

Faculty Biographies

Edward A. Bailey is with Reimer, Arnovitz, Cherek & Jeffrey Co., L.P.A. in Solon, Ohio, and has been practicing in the creditors' rights area for the past 17 years, focusing exclusively on bankruptcy. He has represented mortgage lenders, banks, credit unions, finance companies and other parties in chapter 7, 11, 12 and 13 cases, as well as adversary proceedings. Mr. Bailey is admitted to practice in Ohio and in the U.S. District Courts for the Northern and Southern Districts of Ohio. He is a member of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, the Ohio Bar Association, the National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees and ABI. Mr. Bailey has authored various articles on mortgage and creditor issues that have appeared in USFN publications, as well as in other trade journals such as *The Ohio Mortgage Press* and *Ohio Lawyers Weekly*. He has also spoken at various industry events. Mr. Bailey received his undergraduate degree from Hiram College and his J.D. from Capital University Law School in 1997.

Michael L. Baker practices with the firm of Ziegler & Schneider PSC in Covington, Ky. He has served as a member of the Panel of Chapter 7 Bankruptcy Trustees since 1984 in the Covington Division of the Eastern District of Kentucky, and serves as trustee in the Frankfort Division of the Eastern District. Mr. Baker founded the Bankruptcy Section of the Northern Kentucky Bar Association and presided as its chair for several years. He also co-founded the Bankruptcy Section of the Kentucky Bar Association, of which he chaired. Mr. Baker has chaired the annual Bankruptcy Seminar for the Northern Kentucky Bar Association for several years and currently serves on the advisory board of ABI's Midwest Regional Bankruptcy Seminar. A frequent speaker, he is admitted to practice in Kentucky and Ohio. Mr. Baker co-authored an article entitled "Title Examinations in Kentucky," which has been published by the Kentucky Bar Association, as well as "The Chapter 7 Bankruptcy Trustee and the Bankruptcy Estate," published by the University of Kentucky in its *Consumer Bankruptcy Practices in Kentucky, Chapter 7 Practice* series. In addition, he authored an article for the Kentucky Bench and Bar titled, "Means Testing - Do the Numbers Add Up?," which was published in the July 2011 issue. Mr. Baker received his J.D. from the University of Louisville Salmon P. Chase College of Law.

Julie J. Becker is a vice president at U.S. Bank National Association in St. Paul, Minn.

Edward J. Boll III is the managing bankruptcy attorney with the law firm of Lerner, Sampson & Rothfuss, LPA in Cincinnati. His bankruptcy law practice before all 16 active Ohio bankruptcy judges has included the representation of secured and unsecured creditors in chapters 7, 11, 12 and 13 cases. He is the current vice chair of the USFN Bankruptcy Subcommittee, member of the Consumer Subcommittee of the Southern District of Ohio Local Bankruptcy Rules, former chairman of the Cincinnati Bar Association's Bankruptcy Judicial Liaison Committee and former chairman of the Cincinnati Bar Association's Bankruptcy Committee, among other honors. He is also actively involved with the NACTT Mortgage Subcommittee and is a member of the board of directors for the Trustee's Education Network (TEN), ABI's Midwest Regional Bankruptcy Seminar, the Southern District of Ohio 2016 Bankruptcy Bench-Bar Committee and the Cincinnati Bar Association's Board of Trustees. Mr. Boll received his B.A. from the University of Cincinnati in 1997 and completed an International & Comparative Business Law Study Abroad in London in 1998 with the University of Notre Dame School of Law, and he received his J.D. from the University of Dayton School of Law in 2000, where he was a member of the University of Dayton National Bankruptcy Moot Court Team.

C.R. “Chip” Bowles is a partner in the law firm of Bingham Greenebaum Doll LLP in Louisville, Ky., where he concentrates his practice in the areas of bankruptcy-distressed asset sales, professional compensation in bankruptcy cases, bankruptcy ethics, bankruptcy litigation on behalf of trustees and chapter 11 estates, environmental issues in bankruptcy cases, domestic-relations issues in bankruptcy proceedings, and debtor and creditor rights. Prior to serving as law clerk to Hon. Henry H. Dickinson, he was an associate with the law firm of Porter, Wright, Morris and Author in Cincinnati. Mr. Bowles is a past ABI director (2008-13), and served as vice chair of ABI’s National Ethics Task Force and as chair of its Fee and Retention subcommittee. He is co-chairing ABI’s Individual Chapter 11 Study and was co-editor of the *ABI Journal*’s Straight & Narrow ethics column. Mr. Bowles sits on the board of the American Board of Certification. He lectures and writes extensively on bankruptcy law and authored ABI’s book *Getting Paid: Retention and Compensation in Bankruptcy Cases—A Guide for Non-Attorney Professionals and the Attorneys Who Represent Them*, now in its Second Edition. He is also a past editor of *The Broken Bench and Bar*, the newsletter of the Kentucky Bar Association’s Bankruptcy Section. Mr. Bowles was recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America* from 2007-14 and *Kentucky Super Lawyers* from 2007-12. He received his B.A. *magna cum laude* from the University of Kentucky and his J.D. *magna cum laude* from University of Kentucky College of Law.

