texas in Austin, appointed by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit in February 2023. Prior to his appointment, he served as executive vice president and general counsel for Alliance Bank Central Texas, where he handled all legal matters for the bank, including bankruptcy filings, contract review, workouts, foreclosures and litigation management, advised on corporate holding company matters, assisted with compliance and examinations and with growth and acquisitions, advised management and loan officers on miscellaneous matters, and prepared loan documents. Prior to that, Judge Robinson was an associate and partner at Haley & Olson law firm for 22 years and also clerked for Hon. Leif M. Clark, a retired U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Texas in San Antonio. In private practice, he represented financial institutions, individuals, small businesses and large corporations in collections matters, creditor rights enforcement and litigation, workouts, contract negotiation, commercial disputes, real estate, Uniform Commercial Code issues and commercial law litigation. He assisted individuals and business entities throughout the State of Texas and also worked on matters throughout the U.S., including bankruptcy cases in California, Delaware, New York and Pennsylvania. Judge Robinson was admitted to practice by the Texas Bar in 1999 and is licensed to practice in the State of Texas and the U.S. District Courts for the Northern, Southern, Eastern and Western Districts of Texas. He is also admitted to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Robinson received his B.A. in 1996 from Buena Vista University in Iowa and his J.D. in 1999 from Baylor University School of Law.

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

Ian M. Rubenstrunk is Of Counsel with Spencer Fane in Minneapolis, where he represents a wide array of clients including banks, credit unions, nontraditional lenders, private equity, equipment financiers, receivers, landlords and asset-buyers in financial services matters. His experience in financial services is focused on all sides of distressed transactions and turnaround matters, with specific experience in commercial foreclosures, receiverships, bankruptcies, out-of-court workouts, and litigation involving financial transactions. Early in his career, Mr. Rubenstrunk represented debtors in chapter 11 bankruptcy filings and clients facing foreclosure and debt collection, and served with the U.S. Trustee's Office in the Northern District of Illinois and a stint clerking at the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Minnesota for Chief Judge Gregory F. Kishel and Hon. William J. Fisher. During his clerkship, he worked on cases covering myriad issues, including on the fallout from a multi-billion-dollar Ponzi scheme. Following his clerkship, Mr. Rubenstrunk spent several years in private practice at a firm in Minneapolis in its Creditors' Remedies and Financial Litigation departments. Most recently, he worked at a consulting firm, where he served as a court-appointed receiver of companies in a variety of industries in cases across the country. He currently serves as the state director for the Minnesota Chapter of the Commercial Receivers Association. Mr. Rubenstrunk received his B.A. in English and political science from the University of Colorado at Boulder and his J.D. from The University of Illinois Chicago School of Law, where he served as staff and articles editor of the *Review of Intellectual Property Law*.

Christopher M. Samis is a partner with Potter Anderson & Corroon LLP in Wilmington, Del., where he focuses his practice on corporate bankruptcy, business restructuring and other insolvency-related matters. He represents debtors, official committees, individual creditors and other parties-in-interest in chapter 11 and chapter 7 bankruptcy cases before the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware. Mr. Samis's clients span a wide variety of industries, including retail, manufacturing, restaurant, telecommunications, publishing, pharmaceutical, biotech, energy, finance, entertainment, transportation, real estate and construction. He also represents assignees for the benefit of creditors in the Chancery Court of Delaware. Mr. Samis has been recognized in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* since 2016, in *The Best Lawyers in America* since 2019 and in *Super Lawyers* since 2013. He is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell. Mr. Samis received his B.A. in 2002 from the University of Delaware and his J.D. in 2005 from Villanova University School of Law.

