

# Faculty Biographies

**T. Scott Avila** is a managing partner with CRG Partners in Los Angeles and has more than 20 years of management and consulting experience in restructuring. He helps operationally and financially distressed organizations in numerous industries through out-of-court workouts and chapter 11 reorganizations. Mr. Avila has been instrumental in a number of prominent restructurings, assuming various senior executive and advisory roles on an interim basis, including CRO of a \$250 million international motorcycle products manufacturer and distributor, advisor for a \$1.2 billion farm cooperative, CRO and COO of a \$900 million international computer leasing and reseller, CRO of a telecommunications service provider; and CRO of an international publishing and media company. He is actively involved in the Turnaround Management Association, the Los Angeles Bankruptcy Forum and ABI, and he serves on the board of directors of Innovative Micro Technology. Mr. Avila received his bachelor's degree in business administration from California State University at Hayward and an MBA from the University of Southern California. He received his B.B.A. from California State University at Hayward and his M.B.A. from the University of Southern California.

**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 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.

**Hon. Julia W. Brand** is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Central District of California in Los Angeles, appointed in October 2011. Before taking the bench, she practiced primarily with Katten Muchin Rosenman, LLP, Brownstein, Hyatt, Farber & Schreck, LLP, and Danning Gill, Diamond & Kollitz, LLP, where she represented debtors, creditors and unsecured creditors' committees in chapter 11 cases. Judge Brand was a charter member of the Southern California Network of the International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation, and she served as Network co-chair from 2007 through 2010 and as Communications chair in 2011. She received her B.A. from the University of California in 1981 and her J.D. from the University of Southern California School of Law in 1985.

**Dawn M. Cica** is a partner with Fox Rothschild LLP in Las Vegas, where her practice includes the representation of purchasers of bankruptcy assets, secured lenders, debtors and unsecured creditors' committees. She concentrates in the areas of business reorganization and restructuring, bankruptcy, asset sales and acquisitions, and gaming, and has worked on some of the largest bankruptcy cases in Nevada. Ms. Cica is admitted to the California, New York and Nevada Bar Associations and authored "When Gaming Goes Heads Up with the Bankruptcy Code: Unique Restructuring Issues for Gaming Businesses in Difficult Economic Times," 3 *UNLV Gaming L.J.* 23 (2012), and "In and

Out of the Storm: Weathering the Financial Storm in Gaming,” *Nevada Gaming Lawyer*, September 2011. She sits on ABI’s Southwest Bankruptcy Conference Advisory Board, and is a director and program chair of the Nevada chapter of the Turnaround Management Association. She also chairs the executive committee of the Bankruptcy Section of the Nevada Bar and is a member of the Real Estate Subcommittee of its Real Estate Section. Ms. Cica has been recognized as a *Nevada Super Lawyer* and as one of the Top 100 attorneys in Nevada in the “Legal Elite” edition of *Nevada Business Magazine*. She received her B.S. in finance from the University of Nevada, Reno and her J.D. from the University of California, Los Angeles School of Law, where she was a member of the *UCLA Law Review* and participated in a moot court.

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

**Leslie A. Cohen** is an attorney and owner of Leslie Cohen Law, PC in Santa Monica, Calif., where she represents various businesses and individuals in bankruptcy and insolvency matters, financial disputes, structuring, restructuring, reorganization and adversary proceedings. She has represented numerous asset-purchasers and sellers in negotiating and litigating bankruptcy acquisitions and contract assumptions and rejections. She also advises companies on the structuring and funding of special-purpose entities, distress acquisitions and related transactions. Ms. Cohen is a frequent speaker and has presented before the International Conference of Shopping Centers, the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, the Financial Lawyers Conference, the Los Angeles Bankruptcy Forum, ABI and the Century City Bar Association. She has repeatedly been recognized in *Super Lawyers* magazine as one of the top attorneys in Southern California, and she is an editor, board member and contributing author of the *California Bankruptcy Journal*, in which she has published numerous articles. Ms. Cohen is admitted to the State Bar of California and received her J.D. from UCLA School of Law. She regularly lectures at the UCLA undergraduate business law program and the UCLA Anderson School of Business graduate program.