William (Bill) A. Brandt, Jr. is president and CEO of Development Specialists, Inc. in New York and has been involved in thousands of insolvency and restructuring cases. He has advised Congress on matters of insolvency and bankruptcy policy, and in that capacity was the principal author of the amendment to the Bankruptcy Code permitting the election of trustees in chapter 11 cases. He was involved in drafting several amendments to the Bankruptcy Code revisions enacted into law in April 2005 as part of the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act, and served on ABI’s Committee to Study the Reform of Chapter 11. Mr. Brandt was a member of the President’s National Finance Board during the Clinton administration, and was elected a Florida delegate to the 1996 Democratic National Convention. He also worked with various public policy, law and banking leaders in China on approaches to the reorganization and restructuring of some of that nation’s state-owned industries. Mr. Brandt has been involved with some of the more celebrated financial restructuring cases in the nation’s history, including Mercury Finance Co., Southeast Banking Corp., Malden Mills, the Keck, Mahin & Cate law firm, the Coudert Brothers law firm, the Ohio “Coin Fund” scandal and the Bernie Ebbers Settlement Trust. He chairs the National Advisory Council for the Institute of Governmental Studies at the University of California at Berkeley and was a member of the Board of Trustees at Loyola University Chicago from 2007-16. He also chaired the Illinois Finance Authority for three terms by appointment of the governor and unanimous confirmation by the Illinois State Senate. Mr. Brandt served several terms on ABI’s Board of Directors and sat on the advisory board of the *ABI Law Review*. A frequent author and speaker, he regularly appears on CNN, CNBC, CNNfn, Bloomberg, Canada’s BNN and the Arise America news network, as well as the CBS Radio and National Public Radio networks. He has also been listed in *Who’s Who in America*, *Who’s Who in Finance and Industry* and *Who’s Who in American Law*. Mr. Brandt received his B.A. from St. Louis University and his M.A. from the University of Chicago, where he also completed further post-graduate work toward a doctoral degree.

Beverly M. Burden has served as the chapter 13 trustee for the Eastern District of Kentucky in Lexington since 1999. She previously clerked for Hon. Joe Lee, and prior to that was an assistant attorney general for the Commonwealth of Kentucky, concentrating on consumer fraud litigation. Ms.

Burden has served on the faculty of the annual meeting of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, the annual convention of the National Association of Chapter Thirteen Trustees (NACTT), the Midwest Regional Bankruptcy Seminar, the Judge Joe Lee Biennial Bankruptcy Institute, the UK Biennial Consumer Bankruptcy Law Conference, and numerous other regional and local CLE programs. She is a member of the NACTT Academy for Consumer Bankruptcy Education and is a regular contributor to www.considerchapter13.org. Ms. Burden was the 1997 recipient of the Kentucky Bar Association's Justice Thomas B. Spain Award for Outstanding Service in Continuing Legal Education. She received her J.D. from the University of Kentucky College of Law and holds a B.B.A. in accounting.

Margaret A. Burks is a chapter 13 trustee in Cincinnati and co-chairs ABI's Consumer Committee. She received her J.D. from Northern Kentucky University Chase College of Law.

Thomas L. Canary, Jr. is a senior attorney with Fenton & McGarvey Law Firm, P.S.C. in Louisville, Ky., where he concentrates his practice in the areas of bankruptcy, collections and creditors' rights. He admitted to practice law in Kentucky, Indiana West Virginia and Ohio, the federal district courts in all those states, and the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. Mr. Canary is the former secretary to the National Association of Retail Collection Attorneys (NARCA) and a past co-chair of its Education Committee, and he received NARCA's President's Award in 2009. He is also vice president of the Kentucky Creditors' Rights Bar Association. Mr. Canary is the current author and editor of *Kentucky Collections*, published by Thomson Reuters. He has been selected as one of Louisville's "Top Attorneys" in both the fields of Bankruptcy and Creditor's Rights, and is a frequent writer and lecturer on bankruptcy and collections. Mr. Canary received his B.S. with honors from the University of Kentucky in 1981 and his J.D. from the University of Kentucky College of Law in 1984.

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

Hon. James M. Carr is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of Indiana in Indianapolis, appointed in 2013. Previously, he was a partner at Faegre Baker Daniels LLP and had been in private practice for 38 years, focusing on the representation of business debtors and creditors in chapter 11 cases, financial restructurings and commercial litigation. Judge Carr is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification and is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy and the American Bar Foundation. Judge Carr was named in *The Best Lawyers in America* from 1987-2012 in Bankruptcy and Creditor Rights, Insolvency and Reorga-

nization Law and Bankruptcy Litigation, and has been a panelist and chair of many seminars on bankruptcy, reorganization, creditor rights and lender liability sponsored by the Indiana Continuing Legal Education Forum, Federal Bar Association and Indiana Bankers Association. He is also an adjunct professor at the Indiana University Maurer School of Law, served on the law school's Board of Visitors, and is a past member and president of its Alumni Board. Judge Carr received his B.A. in English from Indiana University in 1972 and his J.D. *magna cum laude* in 1975 from the Indiana University Maurer School of Law in Bloomington, where he was a member of the Order of the Coif.

Hon. R. Guy Cole, Jr. is chief judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in Columbus, Ohio, nominated by President Clinton and unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate in 1995 as judge. In August 2014, he assumed the role of Chief Judge for the Sixth Circuit, becoming the first African-American to hold that position since the court's formation in 1869. During his 20 years on the appellate bench, Judge Cole has authored hundreds of legal opinions, including landmark decisions on bankruptcy, civil rights, criminal procedure and the scope of the First Amendment, among others. Prior to joining the Sixth Circuit, he was an attorney in private practice at the Columbus law firm of Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease, and as a litigator for the Commercial Litigation Branch of the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. Judge Cole's judgeship roots began when he served as a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of Ohio from 1987-93. He is an adjunct professor at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law and on the governing boards of several philanthropic organizations in central Ohio. Judge Cole received his undergraduate degree from Tufts University in 1972 and his J.D. in 1975 from Yale Law School.

