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Faculty Biographies

Adam L. Alpert is a shareholder in the Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights practice group at Bush Ross, P.A. in Tampa, Fla., and has worked there since 2001. His practice focuses on the representation of debtors, secured and unsecured creditors, and trustees chapter 11 reorganizations and chapter 7 liquidations. Mr. Alpert regularly represents distressed companies, creditors, unsecured creditors' committees, and purchasers of assets in all aspects of bankruptcy. His practice also includes handling stock/asset purchase transactions and other corporate transactions involving distressed companies and assets. In addition, he represents horse and stable owners in all aspects of the negotiation and drafting of equine corporate and transactional agreements, including the formation and operation of racing stables and syndicates, and the purchase and sale of equine interests and breeding rights. Mr. Alpert is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification and is the chair and immediate past president of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association, for which he has been a director since 2007. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Florida Fisher School of Accounting in 1997 and his J.D. with honors from the University of Florida Levin College of Law in 2000.

John A. Anthony is the managing member of Anthony & Partners in Tampa, Fla., where his practice focuses on chapter 11 reorganizations, complex chapter 7 liquidations, assignments for the benefit of creditors, loan restructures, state court loan enforcement litigation and lender-liability defense in state and federal courts. Previously, he chaired a statewide 22-lawyer creditors' rights department of a large law firm. Mr. Anthony served for three years on the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association's Board of Directors, and served for two years as an editor of its newsletter, *The Cramdown*. He is a member of the Florida Bar Association's Corporate Banking and Business Law Section, as well as the Federal, American, Tampa Bay Bankruptcy, Polk County and Lakeland Bar Associations and the Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida. He has been AV Preeminent-rated by Martindale-Hubbell since 1983, and is admitted to practice before the U.S. District Courts for the Middle, Southern and Northern Districts of Florida and the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals. Mr. Anthony received his B.A. from Georgetown University College of Arts and Sciences in theology and political philosophy in 1984 and his J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center in 1987.

Keith T. Appleby is a shareholder at Banker Lopez Gassler P.A. in Tampa, Fla., and practice group leader for the firm's Bankruptcy, Restructuring & Creditors' Rights group. His practice focuses on creditors' rights, commercial foreclosures, collection and general business litigation. Mr. Appleby represents businesses in all aspects of bankruptcy, collection and liquidation cases. He is active in both professional and bar-related activities, and he is a prolific writer and speaker. He has achieved the highest rating in the Martindale-Hubbell *Peer Review Directory* and was listed in *Chambers USA* as an up-and-coming Bankruptcy/Restructuring attorney (2013), *Florida Trend's* Legal Elite in Insolvency and Restructuring (2012-16), *Super Lawyers* in the area of bankruptcy and in the *Super Lawyers Business Edition* (2013-16), and was a "Rising Star" (2009-12). Mr. Appleby received his B.S. in finance from the University of Central Florida, his M.B.A. from Stetson University and his J.D. from Stetson University College of Law.

Christie D. Arkovich is an attorney with the Law Offices of Christie D. Arkovich, P.A. in Tampa, Fla., and practices in consumer bankruptcy law, including debt relief, foreclosure defense, creditor harassment, loan modifications, deficiency waivers, short sales and student loans. She is admitted to the Florida Bar Association as well as the U.S. District Courts for the Middle, Southern and Northern

Districts of Florida. Ms. Arkovich is a licensed Florida real estate agent and hold a Florida brokers license. She is a member of the Hillsborough County Bar Association, the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys, the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Association and the National Association of Consumer Advocates, and she is AV-rated by Martindale Hubbell. Mr. Arkovich received her B.A. in political science from Stetson University in 1989 and her J.D. *cum laude* from Stetson University College of Law in 1992, where she was a member of the *Stetson Law Review*.

Paul A. Avron is partner with Berger Singerman LLP in the firm's Boca Raton, Fla., office and practices primarily in the areas of corporate reorganization, bankruptcy law, creditors' rights and appellate litigation, prosecuting and defending appeals in state and federal courts. He has been involved in more than 30 appeals before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, many of which related to bankruptcy proceedings. Mr. Avron received his B.A. in political science from Florida Atlantic University and his J.D. from Cumberland School of Law.

Paul J. Battista is an attorney with Genovese Joblove & Battista, P.A. in Miami, where he specializes in complex commercial bankruptcy, restructuring and insolvency matters both in and out of court, including related bankruptcy litigation and transactional work. He routinely represents chapter 11 debtors in possession (DIPs), creditors' committees, DIP lenders, purchasers of assets and trustees in large and complex restructurings, workouts, and bankruptcy and insolvency proceedings. He also has substantial experience in the representation of franchisors in numerous franchisee bankruptcies around the country. Mr. Battista has insolvency experience in such industries as real estate development, quick-service restaurants, casual dining, retail, insurance, aviation and franchising, and he has litigated a wide variety of bankruptcy-related claims and issues at both the trial and appellate levels, including fraud and Ponzi schemes and bankruptcy avoidance actions. He also represents lenders and borrowers in all aspects of secured lending. Mr. Battista is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell and has been included in *The Best Lawyers in America* in the area of bankruptcy, business reorganizations and creditors' rights, having also been named "Lawyer of the Year" in Miami for 2012. He has also been ranked as a "band 1" Florida bankruptcy attorney in *Chambers & Partners USA* and as one of Florida's top lawyers by *Florida Trend*, *South Florida Legal Guide* and *Who's Who Legal: Florida 2008*, and was named a new "Hall of Fame" member by *Legal Elite 2015*. Mr. Battista is a member of the Florida, Rhode Island and Massachusetts Bars, the U.S. District Courts for the Southern and Middle Districts of Florida, the U.S. Supreme Court and the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals. He received his B.S. *magna cum laude* in accounting in 1983 from the University of Rhode Island and his J.D. *magna cum laude* in 1986 from Boston University School of Law.

Ceci C. Berman is a shareholder with the appellate firm Brannock & Humphries in Tampa, Fla., and handles all types of federal and state appeals, with a focus on commercial litigation appeals. She is board certified in appellate practice. A frequent lecturer and author on appellate practice topics, Ms. Berman is a past chair of the Florida Bar's Appellate Practice Section and the Hillsborough County Bar Association's Appellate Practice Section. She served six years on the Florida Appellate Court Rules Committee, for which she chaired its Civil Practice Subcommittee, and she currently serves on the Florida Civil Rules of Procedure Committee. Ms. Berman has been recognized by *Chambers USA* as a leading lawyer for appellate practice and has been named by *Florida Super Lawyers* as being among the top 100 lawyers in Florida, top 50 women lawyers in Florida and top 50 lawyers in Tampa Bay. She has also been recognized by *Florida Trend* as being among its "Legal Elite," and she has

been named to *The Best Lawyers in America* list for Appellate Practice and Commercial Litigation. Ms. Berman received her undergraduate degree from the University of Florida with honors and her J.D. from the Georgetown University Law Center.