**Nathan J. Cook** is a managing director in the Los Angeles office of AlixPartners, LLP and has 20 years of experience as a financial advisor and management consultant, focusing on providing advisory and interim management services to distressed companies and their constituents. His expertise includes leading corporate finance and accounting functions, transaction advisory, cash and work-

ing-capital management, capital structuring, debt refinancing, cost-reduction plan development and implementation, business plan development, valuation and crisis management. Prior to joining AlixPartners in 2001, Mr. Cook was a principal consultant in the Financial Advisory Services group of Price Waterhouse. He was also previously a senior associate in the Business Strategy practice of Diamond Management and Technology Consultants, Inc., and a senior consultant of Peterson Consulting (now a division of Navigant Consulting). In 2010, Mr. Cook was included in *M&A Advisor's* "40 under 40," as well as *Turnarounds & Workouts'* "People to Watch in 2012." He is a CPA and has successfully passed Levels I and II of the CFA Program. Mr. Cook previously served as a board member of the Turnaround Management Association's Southern California Chapter from 2008-11, and he is a member of ABI, Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Advisors, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, CFA Institute and CFA Society of Los Angeles. He received his M.B.A. in finance and corporate strategy from the UCLA Anderson School of Management, where he served as president of the Management Consulting Association, and his B.B.A. in accounting from the University of Michigan Ross School of Business, from which he graduated with high distinction.

**Tracy Hope Davis** is the U.S. Trustee for northern and eastern California and Nevada, based in San Francisco. Prior to her appointment, she served as U.S. Trustee for Region 2 in New York, Connecticut and Vermont. Ms. Davis joined the U.S. Trustee Program in 1997 as a trial attorney before being named as the Assistant U.S. Trustee in the Southern District of New York. She has also served as the Acting Assistant U.S. Trustee in the Eastern District of New York (Brooklyn) and the Acting U.S. Trustee for Region 2. During her tenure as a U.S. Trustee, Ms. Davis has been closely involved in a wide range of bankruptcy issues in some of the largest and most complex bankruptcy cases, including *Lehman Brothers*, *Chrysler Corporation*, *General Motors* and *MF Global*. Previously, she practiced bankruptcy law in New York City and clerked for Hon. Cornelius Blackshear (ret.). Ms. Davis received her J.D. from Rutgers Law School and her B.A. from Wells College.

**A. Kyle Everett** is a vice president and the general manager of the San Francisco office of Development Specialists, Inc., where he consults with debtors and both secured and unsecured creditors in bankruptcy, turnaround and workout assignments. He has served in numerous fiduciary capacities, including acting as a federal and state court receiver, federal bankruptcy court trustee and examiner, creditors' trust trustee, liquidator and disbursing agent. Mr. Everett's expertise includes forensic accounting, analysis and evaluation of performance and profitability, development of budgets and forecasts, crisis management, and negotiations with creditors and lenders. He has testified in state court, bankruptcy court and at arbitration. He has been an equity as well as a rents-and-profits receiver in many situations, and has experience working with a number of industries, including apparel manufacturing, legal and accounting firms, retail, real estate, timber harvesting, mortgage loan origination, health care, restaurants, automobile dealerships, pleasure boat and yacht manufacturers, sports franchises, equipment and furniture manufacturing, outdoor advertising, oil bunkering, health clubs and the hospitality industry. Prior to joining DSI in 2002, he practiced in a local San Francisco insolvency and litigation firm for 15 years, the last 10 as a partner. Mr. Everett is currently a chapter 7 trustee and chapter 11 trustee in multiple complex cases involving operating businesses and litigation, including for a mortgage broker who was convicted of operating a ponzi scheme. He is the past president of both the Bay Area and state chapters of the California Receivers Forum, and is a member of ABI, California Bankruptcy Forum, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), California Society of Certified Public Accountants (CSCPA), Association of

Insolvency & Reorganization Advisors (AIRA) and the Association for Corporate Growth (ACG). Mr. Everett is a certified public accountant and received his B.S. in business administration from California State University at Northridge in 1981.