Amalia Y. Sax-Bolder is a shareholder with Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP in Denver and has experience representing clients in a variety of distressed situations. She maintains an active chapter 11 debtor practice and also represents lenders, purchasers, secured creditors, strategic investors and trustees in chapter 11 and chapter 7 bankruptcies, receiverships and foreclosures. Ms. Sax-Bolder frequently represents clients in adversary proceedings and arbitrations, relief-from-stay matters and

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Ilan D. Scharf is an attorney with Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones in New York, where he specializes in financial restructuring and bankruptcy litigation with a particular focus on representing creditors' committees of religious institutions and nonprofit entities. His practice focuses on representing tort claimant and creditors' committees in chapter 11 cases. He also has represented debtors, equity-holders, asset-purchasers, trade creditors, chapter 11 trustees, and other parties in business reorganizations and related litigation. Mr. Scharf has appeared before bankruptcy courts across the U.S., including New York, Delaware, New Jersey, New Mexico, California, Missouri, Montana, Texas and Pennsylvania. In 2012, he was named a "Rising Star" by *Super Lawyers* magazine and has been selected as a Super Lawyer every year since. Prior to joining PSZJ in 2003, Mr. Scharf clerked for Hon. Robert E. Gerber of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York and was an associate at a multinational law firm. He received his undergraduate degree from Yeshiva University and his J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania.

Tara J. Schellhorn is a partner with Riker Danzig LLP in Morristown, N.J., in the firm's Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring Group. Her practice focuses on all aspects of bankruptcy and restructuring, including the representation of debtors, creditors' committees, trustees, financial institutions, secured lenders, unsecured creditors and other parties in interest in complex chapter 11 cases. Ms. Schellhorn also has experience in bankruptcy litigation, including prosecuting and defending non-dischargeability, preference and other avoidance actions. In addition, she has significant experience representing clients on complex corporate lending issues, including the representation of indenture trustees in default and bankruptcy situations. Her practice also includes civil litigation in both federal and state courts. Ms. Schellhorn is a member of the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation (IWIRC) and is an immediate past co-chair of its New Jersey Network. She currently serves as the U.S. Networks Director for IWIRC's international board of directors, and in 2021, IWIRC honored her with the prestigious Melnick Award for exceptional contributions by an IWIRC member. Ms. Schellhorn also is an active ABI member and served as co-chair of ABI's Young and New Members Committee, which received the Committee of the Year Award at ABI's 2022 Annual Spring Meeting. She now serves as Communications Manager for ABI's Emerging Industries and Technology Committee. She also serves as a contributing editor of the *ABI Journal*, overseeing the "Building Blocks" column, and she has authored numerous articles. Ms. Schellhorn is vice chair of the Lawyers Advisory Committee to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Jersey. In January 2020, Ms. Schellhorn was appointed to a two-year term as a member of the Chester Town-

ship Environmental Commission. Prior to joining Riker Danzig, she clerked for Hon. Raymond T. Lyons in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Jersey. Ms. Schellhorn is an editorial board member for Thomson Reuters' 2024 book *Strategic Alternatives For and Against Distressed Businesses*. She received her undergraduate degree *magna cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa from Gettysburg College in 2004, and her J.D. *magna cum laude* from Widener University School of Law in 2007, where she served as editor-in-chief of the *Widener Law Journal* and received the *Widener Law Journal* Award for Distinguished Legal Scholarship. In addition, she received a 2007 ABI Medal of Excellence for outstanding performance in her bankruptcy coursework.

Tancred Schiavoni is a partner with O'Melveny & Myers LLP in New York and co-chairs the firm's Insurance Practice, representing insurance and reinsurance companies in a variety of disputes, including bad faith claims and environmental coverage litigation. He has represented carriers in cases in a number of states, including New Jersey, New York and New Hampshire. Mr. Schiavoni also has conducted and assisted in mediations and provided coverage advice to clients to assist them in avoiding disputes without the need for litigation. He participated at trial in the defense of a major environmental coverage action involving multiple parties and claims for coverage exceeding US\$500 million. He also was involved in the trial of another major multiparty coverage dispute involving coverage claims in a dozen states and Canada. Mr. Schiavoni has been recognized as a Local Litigation Star and National Practice Area Star for Insurance by *Benchmark Litigation* (2020-24), ranked by *Chambers USA* in the New York and Nationwide "Insurance: Dispute Resolution: Insurer" categories (2012, 2014-23), listed in *The Legal 500 US* as a Leading Lawyer (2013-19) and Hall of Fame (2018, 2020-23) for Insurance, named National Litigation Star in *Benchmark Litigation: The Definitive Guide to America's Leading Litigation Firms and Attorneys* (2013), and named Client Choice 2013 in the New York Insurance & Reinsurance category by *International Law Office* and *Lexology*. In addition, he is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell and received *Law360's* 2012 MVP award in Insurance honoring achievements in major litigation that have set a new standard for accomplishment. Mr. Schiavoni is admitted to practice before the U.S. District Courts for the District of Connecticut and the Eastern, Northern and Southern Districts of New York; the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Second, Third, Ninth and Federal Circuits, and the U.S. Supreme Court. He received his B.S. in 1984 and his J.D. in 1988 from Georgetown University, where he was a member of the Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics.