Daniel F. Blanks is a partner and vice chair of the Bankruptcy and Financial Restructuring Practice Group of Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP in Jacksonville, Fla., where he focuses on bankruptcy, financial restructuring, distressed-asset acquisitions, creditors' rights, commercial workouts, consumer financial litigation and commercial litigation. He is experienced in representing corporate debtors, official and unofficial committees of creditors or equity-holders, asset-acquirers, plan administrators, liquidating trustees, secured lenders, creditors, and other stakeholders in a variety of business chapter 11 cases, as well as foreign trustees in chapter 15 proceedings. In addition, he has defended multiple defendants in class-action and single-plaintiff lawsuits brought under the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, Fair Credit Reporting Act, Telephone Consumer Protection Act and comparable Florida state laws regarding consumers. Mr. Blanks is admitted to practice in Florida, New York and Virginia, and before the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Fourth and Eleventh Circuits, and the U.S. District and Bankruptcy Courts for the Northern and Southern Districts of New York. A frequent writer and speaker, he was named in "Virginia Rising Stars" for Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights in *Super Lawyers* for 2008 and 2009, and was named to the "Top Forty Under 40" in the *Hampton Roads Business Journal* in 2008. Mr. Blanks received his B.A. in government from The College of William & Mary in 1996 and his J.D. *cum laude* in 2002 from the University of Richmond, where he served on the editorial board of the *Richmond Journal of Law & Technology*.

Michael P. Brundage is a partner in the Tampa, Fla., office of Phelps Dunbar LLP and has represented clients for more than 25 years in the areas of business bankruptcy, creditors' rights litigation (including mortgage foreclosures, receiverships, replevins and proceedings supplementary), commercial litigation (including lender-liability litigation, noncompete litigation and partnership/shareholder disputes) and real property litigation. He represents financial institutions, asset-based lenders, debt-buyers, private lenders, private and public companies, and other creditors, as well as debtors, trustees, official committees and other commercial litigants in bankruptcy, state and federal courts throughout the State of Florida and the Southeastern United States. He also frequently consults with and represents parties (lenders and borrowers) in connection with lending and financing transactions. Mr. Brundage is widely recognized as an expert in the areas of business reorganizations, insolvency-related matters, creditors' rights litigation, commercial litigation, loan workouts and lending and financing transactions. He has been board certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification since 2004. Mr. Brundage is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell and is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy and Creditor-Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law, as well as Litigation - Bankruptcy, and is featured in *Florida Super Lawyers*. He is admitted to practice in Florida and before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, the U.S. District Courts for the Middle, Northern and Southern Districts of Florida, and the U.S. Tax Court. Mr. Brundage received his B.S. in finance with honors from Florida State University in 1981 and his J.D. *cum laude* from Stetson University College of Law in 1986, where he was editor-in-chief of the *Stetson Law Review*.

Stephen D. Busey is chairman of Smith Hulsey & Busey in Jacksonville, Fla., where he focuses his practice on complex commercial litigation and insolvency matters. He is a former chair of the Busi-

ness Law Section of the Florida Bar, former president of the Jacksonville Bar Association, former chair of the Local Rules Advisory Committee for the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida, former chair of the Florida Bar's Special Study Commission on the Rules of Professional Conduct, former chair of the Judicial Nominating Commission for Florida's Fourth Judicial Circuit, and Master of the Bench Emeritus of the Chester Bedell Inn of Court. Mr. Busey has been listed several times in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bet-the-Company Litigation, Business Litigation and Bankruptcy, and was named "2014 Lawyer of the Year" in Jacksonville in Bet-the-Company Litigation. He is also a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy. Mr. Busey received both his B.S. and J.D. from Stetson University.

Gregory A. Champeau is the managing member of Champeau Law, P.A. in Naples, Fla., where he primarily focuses on representing debtors in chapter 13 and chapter 7 consumer cases and related litigation. He has been an active consumer bankruptcy practitioner since 2000, and is licensed to practice in both Massachusetts and Florida. Mr. Champeau is the former president of the Southwest Florida Bankruptcy Professionals Association, and is the recipient of the inaugural Honorable Alexander A. Paskay Professionalism Award. He is also a former Fort Myers representative to the Middle District Local Rules Committee and received the 2016 Outstanding Pro Bono Service Award for Collier County, Fla. Mr. Champeau received his undergraduate degree from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and his J.D. *cum laude* from Nova Southeastern University.

Hon. Roberta A. Colton is a bankruptcy judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida in Orlando, the first bankruptcy judge to be appointed under a memorandum of understanding between the Eighth and Eleventh Circuit Courts. Prior to taking the bench, she practiced at Trenam Law in Tampa, Fla., where she was a shareholder and a member of the firm's Executive Board. Her practice areas included business reorganization, bankruptcy litigation, foreclosure/lender liability, creditors' committees, bankruptcy trustee representation, commercial litigation and bankruptcy asset sales. Prior to joining Trenam Law, she served as a judicial law clerk for Hon. James C. Hill of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit in Atlanta. During her more than 30 years in practice, Judge Colton has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy & Creditor-Debtor Rights, Bet-the-Company Litigation and Bankruptcy Litigation. She was also featured as a "Tampa Best Lawyer of the Year" in bankruptcy law. Prior to her appointment, Judge Colton was named one of the top 10 *Super Lawyers* in Florida from 2011-16. She has served as Eleventh Circuit Regent for the American College of Bankruptcy, chair of the Local Rules Committee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court of the Middle District of Florida, and chair of the Grievance Committee of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida. She also is the former chair of the Florida Bar Business Law Section's Bankruptcy/UCC Committee, as well as the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association. Judge Colton has taught numerous CLE programs over the past 20 years, both for the Florida Bar and for bankruptcy programs across the country, on topics ranging from specific bankruptcy and foreclosure issues, workout issues, mediation, and trial and discovery issues. For the past 15 years, she has taught a class of the Advanced Bankruptcy Seminar at the University of Florida Law School. She has also twice taught a bankruptcy law seminar at Stetson Law School. Judge Colton received her B.A. in commerce with distinction from the University of Virginia in 1979 and her J.D. from William & Mary Law School in 1982, where she served on its law review and was a national moot court finalist.

Hon. Caryl E. Delano was appointed to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida in Tampa on June 25, 2008, and was appointed Presiding Judge of the Fort Myers Division in July 2012. Previously, she practiced before the bankruptcy courts of the Central District of California for 14 years. In 1994, she returned to Tampa and most recently practiced law with the firm of Addison & Delano, P.A., where she concentrated her practice on bankruptcy and commercial litigation. Judge Delano has represented debtors and creditors in numerous chapter 11 cases and related adversary proceedings. She is immediate past-president and counselor of the J. Clifford Cheatwood Inn of Court and the liaison judge to the Local Rules Lawyers' Advisory Committee for the Middle District of Florida. She is a member of the Florida Bar, the State Bar of California, ABI, the Federal Court Practice Committee and the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar, the Hillsborough County Bar Association and the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association. Judge Delano received her B.A. in English *cum laude* in 1976 from the University of South Florida and her J.D. in 1979 from Indiana University School of Law, having completed her final year of law school at Emory University School of Law.