**Edward T. Gavin** is a managing director and founding partner of Gavin/Solmonese LLC in Wilmington, Del., where he leads the firm's Restructuring and Fiduciary Services Practice and specializes in complex bankruptcy matters, representing debtors and creditors as financial advisor, asset-sale advisor, restructuring officer or other type of responsible party. In addition, he is frequently appointed liquidating trustee, litigation trustee or plan administrator over post-confirmation liquidating trusts. A Certified Turnaround Professional, Mr. Gavin is an expert on rapid § 363 asset-sale processes, SPM gifts/carve-outs and the evaluation of claims against insiders. His engagements have included responsibilities as bankruptcy and non-bankruptcy financial advisor to debtors and creditors' committees, bankruptcy and non-bankruptcy interim management appointments, business viability assessments, mergers and acquisitions, business integrations and strategic sales, corporate strategy and policy development and implementation, e-commerce and marketing strategy development, process re-engineering, and enterprise resource planning (ERP) system implementation and assessment. His roles have also included regulatory affairs management positions in FDA-regulated organizations, including the leadership of process re-engineering to remediate violations of FDA regulations. Mr. Gavin co-chaired ABI's Financial Advisors Committee (2010-12) and is a former co-chair and education director of ABI's Ethics and Professional Compensation Committee. He is ABI's Vice President-Development, a 30th Anniversary Circle contributor to ABI's Endowment Fund and co-chair of ABI's Mid-Atlantic Bankruptcy Workshop, and he serves on ABI's National Ethics Standards Task Force. A contributing editor for the *ABI Journal's* "Last in Line" and "Financial Statements" columns, Mr. Gavin also writes the "Turnaround Tactics" blog for *Forbes* and has contributed to a number of publications. He attended the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, studying music theory and education.

**Peter M. Gilhuly** is co-head of global restructuring in Latham & Watkins LLP's Los Angeles office, where he represents debtors, buyers, hedge funds, private-equity funds, first- and second-lien holders, creditors' committees and boards of directors. Mr. Gilhuly has been named in *Chambers USA* as a Band 1 leading bankruptcy attorney and in *The Deal's Bankruptcy Insider* as the most active bankruptcy M&A lawyer in the U.S. from 2003-08, and he was inducted into the American College of Bankruptcy in 2008. He was also named to the *Daily Journal's* list of "Top 100 Attorneys in California" in 2011 and 2012. Mr. Gilhuly was inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy in 2008, and from 2002-06, he served as co-chair of ABI's Bankruptcy Battleground West program. He was also named to the Advisory Committee of ABI's Commission to Study the Reform of Chapter 11 in 2012. Mr. Gilhuly is a frequent speaker at U.S. and international insolvency conferences and has published numerous articles on bankruptcy issues. He recently spoke in Brazil and has spoken at Harvard Business School, Stanford Engineering School, and at UCLA Business and Law Schools. Mr. Gilhuly received his B.A. with honors from Wesleyan University in 1983 and his J.D. from Harvard University in 1990.

**Gary Hobart** is a managing director at Beach Point Capital Management, a Los Angeles-based \$8 billion alternative asset investment management company. He has more than 20 years of professional experience in high-yield investing and restructurings, and he specializes in private debt, dis-

tressed debt and other special-situation investments. Prior to joining Beach Point and its predecessor firm Post Advisory Group, Mr. Hobart was an investment officer in the leveraged finance group of Trust Company of the West (TCW), an investment banking officer in the mergers and acquisition group of Wasserstein Perella, and a corporate finance and bankruptcy attorney with Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of California, Los Angeles and his J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center.

**Ori Katz** is a partner in the Finance and Bankruptcy Practice Group of Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP in San Francisco, where he specializes in business bankruptcies and other aspects of insolvency law. He has represented debtors, creditors, creditors' committees, parties purchasing assets out of bankruptcy and parties involved in bankruptcy litigation, and he has successfully reorganized companies in a wide range of industries, including real estate, retail, construction, biotech, telecommunications, media and the Internet. Mr. Katz has represented lenders and loan servicers in connection with receiverships, loan workouts, restructurings, foreclosures and borrower bankruptcies, and has acted as receivership counsel in connection with various appointments. He is a frequent speaker on bankruptcy and insolvency law matters, and he taught a seminar on business bankruptcy and corporate reorganization at UC Hastings College of the Law in 2013 and 2014. Mr. Katz is currently a director of the Bay Area Bankruptcy Forum and a past co-chair of the Insolvency Law Conference's California Bankruptcy Forum. He is also a member of the State Bar of California Insolvency Law Committee's Business Law Section, and he sits on the advisory board of ABI's Southwest Bankruptcy Conference. Mr. Katz has been listed in *Chambers and Partners*, the *Legal 500* and *Northern California Super Lawyers*. He received his B.A. in 1996 from the University of California, Santa Barbara and his J.D. from Boston University School of Law in 2000.