Kevin L. Colosimo is member-in-charge of Frost Brown Todd LLC's Pittsburgh office, where his practice spans the areas of oil and gas litigation, energy law, and business and contract law. He also has experience in international trade and creditors' rights, and has provided counsel to clients on a wide range of other legal matters that include risk-management alternatives, claims assessment and litigation strategy. Mr. Colosimo was drawn to practice energy law by the entrepreneurial spirit and potential of the burgeoning oil and gas industry in Appalachia. He is a frequent author and speaker on legal issues facing the oil and gas industry, having presented at the EMLF's Annual Institute, Kentucky Mineral Law Conference, CAIL's Institute for Energy Law and Law of Shale Plays Conference, as well as numerous other bar and industry-sponsored conferences. Mr. Colosimo is a regular advocate for the oil and gas industry at the state capitol in Harrisburg. He served as a member and committee co-chair of the Marcellus Shale Roundtable sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh's Institute of Politics, and he serves as an officer and trustee for the Energy and Mineral Law Foundation. Mr. Colosimo is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell and is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania and Ohio. He is admitted to the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of International Trade, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, and several district courts. He received his B.A. *magna cum laude* in 1994 from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and his J.D. in 1997 from Duquesne University.

J. Michael Debbeler is a partner with the Cincinnati law firm of Graydon Head & Ritchey LLP and serves on the firm's Executive Committee. He represents lenders in all facets of real estate and asset-based liquidations and workouts. He also represents a wide array of clients with other real estate, banking, bankruptcy, debtor/creditor and commercial litigation issues. Mr. Debbeler has

lectured to various groups on a variety of bankruptcy, real estate and creditors' rights issues, and served as a visiting instructor in law at the University of Cincinnati College of Law for a year following his law school graduation. He is admitted to practice in Ohio and Kentucky, all U.S. District Courts in Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana and Michigan, and in the Sixth, Seventh and Federal Circuit Courts of Appeals. Mr. Debbeler is a member of the Cincinnati, Ohio State, Kentucky and Northern Kentucky Bar Associations. He is a past chair of the Bankruptcy Committee of the Cincinnati Bar Association, where he remains a member, and he serves as a member in the American Bankruptcy Law Forum, is currently serving on the advisory board of the Midwest Regional Bankruptcy Seminar, is a member of ABI and is president of the Tri-State Association for Corporate Renewal. Mr. Debbeler received his B.A. *cum laude* from the University of Kentucky and his J.D. from the University of Cincinnati College of Law, where he was a member of Order of the Barrister.

Faye D. English is a chapter 13 trustee in Columbus, Ohio. Previously, she was an attorney with Reimer, Lorber & Arnovitz Co. LPA in the Cleveland/Akron area. Ms. English received her undergraduate degree in international business and a degree in international relations/business management from Kent State University, and her J.D. from the University of Akron School of Law.

Hon. Robert E. Gerber is Of Counsel with Joseph Hage Aaronson in New York and a retired U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of New York in New York, appointed in 2000 and reappointed in 2014. He assumed recall status in January 2015 and retired in January 2016. Judge Gerber offers services in bankruptcy and commercial arbitration, mediation, fiduciary work and consulting, among others. While on the bench, Judge Gerber presided over a wide variety of chapter 11, chapter 7, chapter 15, § 304 and SIPA cases, including *PSINet*, *Ames Department Stores*, *Global Crossing*, *Adelphia*, *ABIZ*, *Basis Yield Alpha Fund*, *Lyondell Chemical*, *BearingPoint*, *DBSD North America*, *Chemtura*, *Pinnacle Airlines*, *Houghton-Mifflin Harcourt* and *General Motors*. He presided over more than 20 cases with over \$100 million in debt, including 10 with over \$1 billion in debt. Judge Gerber has published roughly 200 opinions, principally in the business bankruptcy and corporate governance areas, and throughout his tenure on the bench was named one of the nation's outstanding bankruptcy judges six times. Prior to taking the bench, he practiced with the firm of Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson in New York City, specializing in securities and commercial litigation and, thereafter, bankruptcy litigation and counseling. He is an adjunct professor of law at Columbia Law School (where he teaches Columbia's Advanced Bankruptcy Seminar), a contributing author to *Collier on Bankruptcy*, and a Fellow in and director of the American College of Bankruptcy. Judge Gerber earned his B.S. with high honors in industrial engineering from Rutgers University in 1967 and his J.D. *magna cum laude* from Columbia Law School in 1970, where he was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar and a James Kent Scholar. He then served as a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force from 1971-72.

Eric W. Goering is partner with the law firm of Goering & Goering, LLC in Cincinnati and has more than 20 years of experience in bankruptcy law. His practice concentrates in business and consumer bankruptcy, including loan workouts and commercial loan restructuring for the large business client. He handles an average of 100 cases per month as trustee and debtor's counsel. Mr. Goering was appointed in 2003 as a chapter 7 trustee in the Southern District of Ohio. He is a past president of the Cincinnati Bar Association, a member of the Judicial Liaison Committee, Bankruptcy Local Rules Committee and Volunteer Lawyers, and an executive committee member of

ABI's Midwest Regional Bankruptcy Seminar. He is also a frequent lecturer throughout the country regarding chapter 7, 11 and 13 bankruptcy issues. Mr. Goering received his B.A. in economics from Denison University in 1989 and his J.D. from Salmon P. Chase College of Law in 1992.