Carmen Dellutri is the founder and president of the Dellutri Law Group in Fort Meyers, Fla., where he focuses his practice on personal injury, consumer bankruptcy and consumer protection. He actively litigates cases involving catastrophic injuries and wrongful death on behalf of the victims, and represents consumers in all forms of bankruptcy and consumer protection litigation. Mr. Dellutri is a member of the Bars of New Jersey, New York and Florida. He is Board Certified in Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification and is also a Florida Supreme Court Certified Circuit Court, County Court, Appellate and Family Law mediator and qualified arbitrator. Mr. Dellutri is a member of ABI, the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys (NACBA), the National Association of Consumer Advocates (NACA) and the National Association of Chapter 13 trustees. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of South Florida and his J.D. in 1993 from Loyola University School of Law, during which time he clerked for Hon. Charles Ward of the Louisiana Fourth District Court of Appeals. He also received his LL.M. from Tulane University School of Law in 1994 and his M.B.A. from Florida Gulf Coast University in 1999.

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

Robert C. Furr is a founding partner with Furr & Cohen, P.A. in Boca Raton, Fla., and serves as a panel trustee for the U.S. Department of Justice in the Southern District of Florida. He is regularly appointed as a chapter 11 trustee and has been designated as the chapter 12 trustee in the Southern District. Mr. Furr has represented numerous businesses in chapter 7 liquidations and in chapter 11 reorganizations, as well as individuals in complex chapter 7 and chapter 11 proceedings. He lectures frequently on issues of bankruptcy, creditors' rights and remedies before national organizations. Mr. Furr served as editor of *NABTalk* from 2000-05 and sat on NABT's board of directors from 2000-11, serving as president during the 2008-09 term. He has also been president of the Bankruptcy Trustees Association for the Southern District of Florida for 20 years and is currently serving as secretary on the board of the American Board of Certification. Mr. Furr is a contributor to the *ABI Journal* and is admitted to practice law in Georgia and Florida and in all federal courts in Florida and the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals. In 1983, Mr. Furr became a Board Certified Civil Trial Lawyer by the Florida Bar, and in 1994 he received an AV rating by Martindale-Hubbell. He is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* and in *Florida Super Lawyers* and is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy. Mr. Furr received his J.D. from Emory University in 1975.

Alan S. Gassman is the founder of the Clearwater, Fla., law firm of Gassman, Crotty and Denicolo, P.A., focusing on the representation of high-net-worth families, physicians and business owners, and their companies in estate planning, taxation, and business and personal asset structuring. He is also the primary author and contributor to The Alan Gassman Channel on Interactive Legal, a web-based resource for legal, tax and estate-planning advisors for which he is also a strategic partner and advisory board member. He is also on the board of advisors for the Notre Dame Tax and Estate Planning Institute and co-developer of EstateView estate tax-planning software, which was designed in cooperation with Professor Jerry Hesch to provide dynamic and easy to operate estate tax planning projections and illustrations for planners. Mr. Gassman is lead author on Bloomberg BNA's *Estate Tax Planning in 2011 and 2012*, *Gassman and Markham on Florida and Federal Asset Protection Law*, *Eight Steps to a Proper Florida Trust and Estate Plan* and *A Practical Guide to Kickback & Self-Referral Laws for Florida Physicians*, and a co-author of the *Legal Guide to NFA Firearms and Gun Trusts*, among others. He is also the moderator for Bloomberg BNA's Estate Planning webinar series, which provides monthly one-hour continuing education webinars in 2017 with many of the most respected authors and presenters in the country. Mr. Gassman is a frequent speaker for continuing education programs and has published more than 200 peer-reviewed articles in publications such as Bloomberg BNA's *Tax & Accounting*, *Trusts and Estates Magazine*, *Estate Planning Magazine*, *The Florida Bar Journal* and *Leimberg Estate Planning Network (LISI)*. He is a past president of the Pinellas County Estate Planning Council and co-chairs two annual Florida Bar programs: Wealth Protection and Representing the Physician. Mr. Gassman is board certified by the Florida Bar Association in Estate Planning and Trust Law, has the Accredited Estate Planner designation from the National Association of Estate Planners & Council, holds an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell, and is listed in both *The Best Lawyers in America* and in *Florida Super Lawyers*. He received his business undergraduate degree from Rollins College and his J.D. and LL.M. in taxation from the University of Florida.

Hon. Paul "Bill" M. Glenn is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida in Jacksonville, appointed in 1993. He served as Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District from March 2003 through September 2011. Prior to his appointment, he practiced corporate and commercial law in Jacksonville and Miami, and had been the chief executive and administrative officers of two

insurance companies. In 2005, Judge Glenn was inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, and in 2007 he was honored by the Hillsborough County Bar Association with the Robert W. Patton Outstanding Jurist Award. He also served as director of the Endowment for Education of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, and is a member of NCBJ's Finance Committee. In addition, he has served as president and director of the Ferguson-White American Inn of Court in Tampa and of the Chester Bedell American Inn of Court in Jacksonville, and he has served on the National Board of Trustees of the American Inns of Court Foundation. In 2013, Judge Glenn was appointed to the Committee on the Budget of the Judicial Conference of the United States, and in 2014, he received the Distinguished Service Award from the Bankruptcy Inn Alliance of the American Inns of Court. A contributing editor for the *Norton Handbook for Bankruptcy Trustees, Debtors in Possession, and Committees*, he received his B.A. *cum laude* from Florida State University, where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, Omicron Delta Kappa and Gold Key, and his J.D. from Duke University School of Law, where he was president of the Law School Student Body.

Elizabeth A. Green is a partner with BakerHostetler in Orlando, Fla., and practices primarily in the areas of bankruptcy and creditors' rights. She has represented debtors, creditors and committees in a wide range of industries, including a number of oil and gas companies as debtor's counsel in chapter 11 cases and workouts, and has represented working-interest owners, predecessors and other creditors in cases across the country. She has also represented a number of health care-related entities, including nursing homes, and health care CROs in chapter 11 cases and workouts in Florida and New York, as well as buyers of nursing homes in chapter 11 cases across the country. Ms. Green chairs the firm's National Bankruptcy, Restructuring and Creditors' Rights Group and is a member of its Firm-wide Policy Committee, the firm's governing body. She is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy, has been recognized in *Chambers USA*, *The Best Lawyers in America*, *Florida's Legal Elite* and *Super Lawyers*, and *Best Lawyers* named her "Lawyer of the Year in Orlando" for bankruptcy and restructuring in 2012 and for bankruptcy litigation in 2015 and 2016. She was also selected as one of five *Law360* MVPs in Bankruptcy in 2016. Ms. Green has served as an adjunct professor at the University of Florida Levin College of Law in advanced bankruptcy. She received her B.A. in 1984 from the New College of Florida and her J.D. with honors in 1986 from the University of Florida Levin College of Law, where she was a member of the Order of the Coif.