Edward L. Schnitzer is a partner with Womble Bond Dickinson in New York, where he focuses his practice on bankruptcy and reorganization matters. He has experience representing unsecured creditor committees, litigation and liquidation trustees, debtors, banks, equity committees, and creditors in all aspects of bankruptcy practice, with a particular focus on bankruptcy litigation, including the prosecution and defense of preferences, fraudulent transfers and other avoidance actions, claims objections, and collection and turnover actions. Mr. Schnitzer is a court-approved mediator in the U.S. Bankruptcy Courts for the District of Delaware and the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York. He has mediated disputes in the Health Diagnostic, Standard Register, Borders and WP Steel bankruptcy cases. Mr. Schnitzer co-chairs ABI's Mediation Committee and frequently writes on bankruptcy mediation. He also is a member of the New York City Bar Association's Pro Bono Bankruptcy Panel and has represented individuals in need of *pro bono* assistance in adversary proceedings. Upon graduation from law school, Mr. Schnitzer served as an Assistant District Attorney in the Bronx, where he briefed and argued appeals before the Appellate Division, New York Court of Appeals, Southern District of New York, and Second Circuit, as well as tried several cases and

assisted with the prosecution of a first-degree murder trial. He then joined the Enforcement Division of the Securities & Exchange Commission, where he investigated violations of the Federal Securities Laws. Mr. Schnitzer received his B.A. *cum laude* from the University of Pennsylvania and his J.D. from Columbia University School of Law, and he earned a Certificate of Completion for the Inaugural Bankruptcy Mediation Class from St. John's University School of Law and the Hugh L. Carey Center for Dispute Resolution.

Lisa M. Schweitzer is a senior bankruptcy and restructuring partner with Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP in New York, where her practice focuses on financial restructuring, bankruptcy and commercial litigation, including cross-border matters. She has experience advising corporate debtors, individual creditors, committees and strategic investors in both U.S. chapter 11 proceedings and restructurings in other jurisdictions in the Americas, as well as Europe and Asia. She also leads companies in multimillion- and billion-dollar buy- and sell-side distressed M&A transactions, and she litigates multibillion-dollar case-dispositive disputes in high-stakes bankruptcy proceedings. Ms. Schweitzer advises clients in some of the most high-profile bankruptcy matters, including the first-of-its-kind cross-border restructuring of LATAM Airlines Group, which recently received multiple deal of the year awards, including from the Turnaround Management Association, IFLR and the American Bankruptcy Institute. Her work repeatedly has been recognized by the business and legal press, including *The American Lawyer*, which previously named her a “Dealmaker of the Year.” Ms. Schweitzer is lead U.S. restructuring counsel to Nortel Networks Inc. and affiliates in their U.S. chapter 11 proceedings, and she has experience advising corporate debtors, individual creditors and strategic investors in both U.S. chapter 11 proceedings and restructurings in other jurisdictions in North America, Europe and Asia. She also has represented several companies seeking to acquire distressed assets in bankruptcy proceedings. Ms. Schweitzer has advised clients in some of the most high-profile bankruptcy matters in North America, and her work repeatedly has been recognized by the business and legal press, including *Chambers Global*, *Chambers USA*, *The Legal 500 U.S.*, *IFLR 1000: The Guide to the World's Leading Financial Law Firms*, *The International Who's Who of Business Lawyers* and *The International Who's Who of Insolvency & Restructuring Lawyers*. She also was honored as one of the “Top 250 Women in Litigation” by *Benchmark Litigation* and as a “Dealmaker of the Year” and “Dealmaker in the Spotlight” by *The American Lawyer*, and she was named an “Outstanding Restructuring Lawyer” for 2023 by *Turnarounds & Workouts*. Ms. Schweitzer is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy. She received her B.A. *magna cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Pennsylvania and her J.D. *magna cum laude* from New York University School of Law, where she was elected to the Order of the Coif.