Ronald E. Gold is a member of Frost Brown Todd LLC in Cincinnati, where he serves on the firm's Executive Committee. He concentrates his practice in finance and reorganization law, primarily in the area of bankruptcy and out-of-court workouts. Mr. Gold actively represents corporate debtors, borrowers, secured lenders, landlords, creditors' committees, court-appointed receivers and automotive customers in bankruptcy proceedings, restructurings and out-of-court workouts. He also represents purchasers of entire businesses or business segments both in and out of chapter 11 and regularly counsels equity funds in matters involving distressed real estate. Mr. Gold was inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy in 2010. In addition, he is listed in the Bankruptcy Section of the 2003-15 editions of *The Best Lawyers in America* and was named one of Ohio's leading bankruptcy and restructuring lawyers by *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* in the 2004-15 editions. He was also recognized in *Ohio Super Lawyers* from 2004-15 by *Law and Politics* magazine. Mr. Gold received his J.D. in 1989 from the University of Pittsburgh.

Hon. Arthur I. Harris is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Ohio in Cleveland, appointed in 2002, and serves on the Judicial Conference's Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules and the Board of Governors of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges. He also served as a judge on the Sixth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel from 2009-13. Following law school, Judge Harris clerked for Hon. John M. Manos, U.S. District Judge, in Cleveland, then served as an assistant U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Ohio's Civil Division for 18 years until his appointment to the bench. He also served as an adjunct at the Case Western Reserve University School of Law from 1991-93. Judge Harris received his B.A. from Cornell University in 1979 and his J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School in 1982, where he was a member of the *Michigan Law Review*.

Hon. John E. Hoffman, Jr. is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of Ohio in Columbus, appointed in 2000. Previously, he was a partner in the Columbus office of Arter & Hadden LLP, where he practiced primarily in the areas of bankruptcy and commercial litigation, focusing on the representation of chapter 11 debtors and creditors' committees. He joined Arter & Hadden in 1989 after completing a judicial clerkship with Hon. R. Guy Cole, Jr., formerly a bankruptcy judge and now Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. Judge Hoffman has been involved in several national and local organizations dedicated to improving the administration of the bankruptcy system and the practice of law in the bankruptcy courts. He is an active member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, having served on the NCBJ Education Committee in 2013, the Elections Committee from 2013-15 and the Board of Directors of the NCBJ's Endowment for Education from 2006-11, including as chair of the Endowment from 2007-09. In April 2016, Chief Justice Roberts reappointed Judge Hoffman to a second, three-year term on the Federal Judicial Center's Committee on Bankruptcy Judge Education. He is also a member of ABI and previously chaired the Columbus Bar Association's Bankruptcy Committee. Judge Hoffman teaches business bankruptcy as an adjunct professor of law at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law, where he sits on the law school's National Council. In 2015, the Moritz College of Law presented Judge Hoffman with the William K. Thomas Distinguished Jurist Award, which

recognizes personal integrity and commitment to fairness, freedom and equality. In 2016, he received the Excellence in Public Service Award from the Moritz College of Law's Public Interest Law Foundation. Judge Hoffman also has worked to make legal services available to those who cannot afford them, having served on the Board of Trustees for The Legal Aid Society of Columbus from 1995-2000. For his work, he received the Award for Outstanding Pro Bono Service by a Judge from the Columbus Bar Association and Columbus Bar Foundation in 2012, and in 2015 had the honor of being presented with the Ohio State Bar Association's John and Ginny Elam Pro Bono Award, which is given in recognition of "exceptional volunteer service by a lawyer that advances the common good of the people of Ohio." Judge Hoffman received his B.A. *summa cum laude* from Wheeling Jesuit University in 1980 and his J.D. *magna cum laude* from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law in 1983.

Jeffrey A. Hokanson is a commercial lawyer with Frost Brown Todd LLC in Cincinnati and has broad experience in matters involving all manner of contract formation and disputes. In this regard, he advises clients on a wide spectrum of issues related to their contractual relationships with suppliers, vendors and customers, including in particular secured transactions and other issues addressed by the Uniform Commercial Code. Mr. Hokanson's practice includes guiding and representing secured and unsecured lenders in the creation and enforcement of their loan documents and security instruments, and he has litigated commercial disputes in state and federal courts within Indiana. He is also experienced with disputes involving real estate, including enforcement of purchase agreements, easements and commercial landlord/tenant disputes. Mr. Hokanson has represented corporate debtors, creditor committees and trustees, landlords and tenants, and supplier-creditors in many of the major bankruptcy cases filed in Indiana, and in out-of-court workouts. He also has extensive experience representing individuals with significant direct-liability or guarantee obligations arising from corporate insolvency proceedings, and his work has included numerous asset-purchase and sale transactions involving insolvent sellers, as well as representing the interests of parties to the transaction or parties affected by those transactions. Mr. Hokanson is a volunteer attorney on the pro bono panel established by the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Indiana. He also recently completed the educational requirements to join the registry of civil mediators in Indiana and looks forward to helping commercial litigants explore their options for efficient and cost-effective resolution of their disputes. Mr. Hokanson graduated from the Indiana University Kelley School of Business and the Indiana University McKinney School of Law, and is admitted to practice before the state and federal courts in Indiana.