Jordi Guso is a partner with Berger Singerman LLP in Miami in its Business Reorganization practice, where he concentrates his practice in commercial bankruptcy, workouts, financial restructuring and commercial litigation. He represents financially distressed businesses in court-supervised and out-of-court restructurings in a variety of industries, including aviation, hospitality, retail, casual dining and real estate. He also advises official committees, secured creditors and purchasers in the areas of bankruptcy, insolvency and § 363 asset sales. Mr. Guso has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* (2006-17), *Chambers & Partners USA: America's Leading Business Lawyers* (2004-17), *Florida Trend* magazine's "Legal Elite" (2004-16) and "Legal Elite Hall of Fame" (2015-16), as one of the top 1.6 percent of attorneys in Florida, *The South Florida Legal Guide's* "Top Lawyer" (2005-15), *Florida's Super Lawyers* (2006-16), *Who's Who Legal*, Florida (2008-16) and *Who's Who Legal* (2008-16), and he is AV Preeminent-rated by Martindale-Hubbell. He is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and an ABI member, and he has served on the board of the Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida and on the advisory board of ABI's Alexander L. Paskay Memorial Bankruptcy Seminar. Mr. Guso is admitted to practice in Florida, the Eleventh Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, and the U.S. District and Bankruptcy Courts for the Southern, Middle and

Northern Districts of Florida. He clerked for Hon. Sidney M. Weaver, former Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida, from 1990-92. Mr. Guso received his B.S. in political science from Spring Hill College and his J.D. from the University of Miami School of Law.

Mark D. Hildreth is a partner in the Sarasota, Fla., office of Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP and practices in the areas of business bankruptcy, creditors' rights, foreclosure, workouts, assignments for the benefit of creditors and business litigation. He has been Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification since 1992. Mr. Hildreth's clients include banks and other financial institutions, leasing companies, receivers, commercial landlords, real estate entities, and sureties involved in bankruptcy cases and nonbankruptcy litigation. He has chaired statewide bankruptcy practice seminars for the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar and has recently served on various subcommittees studying revisions to Florida's Uniform Fraudulent Transfers Act and its Proceedings Supplementary Statute. Mr. Hildreth received his B.A. in 1981 from Florida State University and his J.D. in 1984 from the Florida State University College of Law.

Hon. Cynthia C. Jackson is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida in Orlando, appointed on March 3, 2015. She is a member of the Florida Bar, ABI, the Turnaround Management Association and the Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida, and was a former president of the Jacksonville Bankruptcy Bar Association. She was also a member of the Local Rules Committee for the Middle District of Florida. Judge Jackson is AV-rated by Martindale Hubbell and is recognized in *Chambers USA America's Leading Lawyers for Business* and in *The Best Lawyers in America*. She attended Tulane University and received her B.S. from Florida State University in 1981 and her J.D. from the University of Florida Levin College of Law.

Jill E. Kelso is a trial attorney and the appellate coordinator for the U.S. Trustee, Region 21, in Orlando. Previously, she was with the Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights Practice Group at a national law firm, where she represented secured creditors, creditors' committees, corporate debtors, receivers, and trustees in chapter 7, 11 and 13 bankruptcy cases and related adversary proceedings, receiverships, and other state and federal court matters. In 2009, Ms. Kelso began representing the U.S. Trustee in supervising the administration of bankruptcy cases and trustees in the Orlando and Jacksonville Divisions of the Middle District of Florida. In 2014, she was designated as the appellate coordinator for Region 21 to represent the U.S. Trustee in bankruptcy appeals in a number of jurisdictions. Ms. Kelso is a past president of the Bankruptcy Law Educational Series Foundation, Inc. (BLES) and the Central Florida Bankruptcy Law Association and serves on the board of directors for BLES, the Orlando Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, the Middle District of Florida Pro Se Bankruptcy Legal Assistance Clinic Inc. and the George C. Young First Central Florida American Inn of Court. She is also a member of the bankruptcy court's Steering Committee, the Jacksonville Bankruptcy Bar Association and the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation. Ms. Kelso received her J.D. *cum laude* from the University of Florida College of Law, after which she clerked for Hon. Steven H. Friedman in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida.

Danielle S. Kemp is a shareholder with Greenberg Traurig, LLP in Tampa, Fla., where she focuses her practice on bankruptcy and commercial litigation. She has extensive bankruptcy experience, representing debtors, trustees and creditors in chapter 11 bankruptcy matters, and litigating numerous

bankruptcy claims, adversary proceedings and preference actions. She also has experience in a wide range of civil litigation matters. Ms. Kemp has represented clients at the trial and appellate levels in commercial lease disputes, commercial loan disputes and foreclosures, garnishments, business tort litigation and *qui tam* cases. In addition, she is experienced in taking and defending depositions, drafting and arguing important dispositive motions, negotiating settlement agreements, and generally handling all facets of a wide array of commercial cases in state and federal court. Ms. Kemp is a member of the Florida, Illinois and Hillsborough County Bar Associations. She received her B.A.E. with honors in education from the University of Florida in 1994, her M.Ed. in 1995 from the University of Florida and her J.D. with honors from the University of Chicago Law School in 2000.

Roy S. Kobert is a shareholder in the Orlando and Tampa, Fla., offices of GrayRobinson, P.A., where focuses his practice in the areas of bankruptcy law, creditor/debtor law, lender liability, Article 9 and commercial litigation. He has also mediated over 50 bankruptcy and commercial litigation disputes and is the first Florida graduate of the 40-Hour Bankruptcy Mediation Training program, jointly sponsored by ABI and the Hugh Carey Center for Dispute Resolution at St John's University Graduate School of Law. Mr. Kobert has been Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification for over a decade. He is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell, was designated a "Florida Legal Elite" in *Florida Trend Magazine* (2005, 2009 and 2012), and has been featured in *Chambers USA: A Guide to America's Leading Business Lawyers* as a leading bankruptcy and creditors' rights attorney (2006-14). He has also been recognized in *Orlando Magazine* as one of the region's "Best Lawyers" (2006-07, 2009 and 2011-12), in *Law & Politics* magazine as a "Florida Super Lawyer" and in *The Best Lawyers in America* (2006-15). In addition, the *Orlando Business Journal* named him one of the "Top 10 Businessmen to Watch" for 2009, and he was inducted as a Fellow in the Litigation Counsel of America in 2014. Mr. Kobert is a former president of the Central Florida Bankruptcy Law Association. He received both his B.A. and J.D. from the University of Miami.