**Gary E. Klausner** is a senior partner with Levene, Neale, Bender, Yoo & Brill L.L.P. in Los Angeles, where he represents chapter 11 debtors, secured and unsecured creditors, creditors' committees, trustees and receivers, licensors and franchisors, purchasers of assets out of bankruptcy cases, and parties involved in litigation and appeals in connection with bankruptcy cases. He has handled cases involving a broad range of businesses and industries including manufacturing, retail, real estate development, hospitality and restaurants, aerospace, entertainment, health care, financial institutions and transportation, and he currently chairs the American Bar Association's Chapter 9 Subcommittee. Previously, he was a senior shareholder at Stutman, Treister & Glatt P.C. Mr. Klausner is a member of the Board of Governors of the Financial Lawyers Conference and served as its president from 1993-94. He is a board member of the Los Angeles Bankruptcy Forum (having served as its president from 2003-04) and a member of the American Bar Association's Section on Business Law, for which he chaired its task force on The Economics of Chapter 11 Practice, as well as its Subcommittee on Bankruptcy Fraud, Crimes and Abuse of the Bankruptcy Process; he currently chairs its Chapter 9 Subcommittee. He is also a member of the Los Angeles County Bar Association, for which he has served as a member of the Executive Committee of its Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section and as vice chair of the Section's Bankruptcy Committee. In 2010, Mr. Klausner was elected as a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, and in 2012, Mr. Klausner was recognized as "Bankruptcy Lawyer of the Year" by the Century City Bar Association. He has also served as a lawyer representative to the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference and currently chairs the U.S. District Court Standing Committee on Attorney Discipline. Mr. Klausner is a member of the California and Maryland Bar Associations and is admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and the U.S. District and

Bankruptcy Courts for the Central District of California. Mr. Klausner received his J.D. with honors from the University of Maryland School of Law in 1974, where he served on the editorial staff of the *University of Maryland Law Review* from 1972-73. He received his B.A. from the University of Maryland in 1971.

**Prof. Kenneth N. Klee** is a professor emeritus at UCLA School of Law in Los Angeles and a founding partner of Klee, Tuchin, Bogdanoff & Stern LLP, where he specializes in corporate reorganization, insolvency and bankruptcy law. He has also served as an expert witness, mediator, arbitrator, attorney and consultant. From 1974-77, Prof. Klee served as associate counsel to the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary and was one of the principal drafters of the 1978 Bankruptcy Code. He also served as a member of the executive committee of the National Bankruptcy Conference from 1985-88, 2005-08 and 2011-13, and he has chaired the NBC's Committee to Rethink Chapter 11 and its Legislation Committee. Prof. Klee is past president of the Financial Lawyers Conference and serves on its board of governors. He has also served as chairman of the Subcommittee of New and Pending Legislation of the Business Bankruptcy Committee of the Section on Corporations, Business and Banking Law of the American Bar Association. In 2013, Prof. Klee was inducted into the Turnaround Management Association's Bankruptcy Hall of Fame. He also received the American Inns of Court 2013 Distinguished Service Award. Prof. Klee is a frequent lecturer and panelist for the American Law Institute/American Bar Association. He authored *Bankruptcy and the Supreme Court* (LexisNexis 2008) and co-authored *Business Reorganization in Bankruptcy* (1995; 2d ed., 2001; 3d ed., 2006; 4th ed., 2011) and *Fundamentals of Bankruptcy Law* (4th ed., 1996), and he has authored or co-authored more than 30 law review articles on bankruptcy law. In 2010, Prof. Klee served as the appointed examiner in the *Tribune* chapter 11 cases, and from 2011-13 he represented Jefferson County, Ala., in its chapter 9 bankruptcy case. Recently, he represented defendants Anadarko Petroleum Corp. and Kerr McGee in *Tronox v. Anadarko* (Bankr. S.D.N.Y.). Prof. Klee received his A.B. from Stanford in 1971 and his J.D. from Harvard in 1974.