Timothy J. Hurley is a partner in Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP's Business Restructuring, Bankruptcy and Creditor Rights group in Cincinnati. He has chaired the group for more than 20 years and played a key role in starting the practice at Taft. He is also a member of the firm's Litigation group. For more than 35 years, Mr. Hurley has represented debtors, creditors, committees, indenture trustees, buyers, landlords, insurance companies and executors both in out-of-court workout agreements and restructurings and in chapter 11 cases throughout the U.S. These representations encompass all types of complex transactions and litigation involving financially distressed businesses and assets and include the negotiation and formulation of out-of-court restructuring arrangements and chapter 11 reorganization plans, the acquisition and sale of assets and claims, the prosecution and defense of preference and fraudulent-conveyance claims and motions related to stay relief, the formation and implementation of credit policies and procedures, and the structuring of loans and other financing arrangements involving debtor-in-possession financing, letters of credit, leasing and floor-planning.

Mr. Hurley frequently lectures on debt-restructuring, workouts and bankruptcy matters. His presentations have been broadcast nationally and carried on Court TV, and his articles have been featured in trade magazines and newspapers. He also serves on the executive committee of the Midwest Regional Bankruptcy Seminar. Mr. Hurley is AV-Peer-Review rated Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell and was named a *The Best Lawyers in America* 2016 “Lawyer of the Year” in the Litigation - Bankruptcy category. He was also the first, and currently the only, Cincinnati attorney to be included in *Woodward/White’s Best Lawyers* in Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law for more than 25 years, and is included in its Bet-the-Company Litigation, Commercial Litigation and Litigation-Bankruptcy categories. Mr. Hurley has been recognized in every edition of *Chambers USA: America’s Leading Business Lawyers*, and has been named one of Ohio’s Top 100 Lawyers five times and one of Cincinnati’s Top 50 Lawyers six times in the *Super Lawyers* edition of *Cincinnati Magazine*. He has also been listed in every *Leading Lawyer* edition of the magazine. Mr. Hurley received his H.A.B. *summa cum laude* in 1973 from Xavier University and his J.D. in 1976 from St. Louis University School of Law, where he was class valedictorian.

Prof. Melissa B. Jacoby is a professor at the University of North Carolina School of Law in Chapel Hill, N.C., where she studies and teaches bankruptcy and commercial law and participates in law reform activities in those areas. She is an elected member of the American Law Institute, the National Bankruptcy Conference and the American College of Bankruptcy, and has won UNC Law’s Byrd Award for Excellence and Creativity in Teaching and the Pro Bono Publico Faculty Member of the Year Award. Prof. Jacoby is a monthly contributor to the blog *Credit Slips* and closely followed the public portions of Detroit’s chapter 9 in real time: listened to all the court hearings, monitored the docket, and discussed the legal issues with the local and national press and via social media. She received both her B.A. and J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania, after which she clerked for Hon. Robert. E. Ginsberg and Hon. Marjorie O. Rendell.

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

Jeffrey M. Kellner has been the standing chapter 13 trustee in Dayton, Ohio, since January 2001. For 12 years, he was the staff attorney in the Office of the Chapter 13 Trustee in Worthington, Ohio. Mr. Kellner is a member of the Dayton Bar Association, American Bankruptcy Law Forum and the National Association of Chapter Thirteen Trustees. He graduated from Ohio State University in 1975 and Capital University Law School in 1985.

Monica Villarejos Kindt is the Assistant U.S. Trustee for Cincinnati, having joined the Trustee's Office in January 2009. She was previously a member of the Cincinnati law firm of Cohen, Todd, Kite & Stanford, LLC, where her practice focused on complex chapter 7 consumer bankruptcies and chapter 11 work. In addition, she served for four years as a chapter 7 panel trustee. Ms. Kindt has been named an "Ohio Rising Star" four times and was listed in *The Best Lawyers of America* for 2008. She is a graduate of Leadership Cincinnati, Class XXXI and is a standing member of the Cincinnati Judicial Liaison Committee, and the Local Bankruptcy Rules Committee.

Ralph W. Kohnen is a partner with Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP in Cincinnati and has prosecuted and defended criminal matters on behalf of the government and clients. He spent much of his career in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Ohio. Following four years of private practice, he worked as a federal prosecutor and spent the next 11 years as a front-line trial attorney in criminal cases. In 2001, he became deputy criminal chief in charge of the criminal side of the U.S. Attorney's Cincinnati office. Mr. Kohnen joined Taft in 2007 and devotes his time to advocating on behalf of businesses, executives, public officials and individuals involved in prosecutions and investigations. He is adept at navigating all phases of criminal matters, from investigations to trials and appeals, and related regulatory proceedings. He also routinely assists clients with reviews and audits, along with corporate compliance programs. Mr. Kohnen has received many professional awards and commendations from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Treasury Department and other entities, and is a frequent speaker on white collar criminal law. He has been recognized as *Cincinnati Magazine* "Leading Lawyer" since 2008, has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* since 2012, and was named a 2016 *Best Lawyers* "Lawyer of the Year" for Cincinnati Criminal Defense: White Collar. In addition, he was recognized in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* and was selected by *Ohio Super Lawyers* as a "Top 50 Cincinnati Super Lawyer 2016." Mr. Kohnen received his undergraduate degree in 1983 from Ohio Wesleyan University and his J.D. in 1986 from the University of Cincinnati College of Law.