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

Daniel M. Simon is a partner in the Atlanta office of McDermott Will & Emery, where he represents public and private companies, secured and unsecured creditors, acquirers of distressed assets, and investors in all aspects of corporate restructuring transactions. He represents a diverse range of clients spanning numerous industries in complex and contentious bankruptcy cases. Mr. Simon regularly helps clients navigate large-scale, complex, corporate bankruptcies, cross-border restructurings and a variety of special distressed transactions across industries. He also regularly lectures and publishes articles on restructuring topics, and has led several seminars held by leading industry organizations, including the Turnaround Management Association. Mr. Simon has been recognized as a Recommended Lawyer in 2022 in *Legal 500 USA*, and he received the Chapter 11 Reorganization of the Year in 2019 by The M&A Advisor for his work on ExGen Texas Power and the divestment of Handley Power to Exelon, and The M&A Advisor's Emerging Leaders Award in 2017. Mr. Simon is admitted to practice in Illinois and Georgia. He received his B.A. in 2005 from Vanderbilt University and his J.D. in 2008 from Duke University School of Law, where he served on the *Duke Law Journal*.

Catherine L. Steege is a partner with Jenner & Block LLP in Chicago and co-chairs the firm's Bankruptcy and Restructuring practice group. She recently represented USA Gymnastics in its chapter 11 case and represented McKesson and an ad hoc group of other major distributors, pharmacies and manufacturers in Purdue Pharma's and Endo's chapter 11 cases. In addition to a traditional bankruptcy practice, Ms. Steege has represented numerous retiree committees, including those in the Puerto Rico, Armstrong Flooring, Budd Company, Walter Energy, American Airlines, United Airlines and Northwest Airlines chapter 11 cases, and she has represented numerous parties in complex bankruptcy litigation matters, including her representation of the Zell defendants in the Tribune fraudulent conveyance litigation, the Sentinel Management Group Litigation Trustee, the Magnatrx Litigation Trust, the NKK Litigation Trust, and the Trustees of Emerald Casino Inc. and Consolidated Industries Corp. Ms. Steege has an active appellate practice and argued in the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of Wellness International Network in the case of *Wellness International Network v. Sharif*. She also represented the petitioner in *Law v. Siegel* and the respondent in *City of Chicago v. Fulton*, as well as the examiners in the Lehman Brothers and Celsius Network chapter 11 cases, and she authored the sections of the Lehman Brothers Examiner's Report that considered potential avoidance actions against various financial institutions. Ms. Steege was listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law, Litigation and Bankruptcy from 2007-21 and for 2024, in *Chambers USA* for Bankruptcy/Restructuring from 2008-23, and in *Illinois Super Lawyers* from 2005-24. She is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and a conferee of the National Bankruptcy Conference. Ms. Steege received her B.S.J. in 1978 from Northwestern University and her J.D. in 1982 with honors from DePaul University.

P. Matthew Sutko serves as the U.S. Trustee Program's Associate General Counsel for Appellate Practice in Washington, D.C. He has supervised or litigated over 1,500 appeals during his career and has argued cases before eight of the U.S. courts of appeals. Mr. Sutko also has assisted the Solicitor General, acting as petitioner, respondent and *amicus*, in 37 bankruptcy cases at the merits stage before the Supreme Court, including *Harrington v. Purdue Pharma L.P.*, *Czyzewski v. Jevic Holding Corp.*, *Midland Funding, LLC v. Johnson* and *Stern v. Marshall*. He has received the Attorney General's Distinguished Service Award (the Justice Department's second-highest honor) and the Director's Award for Excellence in Appellate Law. He also served a three-year term on the American Bar Association's Standing Committee on the Law Library of Congress. Mr. Sutko received his undergraduate degree from Marietta College, and his graduate degree and J.D. from the University of Virginia.