Stephanie C. Lieb is a shareholder with Trenam Law in Tampa, Fla., and represents clients in a wide array of matters in the bankruptcy, creditors' rights and insolvency arenas, including financial institutions in commercial foreclosures of real and personal property, loan workouts and restructuring, and defending lender liability counterclaims; financial institutions in chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings, including stay relief, post-petition financing, dismissal and sales of assets; secured and unsecured creditors in chapter 7, 11 and 13 cases; and chapter 11 debtors in reorganizations, liquidations and sales of assets. Ms Lieb is an active member of the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar and serves on its Executive Council, sits on the board of trustees for the Hillsborough County Bar Foundation, and is an ABI member, for which she has served on the advisory board for ABI's Southeast Bankruptcy Workshop. She received her B.S./B.A. from Tulane University and her J.D. *cum laude* from Loyola University New Orleans School of Law.

Michael C. Markham is a partner with Johnson Pope Bokor Ruppel & Burns, LLP in Tampa, Fla., where his practice is concentrated on bankruptcy, workouts, creditors' rights, commercial litigation and insolvency-related litigation. He is a published author on bankruptcy topics, including exemptions, and regularly speaks at seminars on bankruptcy and creditors' rights issues. Mr. Markham has successfully represented, primarily in chapter 11 reorganization cases, both corporate and individual debtors, secured creditors, landlords, creditors' committees, trustees and petitioning creditors in involuntary bankruptcies. Significantly, Mr. Markham was lead counsel to the chapter 11 trustee in the

Brasota Mortgage Co. chapter 11 case in Tampa, a \$140 million Ponzi scheme. He also has substantial experience in foreclosure and receivership cases in both state and federal courts. In addition, he was lead counsel for the receiver in the Transcontinental Airlines/Lou Pearlman receivership case in Orlando, Fla., a \$300 million Ponzi scheme. Mr. Markham has also acted as a mediator in various types of cases, including bankruptcy cases, foreclosure/deficiency cases and receiverships. He is admitted to the Florida Bar, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, and the U.S. District and Bankruptcy Courts for the Middle, Southern and Northern Districts of Florida. He is also a former director of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association, and he has been listed in both *The Best Lawyers in America* (2008-17) and *Super Lawyers* (2012-17) Mr. Markham received both his B.S. *summa cum laude* in 1985 and his J.D. with honors in 1988 from Florida State University.

Hon. K. Rodney May is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida in Tampa, appointed on Dec. 18, 2003. Previously, he was a partner in the Orlando law firm of Gronek & Latham, LLP and was a partner for 16 years in the Orlando office of Foley & Lardner. From 1975-84, he served in Washington, D.C., as special counsel for the Securities and Exchange Commission. Judge May appears annually as an invited speaker in the Advanced Bankruptcy Seminar at the University of Florida Levin College of Law. He is the principal co-author of “Chapter 16 -The Impact of Bankruptcy” in the Florida Bar’s handbook, *Florida Construction Law and Practice*, and is a past president of the Central Florida Bankruptcy Law Association. Judge May received his undergraduate and graduate degrees, Phi Beta Kappa, from the University of Florida and his J.D. from Duke University.

Courtney A. McCormick is an associate with McGuireWoods LLP in Jacksonville, Fla., where she practices primarily in the areas of bankruptcy and creditors’ rights. She frequently represents secured and unsecured creditors, as well as parties seeking to recover or defend against preferential and fraudulent transfers. In addition, she has defended multiple defendants in class-action and single-plaintiff lawsuits brought under the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, Fair Credit Reporting Act, Telephone Consumer Protection Act, and comparable Florida state laws regarding consumers. Prior to joining McGuireWoods, Ms. McCormick clerked for three years for Chief Judges Lewis M. Killian, Jr. and Karen K. Specie of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Florida. She has been listed as an “Up & Comer” in *Florida Trend Magazine’s* “Legal Elite” (2016). Ms. McCormick received her B.A. in political science and history from the University of Florida in 2008 and her J.D. *cum laude* in 2011 from the Florida State University College of Law.

Brian A. McDowell is a partner in Holland & Knight’s Orlando, Fla., office, where he practices in the areas of bankruptcy, insolvency litigation and receiverships. In bankruptcy, he primarily focuses on representing debtors, secured and unsecured creditors, tenants, landlords, asset-purchasers, defendants in adversary proceedings and trustees in both voluntary and involuntary chapter 11 cases. Mr. McDowell has conducted two jury trials in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court. In addition to his debtor and creditor representation, he has also represented clients in a variety of litigation matters including foreclosure, fraud, Lantham Act, Interstate Land Sales Act, real estate and collections actions, and fraudulent transfer and preference actions. Mr. McDowell has handled a wide range of cases in different industries including hotel and hospitality, aviation, maritime, manufacturing, pharmaceutical, retail and real estate. He has also had the occasion to serve as equity receiver and counsel for the receiver in matters involving various federal agencies. In these roles, he has been responsible for the management and liquidation of a variety of businesses, the pursuit of claims of the receivership

estates, and the evaluation and disposition of claims of creditors. He has also been responsible for securing the turnover of assets by defendants. Mr. McDowell has spoken on various issues, including construction, finance, corporate renewal and turnaround management. Additionally, he has spoken at various continuing legal education seminars regarding bankruptcy and insolvency issues. Mr. McDowell received his B.S. in accounting with high honors from the University of Florida and his J.D. with honors from the University of Florida Levin College of Law.

Hon. Catherine P. McEwen is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida in Tampa, appointed by the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals on Aug. 22, 2005, and an adjunct professor at Western Michigan University Cooley Law School. She is the first female judge appointed in her district. Prior to becoming a judge, she was in private practice for almost 23 years in Tampa and was a solo practitioner from 2001 until the date of her appointment to the bench. Before opening her solo practice, she was a shareholder of Akerman Senterfitt & Eidson, P.A., formerly known as Moffitt, Hart & Herron, P.A., where she practiced law from 1982-2001 in its Tampa office, concentrating on commercial litigation with an emphasis on representing parties in bankruptcy cases. Judge McEwen was elected into the American Law Institute in 2012. Among her other honors are the Stetson University College of Law Distinguished Alumnus Award (2007), Hillsborough County Bar Association Jimmy Kynes Pro Bono Service Award (2008), the Stetson University College of Law J. Ben Watkins Award (2009), the Florida Association for Women Lawyers Leaders in the Law inaugural class designation (2010), the Tampa Bay Hispanic Bar Association's Luis "Tony" Cabassa Award (2012), the George Edgecomb Bar Association's Delano S. Stewart Diversity Award (2015), the inaugural Florida Supreme Court Chief Justice's Distinguished Federal Judicial Service Award (2016), the Stetson Lawyers Alumni Association Ben C. Willard Award (2016), the University of South Florida Distinguished Alumna Award (2016) and the Bay Area Legal Services Inc. Judge Don Castor Justice Award (2016). Prior to becoming a lawyer, she was a sportswriter from 1975-1979 for the *Tampa Tribune* and the *Tampa Times*. Judge McEwen received her B.A. in political science from the University of South Florida in 1979 and her J.D. *cum laude* from Stetson University in 1982.