Stephen D. Lerner is global chair of Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP's Restructuring & Insolvency Practice Group in Cincinnati and New York. He has an extensive national and cross-border restructuring practice and represents debtors, unsecured creditors' committees, secured and unsecured creditors, directors and acquirers of troubled businesses in chapter 11 cases, chapter 9 municipal restructurings, chapter 15 cases and out-of-court restructurings throughout the U.S. Mr. Lerner has led the representation of clients in the chapter 11 bankruptcies of Midway Gold, Veris Gold, Atna Resources, Patriot Coal, AmFin Financial, Station Casinos, Chrysler, Enron, WorldCom and EaglePicher, among others. He also represented the court-appointed expert in the City of Detroit's historic chapter 9 case and led Squire Sanders's representation of the American College of Bankruptcy in filing an amicus brief with the U.S. Supreme Court in *Executive Benefits Insurance Agency v. Peter H. Arkison, Trustee of the Estate of Bellingham Insurance Agency, Inc.* Mr. Lerner is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy, for which he has served as regent for the Sixth Circuit and

currently serves as a member of its board of directors and chair of its Strategic Planning Committee. He also chairs ABI's Midwest Regional Bankruptcy Seminar. Mr. Lerner has received recognition in *The Best Lawyers in America* and since 2004 and has been listed among the best Ohio bankruptcy and restructuring lawyers in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*. He has also been a guest lecturer at Harvard Business School, the University of Michigan Law School and the University of Cincinnati Law School. Mr. Lerner received his B.A. in 1982, his M.A. in 1982 and his J.D. in 1985 from the University of Pennsylvania.

Sharon L. Levine is a partner with Lowenstein Sandler LLP in Roseland, N.J., and vice chair of its Bankruptcy, Financial Reorganization & Creditors' Rights Department, where she focuses on restructuring, debtor/creditor law and bankruptcy litigation. She represents purchasers, debtors, creditors' committees, unsecured creditors, individual creditors, secured creditors and equity-holders. A frequent lecturer on various bankruptcy topics, Ms. Levine is a former co-chair of ABI's Unsecured Trade Creditors Committee, and served as a member of the Board of Trustees and the Women's Committee for the Turnaround Management Association. She also co-chaired the Labor and Benefits Issues Advisory Committee of ABI's Commission to Study the Reform of Chapter 11. Ms. Levine's notable assignments have been the representation of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees in Detroit's chapter 9 bankruptcy, serving as bankruptcy trial counsel to the Transport Workers Union of America and AFL-CIO in the chapter 11 cases of AMR, American Airlines and American Eagle, and the representation of committee members in *MF Global*, *Lyondell*, *AMR*, *American Airlines*, *American Eagle*, *Hawker Beechcraft*, *Hostess*, *Estes* and *Bigler LP*. Ms. Levine has also been recognized in *Chambers USA* since 2008, in *The Best Lawyers in America* since 2012, and in *New Jersey Super Lawyers* from 2005-14. She also received the 2014 Woman of the Year award from the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation's New Jersey chapter, as well as the New York Institute of Credit - Executive of the Year Award in 2016. Ms. Levine received her B.A. from Franklin & Marshall College and her J.D. from Case Western Reserve University School of Law, where she was an associate editor of the *Case Western Reserve University Law Review*.

William B. Logan, Jr. is a shareholder with Luper Neidenthal & Logan in Columbus, Ohio, where he focuses his practice on bankruptcy and reorganization, business and creditors' rights. He has also been a member of Panel of Chapter 7 Bankruptcy Trustees since Oct. 1, 1979, the effective date of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. Mr. Logan is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification and has been listed in *The Best Attorneys in America* for bankruptcy law since 1989. He is a former chairman of the Bankruptcy Committee of the Columbus Bar Association (1984-86) and a member of the advisory board of ABI's Midwest Regional Bankruptcy Seminar. Mr. Logan received his undergraduate degree *cum laude* in 1968 in economics from Princeton University and his J.D. *cum laude* in 1974 from The Ohio State University College of Law.

Toby D. Merchant is a partner with Squire Patton Boggs in Cincinnati, where he counsels public and privately held companies and focuses his practice on business and finance transactions including mergers and acquisitions, 363 transactions, securities offerings, debt financings, private-equity investment, general corporate-governance matters, and anti-takeover and shareholder-relations matters. He is a corporate and securities lawyer and member of Squire Patton Boggs' global Corporate and Financial Services practice groups. Mr. Merchant regularly advises public and private

companies, specialty finance companies and other financial institutions in both domestic and cross-border mergers, acquisitions and divestitures. He also counsels a variety of private-equity funds and closely held businesses with respect to various investment opportunities and related transactions. In the area of securities law, he regularly counsels public companies with respect to public and private offerings, corporate governance, federal and state securities laws and stock exchange rules compliance, and serves as the primary outside securities, compliance and corporate governance counsel to several publicly held companies. Mr. Merchant was selected for inclusion in *Ohio Super Lawyers* "Rising Stars." He received his B.S. in 2001 from Cornell University and his J.D. *cum laude* in 2004 from Case Western Reserve University, where he was an executive articles editor for the *Case Western Reserve Journal of International Law*.