**Robert A. Kors** is a founding principal of Castellammare Advisors, LLC in Pacific Palisades, Calif., where he focuses on complex workout and insolvency matters. He has spent much of the past decade serving as a post-bankruptcy trustee, notably as post-confirmation trustee for Fleming Companies (D. Del.) and as litigation trustee for the Woodside Homes Litigation Trust (C.D. Cal.). He has also served as an independent director for several bankrupt/insolvent companies, including Stations Casinos-Propco (D. Nev.), and has worked in a variety of other roles on behalf of stakeholders in distressed enterprises. Prior to forming Castellammare Advisors in 2004, Mr. Kors spent approximately 10 years as CAO and CFO of a Los Angeles-based private holding company with more than \$1 billion in annual revenues, and was a partner in the Los Angeles office of Latham & Watkins. He is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania (Wharton School) and Stanford Law School.

**Talitha Gray Kozlowski** is a shareholder in the Las Vegas office of Gordon Silver, where her practice is concentrated in the areas of corporate restructuring and complex insolvency. She has represented corporate and individual debtors in possession, trustees, creditors' committees, and secured and unsecured creditors in all aspects of the chapter 11 process, including adversary proceedings and bankruptcy appeals. Ms. Gray Kozlowski has represented a wide range of debtors, from hotel casino operators, such as Black Gaming, LLC and Jerry's Nugget, Inc., to airplane lessors to high-

efficiency battery technology companies. She has also represented numerous single-asset debtors owning hotels, extended-stay facilities, apartment complexes, self-storage facilities, medical complexes, commercial centers, hospitals and residential property. Ms. Gray Kozlowski has been recognized in *Mountain States Super Lawyers* every year since 2010 and is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell. She received her B.A. *summa cum laude* from the University of Arizona in 2001 and her J.D. from the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law in 2004.

**Adolfo L. Laurenti** is chief international economist and a managing director at Mesirow Financial Consulting, LLC in Chicago, where he develops ongoing economic research and commentary critical to supporting the firm's clients and contacts. Mr. Laurenti authors *Themes on the Global Markets*, a periodic newsletter providing insight into trends, issues and the forecast for the global economy. An expert in world economics and an engaging presenter, he regularly speaks on current economic trends to professional groups and trade associations around the country. He also teaches an economics measurements course for other professionals working in the economics field, and is a guest lecturer at Northwestern's Medill School of Journalism. Prior to joining Mesirow Financial in July 2007, Mr. Laurenti served as associate economist at LaSalle Bank/ABN AMRO, where he was responsible for tracking economic trends in the banking sector. He was selected as an Emerging Leader by the Chicago Council on Global Affairs for 2011 and was an Earhart Foundation Fellow in 2002. He also received a Washington Society of Investments Analysts Scholarship and a Graduate Scholarship for Excellence in Academia from the Economic Club of Washington, D.C. Mr. Laurenti serves on the board of the National Association for Business Economics and is a member of both the American Economic Association and the Chicago Association for Business Economics. He graduated from Bocconi University Business School in Milan, Italy, specialized in industrial organization as a visiting scholar at the Center for Industrial Economics in Copenhagen, Denmark, and concentrated in financial economics at Central European University in Budapest, Hungary. Mr. Laurenti earned his M.A. and Ph.D. in economics from George Mason University.

**Franklind D. Lea**, CIRA, is the president of Tactical Financial Consulting, LLC in Alpharetta, Ga., and has more than 25 years of professional experience and education in complex business and financial matters. He has been a commercial real estate appraiser, credit analyst, loan officer, commercial credit manager, credit officer, workout officer, consultant and expert witness, and is experienced with numerous business types, all major property types (apartment, retail, office and industrial warehouse), and several specialty property types (including bowling centers, city clubs, farm land, golf courses, hotels, marinas and residential subdivision development). Prior to forming Tactical Financial in 2005, he was a senior lender at Textron Financial Corp. for 11 years, where he focused on specialty real estate lending and large-account workouts for real estate, equipment leasing and commercial lending. His professional experience includes roles as a commercial real estate appraiser with a national appraisal firm and various positions at First Florida Bank, including vice president of commercial lending and regional commercial credit manager. He is a member of ABI (education director of its Financial Advisors Committee), the Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Advisors and the Turnaround Management Association, and is an affiliate member of both the CFA Institute and the Appraisal Institute. A Certified Insolvency and Restructuring Advisor and frequent presenter, Mr. Lea received his B.S. in management and his M.B.A. from Florida State University, and his Master's degree in real estate and urban analysis from the University of Florida.