Virginia Tate, CFE, CIRA, EA is the CEO and president of Tate & Associates, FAI International, Forensic Accounting & Investigations, a division of the EP Global Corporation, in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. She heads up the company's Tax, Accounting and Forensic Division, which focuses on litigation support, taxation and financial investigation, with clientele throughout the world. Ms. Tate is a Certified Fraud Examiner, a Certified Insolvency and Restructuring Accountant and an Enrolled Agent licensed by the U.S. Treasury, with extensive professional development and training in fraud, damages/loss calculations and financial investigations. She is a member of ABI and chaired its Commercial Fraud Committee, and she serves on ABI's Litigation and Taxation Committees. She speaks regularly for such organizations as the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, National Business Institute, Association of Insolvency & Restructuring Advisors, ABI, Chambers of Commerce, CPA Societies, televised crime documentaries and investigation series, and gives exclusive presentations in private industry and nonprofit sectors. Ms. Tate received her B.S. in business administration with a focus on accounting from the University of Washington.

Nicolette Corso Vilmos is a partner in the Orlando and Tampa, Fla., offices of Berger Singerman LLP in the firm's Dispute Resolution and Business Regulatory Teams. She focuses her practice in the areas of complex business litigation, including bankruptcy, intellectual property, banking law, lender liability, shareholder and business disputes, real estate workouts, noncompete litigation and landlord/tenant matters. Ms. Vilmos's bankruptcy and creditors' rights practice includes the representation of secured lenders, purchasers of assets from troubled companies, fiduciaries, creditors' committees, and other stakeholders in multi-party disputes and reorganizations. In the area of intellectual property, she has litigation experience in state and federal courts and has represented clients in cases relating to patent infringement, trademark infringement, trade dress infringement, copyright infringement, anti-cybersquatting, theft of trade secrets, unfair competition, the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act, deceptive and unfair trade practices, tortious interference, breach of contract and/or breach of restrictive covenants, and other related claims. Ms. Vilmos counsels clients on various privacy and data-security issues, from systemwide network intrusions and ransomware attacks to cyber extortion, fraudulent wire transfers, email account compromises, stolen computer hardware and employee misconduct. She is president of the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation and a member of ABI's Southeast Bankruptcy Workshop Advisory Board, the American Intellectual Property Law Association and the Federal Bar Association in Orlando. In addition, she is a graduate of Leadership Orlando, a member and mentor of the Central Florida Inns of Court, a visiting bankruptcy law professor at the FAMU School of Law and a real property adjunct professor at Valencia Community College. Ms. Vilmos has been listed in *Lawdragon's* 500 Leading U.S. Bankruptcy and Restructuring Lawyers from 2022-23, as a *National Law Review* Go-To Thought Leader in 2022, among America's Most Honored Lawyers in 2022, as one of Florida's Legal Elite by *Florida Trend Magazine* from 2021-22, in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* for Bankruptcy, and in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law in 2023. She is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell and received the Women of Achievement Award from the Women's Executive Council of Orlando. Ms. Vilmos received her B.A. *cum laude* in 1998 from Stetson University and her J.D. *cum laude* in 2000 from Stetson University College of Law.

Christopher A. Ward chairs Polsinelli PC's Bankruptcy & Financial Restructuring Practice and is the managing shareholder of the firm's Wilmington, Del., office. He also is ABI's President. Mr. Ward has represented clients in corporate bankruptcy, financial restructuring, business divorce, bet-

the-company litigation and distressed-asset sales for the last two decades. He has experience in representing chapter 11 debtors, boards of directors and managers, litigants and official committees. Mr. Ward co-authored ABI's *A Business Creditors' Guide to Distressed Vendors, Debt Collection and Bankruptcy* and was editor and co-author of ABI's *The Chief Restructuring Officer's Guide to Bankruptcy*, and he is co-editor of ABI's forthcoming book, *Nonbankruptcy Alternatives*. He is routinely quoted in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Law360* and *The Deal* on restructuring issues. Mr. Ward received his B.A. from Moravian College in 1995 and his J.D. *cum laude* from Widener University School of Law in 1999.