Jackie Mulligan is the North America credit operations manager and global process owner of Credit Operations for the Procter & Gamble Co. in Cincinnati. She is responsible for the company's North America accounts receivable and is the global resource for credit for the company worldwide. Ms. Mulligan joined Procter & Gamble in 1991 and is a member of the board of the National Food & HBC Manufacturers Credit Group and chairman of its Trade Relations Committee. She is also a chairman of the board of the North American Retailers Credit Group, a member of the board of the Credit Research Foundation, and a member of the National Consumer Products Credit Group, National Merchandising Credit Group and the National Association of Credit Management. Ms. Mulligan received her B.S. in business education in 1991 from Indiana State University.

Richard D. Nelson is a member of Cohen, Todd, Kite & Stanford, LLC in Cincinnati, where his practice is concentrated in the areas of business reorganization, financial workouts, bankruptcy, and general business and corporate matters. He has been involved in a broad spectrum of financial and bankruptcy-related cases and litigation matters, and has appeared in numerous federal and state courts. He also represents a number of businesses and banks on general corporate matters. Mr. Nelson has been a chapter 7 panel trustee in the Southern District of Ohio since 1990 and has extensive experience in representation of debtors, creditors and creditors' committees in chapter 11 cases and in out-of-court workouts. In addition to his services as a chapter 7 trustee, he has served as a chapter 11 trustee and as a trustee and receiver in state court and district court proceedings. Mr. Nelson is currently a board member of the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees (NABT), chairman of the NABT Ethics and Professionalism Committee, and NABT liaison to and a member of the American Bankers Association. He was listed in *Ohio Super Lawyers* from 2006-14 and is a frequent speaker at a number of seminars on bankruptcy and reorganization topics. Mr. Nelson received his B.A. from Miami University of Ohio in 1971 and his J.D. in 1974 from the University of Cincinnati College of Law.

Frank M. Pees is both the standing chapter 13 trustee and the standing chapter 12 trustee for the Southern District of Ohio, Eastern Division in Worthington and has been a member of the National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees since its inception. He has served as past president, sat on its board of directors and served as a member-at-large for 32 years. Mr. Pees has also been a member of its Liaison and By Laws Committees and has served as chairman of the Credit Rehabilitation and Credit Reporting Committee. As a charter member of the Trustees' Education Network (TEN), Mr. Pees has devoted much of his career to debtor education. He has served as president of TEN since 2008. Mr. Pees has frequently been a presenter and panelist for national, regional and local

bankruptcy seminars and conferences, and is a founding member of the Credit Education Coalition and the Creditor Dial-In-System. Mr. Pees received both his B.S. and M.S. from The Ohio State University College of Education.

John B. Pidcock is a managing director with Conway MacKenzie, Inc. in Dayton, Ohio, and provides turnaround management services to companies in a variety of industries in crisis situations. He has particular expertise in performing post-confirmation debtor work and creditor committee representation. Mr. Pidcock has more than 10 years of experience in the restructuring industry and has provided a full range of crisis-management services to underperforming companies and their constituencies, including interim management and debtor advisory, bankruptcy preparation and management, post-merger integration, debt restructuring and refinancing, and post-confirmation creditor advisory. Previously, he was a director at Bridge Associates LLC for seven years and a manager at Deloitte Consulting for three years. Some of Mr. Pidcock's recent experience includes, among others, providing financial advisory services to the unsecured creditors' committee of Tarpon Industries and Marcal Paper, and managing the post-confirmation winddown of Polaroid Corp. He has also provided financial advisory services to other parties such as United Airlines, Roberd's Inc., InaCom Corp. and Spartan Mills, as well as a large health care provider. Mr. Pidcock is member of ABI and served on the advisory board for its New York City Bankruptcy Conference and has participated in panel discussions on various topics. He is also a member of the Turnaround Management Association. Mr. Pidcock received his B.S. from Miami University of Ohio and his M.B.A. from Indiana University.

Raymond J. Pikna, Jr. is an attorney with the Cincinnati law firm of Wood & Lamping LLP, where he practices in the areas of bankruptcy, creditors' rights, and commercial litigation. He has more than 35 years of legal experience and began his career as a law clerk for Hon. D.J. Kelleher, Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of Ohio, when the Bankruptcy Code first became effective. Mr. Pikna represents clients in state and federal trial and appellate courts in commercial litigation and in all aspects of bankruptcy cases and adversary proceedings, and has also served as special counsel to the Ohio Attorney General since 2005, representing the interests of the State of Ohio in consumer and commercial collections. He has authored several articles and is a frequent speaker on bankruptcy topics at CLE programs throughout Ohio. Mr. Pikna formerly served on the Advisory Committee for the Local Bankruptcy Rules for the Southern District of Ohio, as a director and as legal counsel for the University of Notre Dame Monogram Club, as trustee for the Thomas F. Waldron American Bankruptcy Law Forum, as chair of the Bankruptcy Committee for the Dayton Bar Association, as chair of the Bankruptcy Committee for the Cincinnati Bar Association, and as chair of the Bankruptcy Judicial Liaison Committee of the Bankruptcy Committee for the Cincinnati Bar Association. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Notre Dame and his J.D. from Case Western Reserve University School of Law.

Amy Alcoke Quackenboss is the deputy executive director and general counsel of the American Bankruptcy Institute in Alexandria, Va. Prior to joining ABI, she practiced law at Hunton & Williams LLP, where she focused her practice on bankruptcy litigation and restructuring. Ms. Quackenboss has significant experience representing lenders, secured and unsecured creditors, indenture trustees, creditors' committees, and acquirers of assets in chapter 11 bankruptcies. In 2002, she was honored with the H. Sol Clark award by the State Bar of Georgia for her commitment to pro

bono work. Ms. Quackenboss received her B.A. from Miami University of Ohio and her J.D. from Washington & Lee School of Law, and upon graduation clerked for a U.S. magistrate judge in the Southern District of West Virginia.