**William N. Lobel** is a managing partner of Lobel, Neue & Till, LLP in Newport Beach, Calif., where he specializes in chapter 11 reorganizations and out-of-court restructurings. He primarily focuses on the real estate industry, representing homebuilders, commercial real estate developers and sub-prime lenders. He has also successfully represented gaming casinos and fast food and casual dining restaurants, and has worked with clients in such fields as hospitality, technology, health care and entertainment. Mr. Lobel is a founder of the Orange County and California Bankruptcy Forums, and he is the first recipient of the Peter M. Elliot award, as well as a past lawyer representative to the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference and a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy. He is admitted to the Florida and California Bars, the U.S. Supreme Court, and the U.S. District Courts for the Southern, Northern and Central Districts of California, the Southern District of Florida and the District of Colorado. Mr. Lobel lectures frequently on bankruptcy-related topics. He received both his B.A. in 1965 and his J.D. in 1969 from the University of Miami.

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

**Michael T. O'Halloran** is the founder of The Law Offices of Michael T. O'Halloran in San Diego, where he represents debtors in complex cases. Previously, he was a trial and bankruptcy appellate panel law clerk for Hon. Herb Katz, chief bankruptcy judge for the Southern District of California, and represented trustees throughout the 1980s. Mr. O'Halloran is certified in both Business and Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification and as a bankruptcy specialist by the California Board of Legal Specialization. He has twice been named Mediator of the Year by the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of California, received the State Bar President's

Pro Bono Service Award in 2014 and was named Volunteer Lawyer of the Year by the San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program in 2009. He is also a contributing author to *California Domestic Partnerships* and the bankruptcy chapter in the *California Basic Practice Handbook*, both published by CEB. Mr. O'Halloran graduated from the University of California in 1976 and received his J.D. from the University of Southern California Law Center in 1981.

**Keith C. Owens** is a partner in the Los Angeles office of Venable LLP, where he specializes in bankruptcy law and creditors' rights litigation. He represents debtors in possession, creditors' committees, secured and unsecured creditors, trustees and receivers, asset-purchasers, parties to contracts and other constituencies in a wide range of bankruptcy, liquidation and workout matters, adversary proceedings and bankruptcy appeals throughout the U.S. Mr. Owens has represented clients in a variety of industries, including financial services, real estate, health care, food services, automotive and entertainment. He has also assisted clients in managing and protecting their intellectual property rights and other assets both prior to and during a bankruptcy proceeding. Mr. Owens has been recognized in *Super Lawyers* every year since 2009, and has published articles in numerous bankruptcy publications. He is a former chair of the Bankruptcy Section of the Beverly Hills Bar Association and currently serves on the board of the Los Angeles County Bar Association's Bankruptcy Section. Mr. Owens received his J.D. *cum laude* from Southwestern University School of Law and his B.A. from the University of California at Los Angeles.

**Isaac M. Pachulski** is a partner with Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP in Los Angeles and has specialized in corporate reorganization, insolvency and bankruptcy law since 1974. He represents debtors, significant creditors, and official and unofficial creditors' committees and creditor groups. His recent representations include representing a substantial holder of claims against Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. and its affiliated debtors in connection with their respective chapter 11 cases, including participation in plan negotiations; a holder in excess of \$100 million in senior notes in connection with the Tribune Co. chapter 11 case; holders of in excess of \$200 million of secured notes in the chapter 11 case of Scotia Pacific Co.; holders of \$500 million in unsecured senior notes in the chapter 11 case of Delphi Corp., and holders of in excess of \$3 billion of senior unsecured debt in Enron's chapter 11 case. He also regularly advises a number of hedge funds on a non-public basis in connection with actual or potential investments in distressed debt, and has been involved in the cases of Adelphia Communications Corp., Owen-Corning, Mariner Post-Acute Network Inc. and Mariner Health Group. Mr. Pachulski is a frequent speaker and writer on bankruptcy and restructuring issues. He is a member of the California Bar Association and is admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the First, Second, Third, Fifth, Ninth and Eleventh Circuits, and the U.S. District Courts for the Central, Eastern, Northern and Southern Districts of California. Mr. Pachulski received his B.A. *summa cum laude* from the University of California at Los Angeles and his J.D. *summa cum laude* from Harvard University in 1974, where he earned the Fay Diploma, received the Sears Prize in 1972 and 1973, and was a member of the *Harvard Law Review*.