Lydia R. Webb is a corporate restructuring and bankruptcy partner in Gray Reed's Dallas office and focuses her practice on representing and advising debtors, creditors, committees and trustees in bankruptcy cases and other insolvency or restructuring scenarios. She has guided clients to successful results in complex cases before courts throughout Texas and many other states, including Oklahoma, Delaware and New York. Ms. Webb's cases span the oil and gas, health care, retail, manufacturing and restaurant businesses. She has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* in the fields of Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law since 2021 and in Bankruptcy Litigation for 2022-23, was selected to participate in the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges Next Generation program in 2019, and has been named a "Rising Star" by *Texas Super Lawyers* since 2018. Ms. Webb is an ABI member and is social chair of the DFW Association of Young Bankruptcy Lawyers. She is also a member of the Dallas Bar Association's Bankruptcy Section, The Hon. John C. Ford American Inn of Court and the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation. Ms. Webb was honored in 2021 as one of ABI's "40 Under 40." She received her B.B.A. *cum laude* in finance and economics from Baylor University in 2009 and her J.D. *cum laude* from Baylor University School of Law in 2012.

Steven J. Weisz is a member of Cozen O'Connor in Toronto and concentrates his practice on bankruptcy and insolvency law. He has more than 30 years of experience in all aspects of complex domestic and multinational insolvencies. Mr. Weisz regularly represents purchasers of distressed debt and assets, debtors, directors, court-appointed officers and major stakeholders of insolvent businesses. Prior to joining the firm, he was a founding member of Weisz Fell Kour, a boutique law firm providing services exclusively in commercial restructuring, litigation and business law in Toronto. Before founding his firm, he was a leader of the insolvency and restructuring group at a national law firm. Mr. Weisz has been recognized as a leader in insolvency law by *Chambers and Partners*, *Lexpert*, *Best Lawyers*, *ILFR* and *Who's Who Legal*. He is a member of the Insolvency Institute of Canada (IIC) and the IIC's Social Media and Intervention Committees. He also is general editor of the *National Creditor Debtor Review*, as well as a former executive of the Turnaround Management Association (TMA) and past president of its Toronto Chapter. Mr. Weisz received his B.A. in economics and math from the University of Toronto – Trinity College and his LL.B. from the University of Toronto Faculty of Law.

Robert B. Winning is a managing director with M3-Partners, LP in New York, where he advises official committees, debtors, lenders, and acquirers of businesses and assets in distressed situations across industries. He has worked with clients through roughly 50 complex chapter 11 cases and out-of-court restructurings, and routinely develops, negotiates and challenges comprehensive restructuring transactions. Most recently, Mr. Winning was a partner at AlixPartners, and prior to that he

was special counsel at Cooley LLP. He leverages his experience as both an attorney and a financial advisor. Mr. Winning's notable engagements include advising official committees in the chapter 11 cases of GWG Holdings, Chesapeake Energy, Boy Scouts of America, 24 Hour Fitness, Century 21 Department Stores, Claire's, Republic Metals, Orchard Brands, Radioshack, Mervyn's, Fusion Connect, Brookstone, Atari, Midway Gold, Marsh Supermarkets, KIT digital, Violin Memory, Pacific Sunwear, Blockbuster, Frederick's of Hollywood, Deb Shops, Vertis Holdings and Celadon Trucking. In 2018, he was selected by the American Bar Association for its "Top 40 Young Lawyers" award. He also is chair of the Governance and Audit committees of the Board of Commonpoint Queens, a nonprofit social services organization that reaches more than 50,000 members of its community each year. Mr. Winning received his undergraduate degree *summa cum laude* from Washington University in St. Louis and his J.D. from Columbia University School of Law, where he was a James Kent Scholar.