G. Christopher Meyer is a senior partner in the Sarasota, Fla., office of Squire Patton Boggs and concentrates his practice on bankruptcy and insolvency issues. He has significant experience in workouts, restructurings and bankruptcy reorganizations including representing both debtors and creditors in commercial cases. He also has experience in general real estate and commercial lending and in troubled-loan issues. Mr. Meyer was named in *The Best Lawyers in America* in 2011 as Cleveland Bankruptcy and Creditor-Debtor Rights Lawyer of the Year, and has been listed in it every year since 1995. He also appears in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*, *PLC Which lawyer? Yearbook*, *The Legal 500 US* and Legal Media Group's *Guide to the World's Leading Insolvency and Restructuring Lawyers*. In addition, he has been selected by Thomson Reuters as an *Ohio Super Lawyer* each year since 2005. Mr. Meyer's recent experience includes representing debtors and creditors in chapter 11 reorganization cases, secured creditors in loan workouts, and parties proposing acquisitions and other business transactions with troubled businesses. He is a member of a number of professional associations and organizations, including the American Bar Association's Business Bankruptcy Committee. He is also a past member, treasurer and trustee of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association and a past member and chair of its Bankruptcy and Commercial Law Section. Mr. Meyer is a member of ABI and the International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation, a Fellow and chair of the American College of Bankruptcy, a past director of the College's Foundation and past chair of the College's Board of Regents. In addition, he is a mem-

ber of the Turnaround Management Association (TMA) and a past president and trustee of TMA's Northeast Ohio Chapter. In 2011, Mr. Meyer received the Chapter's inaugural Lifetime Achievement Award. For more than 10 years, he served as an adjunct professor of law at the Case Western Reserve University School of Law. He is also a past trustee of the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, and a past trustee and board president of the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center. Mr. Meyer is admitted to practice in Ohio, Florida, the Third and Sixth Circuit U.S. Courts of Appeals, and the U.S. District Courts for the District of Arizona, the Eastern Districts of Wisconsin and Michigan, and the Northern District of Ohio. He attended Grinnell College and received his B.A. in 1970 from the University of Kansas and his J.D. in 1973 from the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

Mindy A. Mora is a partner in the Business Finance & Restructuring group of Bilzin Sumberg Baena Price & Axelrod LLP in Miami, where she concentrates her practice on business finance, debt restructurings, creditors' rights, commercial finance and real estate finance. She has represented numerous lenders and borrowers in complex commercial finance transactions, including asset-based loans, mezzanine credit facilities and capital market transactions, and high-visibility business entities, committees, lenders, trustees and other parties in numerous chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings and out-of-court restructurings. Ms. Mora has received the highest ranking in Restructuring & Bankruptcy in *Chambers USA* since 2004. She has also been consistently recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*, *South Florida Legal Guide* and *Florida Super Lawyers*. Ms. Mora is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and the American College of Commercial Finance Lawyers. She has chaired the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar and has been active in the development of Florida's commercial laws, having chaired the Florida Bar Task Force that sponsored the 2007 revisions of the Assignment for the Benefit of Creditors Statute and co-sponsored the 1997 revisions to Article 8 and 1999 revisions to Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code. A frequent writer and lecturer, Ms. Mora received her B.B.A. from George Washington University in 1979 and her J.D. from New York University School of Law in 1982.

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

Nicole M. Noel is an associate at Kass Shuler, PA. in Tampa, Fla., where she has practiced in bankruptcy and business litigation since 2009. She practices throughout the State of Florida, including all districts. Ms. Noel chairs the Case Law Update Subcommittee for the Real Property Finance and Lending Committee of the RPPTL Section of the Florida Bar, and co-chairs the Bankruptcy Practice Group for the American Legal and Financial Network (ALFN). Her published work includes “Was *Brown* a Rash Decision?,” *The Cramdown*, Summer 2014; “Incompatible Personalities: Investigating the Mutually Exclusive Nature of § 1322(b)(2), (5),” *ABI Journal*, November 2012; and “Stripping Down Your Spouse: Tenancy by the Entirety Property Ownership under § 506,” *ABI YLC Newsletter*, September 2012. Ms. Noel is active in the community and frequently volunteers her time to speak at local universities on topics including ethical concerns facing young attorneys, time management and first-year law practice pointers. She is an adjunct professor at St. Petersburg College, where she teaches bankruptcy and civil litigation, and she participated in the 2016 NextGeneration program held during the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges. Most recently, Ms. Noel became a Fellow for the Florida Bar Leadership Academy. She has also been named one of ALFN’s stand-out young professional to watch in 2016. Ms. Noel received her undergraduate degree from Florida State University and her M.B.A. and J.D. from Stetson University School of Business Administration and Stetson University College of Law; respectively.

Hon. Cynthia A. Norton is Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Missouri in Kansas City, initially sworn in on Feb. 1, 2013. Prior to her appointment, she was a founding partner of Grimes & Rebein, LC in Lenexa, Kan., where she focused on consumer and business bankruptcy, creditors’ rights, commercial workouts and related fields. She also clerked for Hon. John E. Rees of the Kansas Court of Appeals and Hon. James A. Pusateri of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Topeka, Kan., and was previously an associate with Stinson, Mag & Fizzell, an associate and then partner with Lewis, Rice & Fingers, and Of Counsel with Levy & Craig. She has published an annual column reviewing Eighth Circuit bankruptcy cases of interest for *Norton’s Bankruptcy Law Advisor* and has authored numerous articles, book chapters and seminar papers on bankruptcy-related topics, is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy and is a member of various bankruptcy organizations. She is the recipient of the Michael R. Roser Excellence in Bankruptcy Award and the Robert L. Gernon Award for Outstanding Contribution to CLE. Judge Norton received her B.A. in French and art history Phi Beta Kappa and *summa cum laude* from Kansas University and her J.D. from the Kansas University Law School, where she was associate editor of its law review.

Leanne M. Prendergast is a partner with FisherBroyles, LLP in Jacksonville, Fla., and has more than 20 years of experience in commercial litigation and bankruptcy. She represents creditors, debtors, trustees, receivers and assignees at the trial and appellate levels. Ms. Prendergast practices in state and federal courts throughout Florida. She has earned the designation Certified E-Discovery Specialist from the Association of Certified E-Discovery Specialists and is a member of Women in E-Discovery. In 2015, she participated on a panel on E-Discovery in Bankruptcy at the Jacksonville Bankruptcy Bar Association’s Annual Seminar. Ms. Prendergast is also active in the International Women’s Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation (IWIRC); she serves as secretary to the IWIRC – Florida Board and is a three-time delegate to IWIRC’s Annual International Leadership Conference. In 2016, she was recognized as an Unsung Shero by the Women’s Center of Jacksonville. Ms. Prendergast received her J.D. from the University of Florida College of Law.