**Lawrence R. Perkins** is CEO and founder of SierraConstellation Partners LLC in Santa Ana, Calif., and has 15 years of management consulting and advisory experience with companies undergoing transition. He has enhanced business performance for numerous companies on projects ranging from interim management, profit improvement and working-capital management to strate-

gic planning and transaction execution in a variety of industries, including automotive, consumer products, financial services, health care, manufacturing, retail, technology and telecommunications. Mr. Perkins has served in a variety of senior-level positions, including as Chief Restructuring Officer (CRO), principal investor, turnaround advisor, strategic consultant, investment banker, financial executive and crisis manager to numerous middle-market companies. Prior to SCP, he was senior managing director and regional leader at Conway MacKenzie, where he was responsible for business development, marketing, staffing, and general management of the firm's presence west of the Mississippi River, and he worked for Arthur Andersen. Mr. Perkins is a member of the Young Presidents Organization. He attended Polytechnic School in Pasadena, Calif., for which he currently serves on its board of directors, and received his B.S. from the University of California and his M.B.A. from the University of Southern California Marshall School of Business.

**Dr. William T. Rule** has been a senior economist with the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts in Washington, D.C., for the past 22 years. His primary area of responsibility is staff support and analysis for the Judicial Conference Committee on the Administration of the Bankruptcy System, and his primary responsibilities include analysis of judgeship needs in the country's 90 bankruptcy courts, as well as analysis and forecasting of bankruptcy filings trends. Having been with the AOUSC's Bankruptcy Judges Division (now the Judicial Services Office) for 19 years, he has provided economic, statistical, econometric and financial analysis to the JSO and to other offices within the AOUSC, as well as special projects for other Judicial Conference committees, individual circuits and bankruptcy courts. He is also a member of the investment advisory board for a number of the Judiciary's judicial officers' and survivors' trust funds. Prior to joining the courts, Dr. Rule was director for economic consulting with several national consulting firms, including Coopers & Lybrand (now PricewaterhouseCoopers) and Peat Marwick (now KPMG). He has served as an adjunct scholar and member of the Dean's Advisory Committee on Economics at Suffolk University in Boston and as an adjunct faculty member of the USDA Graduate School. Dr. Rule is a member of ABI, the American Economic Association and the American Statistical Association, and is a Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society. He received his B.A. with honors in economics from Macalester College and Ph.D. in economics from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, with concentrations in monetary theory and policy, industrial organization and econometrics.

**Hon. Barry Russell** is a Bankruptcy Judge with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California in Los Angeles, appointed in 1974. He served as Chief Judge from January 2003 to December 2006, and served on a Bankruptcy Appellate Panel and from September 1999 to December 2001. He is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and has been a faculty member of the Federal Judicial Center in Washington, D.C., since 1977, lecturing to other bankruptcy judges throughout the U.S. Judge Russell received the American Bar Association's Franklin N. Flaschener Judicial Award as the outstanding judge in the U.S. in a trial court of special jurisdiction in 1987. He was the first American invited by the Supreme People's Court in the People's Republic of China to lecture on the subject of bankruptcy law in September 1988. In 2000, Judge Russell received the Los Angeles County Bar Association's Dispute Resolution Services' Emil Gumpert Judicial ADR award, and in 2004 he received the Los Angeles County Bar Association's Outstanding Jurist Award. He was also awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Advisors (AIRA) in the Bankruptcy and Restructuring Field. On Oct. 13, 2008, the San Fernando Valley Bar Association awarded Judge Russell the Stanley Mosk Legacy of Jus-

tice Award on Feb. 19, 2009, and he was awarded the Judge William L. Norton J. Judicial Excellence Award in 2013. Judge Russell received his B.S. in engineering and his J.D. from UCLA.

**Teri L. Stratton** is a managing director in the El Segundo, Calif., office of Piper Jaffray Co. Prior to joining Piper Jaffray in 2009, she was at Macquarie Capital Advisors and spent 10 years focusing on providing capital markets, mergers and acquisitions and restructuring advisory services to middle-market companies across many industries, including restaurants, food, agriculture, industrials and health care. Prior to her investment banking career, Ms. Stratton had eight years of experience in corporate banking, serving in both credit administration and special assets. She is a Certified Insolvency and Restructuring Advisor, a board member of the Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Advisors, and a member of the both the Turnaround Management Association and ABI. Ms. Stratton received her bachelor's degree in economics from the University of California at Los Angeles and her M.B.A. in finance with honors from the Anderson School at UCLA.

**Christopher A. Ward** co-chairs Polsinelli PC's Bankruptcy and Financial Restructuring Practice and is a managing shareholder of the firm's Wilmington, Del., office, where he acts as primary counsel to the firm's clients and serves as Delaware legal counsel to out-of-state law firms, conflicts counsel, contingency fee/avoidance action counsel, and special counsel in various matters pending both nationally and in Delaware. He focuses his practice on corporate bankruptcy, financial restructuring, bankruptcy litigation and out-of-court workouts, and has represented numerous chapter 11 debtors and unsecured creditors' committees. Mr. Ward's recent experiences include serving as Delaware bankruptcy counsel and conflicts counsel to the unsecured creditors' committee in *Energy Future Holdings*, the seventh-largest chapter 11 case ever filed, and as counsel to the chapter 11 debtors in *Global Aviation* and *Coach America*. He has been recognized in *Chambers USA* for Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Delaware Band 3) and in *Delaware Super Lawyers*. He is also an ABI Century Council member, co-chairs ABI's Financial Advisors and Investment Banking Committee, and serves on the ABI Endowment Fund's Mid-Atlantic regional committee. 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.

**Eric D. Winston** is a partner in the Los Angeles office of Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP, where his practice includes all areas of corporate insolvency and reorganization and insolvency and valuation-related litigation. He has represented debtors, creditors' committees, secured lenders, bondholders, hedge funds, intellectual property counterparties, trade creditors and asset acquirers across numerous industries, both out of court and in connection with chapter 9, chapter 11, chapter 15, SIPA and SEC receivership cases. His recent representative cases include *Lehman Brothers Holdings*, *Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities/Fairfield Sentry*, *Residential Capital*, *Town of Mammoth Lakes*, *Eastman Kodak*, *Station Casinos*, *SemGroup*, *Persik Productions* and *SK Foods*. Previously, he as a shareholder with Stutman Treister & Glatt and a law clerk to Hon. William J. Holloway Jr. of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. Mr. Winston is a frequent speaker and has guest lectured at Loyola and University of Southern California law schools. He has written several law review articles, is the LEXIS practice advisor on claims trading, and has been a member of the State Bar of California Insolvency Law Committee and the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California Attorney Discipline Committee. Mr. Winston has been listed in *Chambers USA* for California Bankruptcy/Restructuring Litigation for 2013-14, named in

*The Legal 500* as a “Recommended Lawyer” for 2013, recognized as a “Rising Star” by Thomson Reuters *Super Lawyers* from 2004-13 and in 2014 as a “Super Lawyer for Bankruptcy,” and named by *Turnarounds & Workouts* as being an “Outstanding Young Restructuring Lawyer” in 2005 and 2012. He is a member of the American Bar Association and the International Association of Restructuring, Insolvency & Bankruptcy Professionals, and served as co-vice chair of the State Bar of California’s Insolvency Law Committee from 2008-09. Mr. Winston is admitted to the State Bar of California, the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Second, Third, Ninth and Tenth Circuits, and the U.S. District Courts for the Central, Eastern, Northern and Southern Districts of California. He received his B.A. in political science with high honors from the University of California at Berkeley in 1995 and his J.D. from the University of California at Los Angeles School of Law in 1998, where he was a managing editor of the *UCLA Journal of Environmental Law & Policy* and served as an extern to the U.S. Department of Justice’s Civil Rights Division.