Prof. Theresa J. Pulley-Radwan teaches bankruptcy and commercial law at Stetson University College of Law in Gulfport, Fla. Her scholarship focuses on bankruptcy issues, including nondischargeability of debt, religious organization bankruptcies and bankruptcy among the elderly. She serves as an advisor to the university's Duberstein Bankruptcy Moot Court team and is the faculty coordinator of its In-House Counsel Externship and the Bankruptcy Judicial Internship. Prof. Pulley-Radwan was awarded the university's Teaching Excellence Award in 2004 and the Homer & Dolly Hand Award for Excellence in Faculty Research in 2007. She previously practiced with the firm of Thompson, Hine & Flory LLP in Cleveland and also taught advocacy at Case Western Reserve University School of Law. Prior to joining the Stetson faculty, she served as a legal research and writing instructor at the University of Cincinnati College of Law. Prof. Pulley-Radwan received her J.D. from the Marshall-Wythe School of Law at the College of William & Mary.

Hon. Steven W. Rhodes is a retired U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan in Detroit, where he served for nearly 30 years until his retirement on Feb. 18, 2015. He served as chief judge from 2002-09, and from 1997-2004 and 2008-11, he also served on the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel of the Sixth Circuit, serving as its chief judge from 2002-04. He recently joined the new Detroit office of JAMS, the Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Service. Judge Rhodes served as an adjunct professor at the University of Michigan Law School teaching bankruptcy law and is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy. He is also co-author of *The Ponzi Book: A Legal Resource for Unraveling Ponzi Schemes* and oversaw the City of Detroit's municipal bankruptcy case. On March 1, 2016, Michigan Governor Rick Snyder appointed him to be the emergency manager for the Detroit Public Schools, serving until Dec. 31, 2016. Judge Rhodes has spoken at numerous conferences and seminars on bankruptcy law and practice. From 1994-96, he was an associate editor for the *American Bankruptcy Law Journal*, and from 2005-09, he was ABI's Vice President-Research. On April 3, 2009, ABI awarded him its 2009 Distinguished Service Award. From 2002-04, Judge Rhodes was the chair of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges Endowment for Education. *Crain's Detroit Business* honored him as one of its 2014 Newsmakers of the Year, and *Michigan Lawyers' Weekly* named him 2014 "Lawyer of the Year." In September 2015, the Commercial Law League of America awarded him the Lawrence P. King Award for Excellence in the Field of Bankruptcy. Goodwill Industries awarded him its Barbara R. Smith Lifetime Achievement Award, and Walsh College awarded him an Honorary Doctor of Laws. Judge Rhodes received his undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering from Purdue University and his J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School, where he served as an editor of the *Michigan Law Review*.

Harley E. Riedel is a managing shareholder of Stichter, Riedel, Blain & Prosser, P.A. in Tampa, Fla., and often serves as counsel for debtors in possession in chapter 11 cases. He was inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy in 1995 and is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*, *Super Lawyers*, *Chambers & Partners*' "Best Business Lawyers in America," *Expert Guides*, and *Who's Who in International Insolvency Law*. Mr. Riedel has spoken and written on bankruptcy-related topics for the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, the American Bar Association, ABI, the Southeastern Bankruptcy Law Institute, the Florida Bar, and numerous other legal and business groups. He is also the principal author of the section on chapter 11 practice in both editions of the *Norton Handbook for Bankruptcy Trustees, Debtors-in-Possession, and Committees*. Mr. Riedel received his B.A. in 1971 from Baylor University and his J.D. with high honors from the University of Florida in 1974, where he was editor-in-chief of the *University of Florida Law Review* and a member of the Order of the Coif and the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.

Luis E. Rivera II is a stockholder with Henderson, Franklin, Starnes & Holt, P.A. in Fort Myers, Fla., where his practice focuses on business litigation, bankruptcy and creditors' rights. His bankruptcy experience includes the representation of lenders, landlords, individuals, and financial institutions in both consumer and business reorganization cases, as well as involuntary and discharge proceedings. As a trustee, he is also routinely involved in the liquidation of business enterprises, including the recovery and sale of assets; the investigation, development and prosecution of litigation to recover funds for creditors; and the reconciliation and payment of claims held by creditors. Mr. Rivera has served on the panel of trustees for the Middle District of Florida (Fort Myers Division) since 2010. He holds an AV-Preeminent rating by Martindale-Hubbell and has been recognized in *Florida Super Lawyers* magazine for his work in business litigation. Mr. Rivera is active in the local legal community, having served as president of the Southwest Florida Bankruptcy Professionals Association. He also serves on the District-Wide Steering and Local Rules Committees of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida. Mr. Rivera received his B.A. *magna cum laude* from Loyola University New Orleans, where he was an Ignatian Scholar, and his J.D. from Washington and Lee University School of Law, where he was editor-in-chief of the *Washington and Lee Journal of Civil Rights and Social Justice*.

Lynn Welter Sherman is a partner with Adams and Reese LLP in Tampa, Fla., and has practiced for nearly 35 years as a bankruptcy and transactions attorney. She represents financial institutions, special servicers of securitized commercial mortgages, creditors, trustees, landlords, debtors, and other parties in all aspects of chapter 7 and chapter 11 bankruptcies, out-of-court workouts, loan modifications and restructuring, foreclosures, enforcement of judgments, enforcement of security interests and creditors' rights litigation. Licensed in both Florida and New York, Ms. Sherman has been recognized among the top Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights attorneys by *Florida Super Lawyers*, *The Best Lawyers in America* and *Florida Trend Magazine's* "Legal Elite," and is listed among "Tampa Bay's Top Attorneys" by *Tampa Bay Magazine*. In 2014 and 2015, she was ranked among the "Top 50 Women Florida Super Lawyers." and the "Top 100 Overall Florida Super Lawyers." She is active in the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association and the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar, and she is a former chair of the Bankruptcy/UCC Committee and Communications Committee of its Business Law Section, the current co-chair of its Bankruptcy Judicial Liaison Committee, and a member of its Executive Council. Ms. Sherman is a frequent speaker and author on matters involving creditors' rights, secured transactions and bankruptcy law and is a former adjunct professor at her alma mater, Stetson University College of Law, where she earned her J.D. in 1983. She received her B.S. from Florida Southern College in 1980 and her LL.M. in taxation from the New York University School of Law in 1989.

Nickolas N. Sypniewski is a managing director with ComStock Advisors in Cincinnati and is an Accredited Senior Appraiser (ASA) of the American Society of Appraisers. He has more than 25 years of experience in valuation, finance and banking and has completed valuations for ESOPs, estate taxes, estate planning, gifting, mergers, acquisitions, sales, lending, litigation support and marital dissolution. In addition to appraising businesses, Mr. Sypniewski has appraised intellectual property such as patents and trademarks. Prior to joining ComStock in 2000, he specialized in providing financing for leveraged acquisitions through a combination of asset-based lending, cash-flow lending, and lending based on the value of companies, divisions and product lines. Mr. Sypniewski serves on the Valuation Advisory Committee of the ESOP Association and is a local officer for the ESOP Association and the American Society of Appraisers. He has been a presenter on valuation topics for the ESOP

Association, National Center for Employee Ownership, Ohio Employee Ownership Center, National Trust Closely Held Business Association, Southwest Ohio Tax Institute and the American Society of Appraisers, and he has provided valuation training and judging for the Association for Corporate Growth's ACG Cup competition. Mr. Sypniewski received his B.B.A. in finance and real estate from the University of Cincinnati and his M.B.A. from Xavier University.

Frank P. Terzo is chair of GrayRobinson, PA's Bankruptcy & Creditors' Rights practice group in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., where his practice focuses on insolvency matters, including the representation of corporate and consumer clients in complex workouts, bankruptcies and receiverships, as well as creditors' committees and panel trustees. His practice also encompasses both the prosecution and defense of all forms of complex bankruptcy litigation, including preferences, fraudulent transfers and complex contested matters. Prior to practicing bankruptcy law, Mr. Terzo spent 18 years in the health care industry successfully starting up, managing and operating various public companies. His experience in health care businesses has provided numerous opportunities to represent trustees and committees in hospital, nursing home, diagnostic center and HMO cases, and has been appointed as a patient care ombudsman throughout Florida. He has devoted much of his attention in recent years to the representation of lending institutions and creditors' committees, particularly in the health care, condominium, timeshare, aviation and hospitality business segments. Mr. Terzo is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell, named as a "Super Lawyer" by *Florida Super Lawyers* magazine, described as a "Top Attorney" in the *South Florida Legal Guide*, and listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* (2009-16) and *Chambers & Partners USA Guide* (2012-17). He currently serves on the Bankruptcy Faculty Advisory Board of St. John's University School of Law and the advisory board of the ABI's Alexander L. Paskay Bankruptcy Seminar. Mr. Terzo received his B.S. from the University of Cincinnati and his J.D. with honors from Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad Law Center, where he was a member of the Order of the Coif.

Nicolette C. Vilmos is a partner in the Orlando, Fla., office of Broad and Cassel, Attorneys at Law and chairs the firm's Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights Practice Group. She concentrates her practice on complex business litigation, including bankruptcy, intellectual property, banking law, foreclosures, lender liability, shareholder and business disputes, statutory shareholder-valuation matters, noncompete litigation and landlord/tenant matters across the state of Florida. She also has extensive appellate experience both state and federal courts. Ms. Vilmos's bankruptcy and creditors' right practice includes the representation of creditors, trustees, assignees, receivers and creditors' committees. She has been involved in such complex business bankruptcy matters as the prosecution/defense of fraudulent and preferential transfers, creditor committee representation, receiverships, cramdown defense, valuations, involuntary bankruptcies and assignments for benefit of creditors (ABC) litigation at the state, federal and appellate levels. In the area of intellectual property, she has represented clients in cases relating to patent, trademark and copyright infringement, unfair competition, trade secrets, Internet law, and related computer and technology litigation. She regularly counsels her clients on the enforcement and defense of their intellectual property rights, and also works with lenders, asset managers and servicing agents in enforcing loan documents, dealing with pooling and servicing agreements, and working out problem loans. Ms. Vilmos is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell and has been recognized in *Chambers USA: A Guide to America's Leading Business Lawyers* for 2014 and 2015, was named a "Florida Super Lawyer" by *Law & Politics* magazine for 2014 and 2015, received a "Women of Achievement Award" from the Women's Executive Council of Orlando, and was named to the *Orlando Business Journal's* "Forty Under 40" list in 2009. She is also a Fellow

in the Litigation Counsel of America (LCA), an honorary society composed of less than one-half of one percent of American lawyers. Ms. Vilmos serves on the board of directors for the Central Florida Bankruptcy Law Association, is an active member of ABI and the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation, and serves on The Florida Bar's Business Law Section's Bankruptcy/UCC and Bankruptcy Judicial Law Committees. She 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.

Michael S. Waskiewicz is a partner with Burr & Forman LLP in Jacksonville, Fla., where his practice is concentrated on commercial litigation with an emphasis on bankruptcy and creditors' rights. Prior to joining Burr & Forman LLP, he was a partner with the Jacksonville-based law firm of Rogers Towers, P.A. in its Creditors' Rights and Bankruptcy Department. He was also a staff attorney for Chapter 13 Bankruptcy Trustee Douglas W. Neway. Mr. Waskiewicz is a member of the Florida Bar, the Jacksonville Bankruptcy Bar Association and ABI. He is admitted to practice before the U.S. District and Bankruptcy Courts for the Northern, Middle and Southern Districts of Florida. Mr. Waskiewicz received his B.A. in 1998 from the University of Buffalo and his J.D. in 2001 from Widener University School of Law.

Hon. Michael G. Williamson is Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida in Tampa, initially appointed as bankruptcy judge in March 2000 and as chief judge on Oct. 1, 2015. He is also an adjunct professor at Stetson University College of Law, where he teaches bankruptcy law, and he co-authored West's *Bankruptcy Law Manual*. Judge Williamson served as a chapter 7 panel trustee from 1977-79 and represented numerous chapter 11 corporate debtors, creditors' committees and trustees in bankruptcy cases throughout Florida. He is a past chair of the Committee on Creditors' Rights for the Section of Litigation of the American Bar Association, past chair of the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar and its Bankruptcy/UCC Committee, and a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy. Judge Williamson received his undergraduate undergraduate degree from Duke University in 1973 and his J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center in 1976.

Steven R. Wirth is a partner with Akerman LLP in Tampa, Fla. He is a commercial litigator who focuses a large percentage of his practice on bankruptcy matters representing debtors, creditors, examiners, trustees, corporate monitors, committees, secured and unsecured creditors' groups/individuals, state and federal court receivers, distressed investors and asset-buyers, and parties to bankruptcy-related litigation. Mr. Wirth has participated in many of the largest bankruptcy cases in the U.S., including WorldCom, Enron Corp., Global Crossing Limited, Refco, Inc., Lehman Brothers, Bernard Madoff Investment Securities, Lyondell Chemical Co. and Winn Dixie Stores, Inc. He is admitted U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit and the U.S. District Courts for the Middle, Northern and Southern Districts of Florida, the District of New Jersey, and the Eastern and Southern Districts of New York. Mr. Wirth is a member of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association's board of directors, ABI, the American Inns of Court, Ferguson-White Inn, the Florida Bar Association's Business Law Section, the New York City Bar Association and the Tampa Chapter of the Turnaround Underground, of which he is a founding member. He clerked for Chief Judge George L. Proctor of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida. Mr. Wirth received his B.A. in 1995 from Ursinus College and his J.D. from St. John's University School of Law in 1998, where he was on the dean's list, was a senior member of the *ABI Law Review*, and was a member of the senior board of the St. John's Moot Court Honor Society.