Donald J. Rafferty is a member of Cohen, Todd, Kite & Stanford, LLC in Cincinnati and combines his experience in the areas of bankruptcy, commercial finance, corporate law and litigation to provide legal and strategic advice to the firm's business clients on a wide range of issues. He frequently counsels clients who either are experiencing financial stress or are dealing with distressed companies. Mr. Rafferty has advised on sales, acquisitions and restructurings for numerous middle-market companies. He has significant experience in transactions, dispute resolution and restructuring matters involving troubled real estate developments, shopping centers, commercial office projects, apartment and condominium developments, operating businesses and manufacturing concerns. Mr. Rafferty has represented all constituencies — debtors, lenders, creditors, creditors' committees and others — in chapter 11 cases, out-of-court restructurings, UCC Article 9 sales and other similar mechanisms. He has also acted as lead trial counsel in a broad spectrum of business disputes in federal and state trial and appellate courts. His litigation experience includes the prosecution and defense of numerous fraud or fraudulent transfer cases, bankruptcy preference actions, complex contract cases, class actions, complex commercial foreclosures including disputes involving special servicers and nonrecourse CMBS loans, and intellectual property matters, including prosecution of patent and copyright infringement lawsuits. He has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* and *Ohio Super Lawyers* since 2006. Mr. Rafferty received his B.A. in 1984 from Kalamazoo College and his J.D. in 1989 from the University of Cincinnati College of Law, where he was a student articles editor for the *University of Cincinnati Law Review*.

John W. Rose has been with The Rose Law Office in Cincinnati since 1982 and has focused exclusively on representing debtors in consumer bankruptcy proceedings since 1986. He has been a member of the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys (NACBA) since it was formed in 1992. He has also served as a chair for the Cincinnati Bar Association's Bankruptcy Committee and as a board member of the Cincinnati Consumer Credit Counseling Service. Mr. Rose is currently on the advisory board of ABI's Midwest Regional Bankruptcy Seminar and is frequently asked to serve as a speaker at various other seminars. He received his B.A. in 1978 from Miami University of Ohio and his J.D. in 1982 from the University of Toledo College of Law.

Robert G. Sanker is a partner at Keating Muething & Klekamp PLL in Cincinnati and is the head of the firm's Commercial Finance and Reorganization Practice Group. He also serves on the firm's board of directors. Mr. Sanker focuses his practice in the areas of bankruptcy, reorganization and creditors' rights. He also acts as general counsel for a number of closely held companies. Mr. Sanker has extensive experience in representing debtors, creditors, creditors' committees, lenders, investors and purchasers in chapter 11 cases and in out-of-court restructurings. He has been listed in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Business Lawyers* since 2004 and in *The Best Lawyers in America* since 2007. Mr. Sanker received his B.A. *magna cum laude* in 1984 from Xavier University and his J.D. in 1987 from Georgetown University Law Center.

Hon. Gregory R. Schaaf is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Kentucky in Lexington, appointed on Oct. 1, 2012. Prior to coming to the bench, he practiced in the areas of

commercial reorganizations, including bankruptcies and workouts, and commercial transactions, including energy-related matters. He represented debtors, creditors' committees, trustees and individual creditors. Judge Schaaf is a CPA and worked as a solicitor in London from 1997-99, handling corporate matters and real estate transactions for English, Russian and American clients. He is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law and Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. Judge Schaaf received his B.B. in accounting and his B.S. in law enforcement administration from Western Illinois University in 1984 with high honors, and his J.D. in 1991 from the University of Kentucky College of Law, where he was a member of the Order of the Coif and participated in its national moot court team and on its moot court board, as well as on the school's *Journal of Mineral Law and Policy*.

John A. Schuh is an attorney with Schuh & Goldberg LLP in Cincinnati and has 35 years of experience representing creditors, debtors and trustees. His practice focuses on bankruptcy, creditors' rights, business reorganizations and workouts, business law and real estate foreclosures. Mr. Schuh is a member of the Local Bankruptcy Rules Standing Committee of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Ohio and is a member of its CM/ECF (electronic case filing) subcommittee. He was appointed a special master by the district judges of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, Western Division, to serve as a special master in real estate foreclosures filed in federal court. He is also a lifetime member of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum. Mr. Schuh is admitted to the Bars of Ohio and Kentucky and is admitted to practice before the U.S. District Courts for the Southern District of Ohio, Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky, Central District of Illinois and the Southern District of Indiana, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and the U.S. Supreme Court. He is a member of the Ohio State, Kentucky and Cincinnati Bar Associations, as well as ABI. Mr. Schuh received his B.B.A. in 1973 from Ohio University and his J.D. from Salmon P. Chase College of Law in 1977.

Hon. Allan C. Stout is a U. S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Kentucky in Louisville, appointed on Oct. 25, 2011. He presided over the City of Hillview case, which was the first municipal chapter 9 bankruptcy case filed since the City of Detroit case in 2013. Judge Stout holds court in Louisville and Owensboro. Previously, he was a practicing bankruptcy attorney in both Paducah and Marion, Ky., for 30 years, and served as a chapter 7 panel trustee for 25 years. Before assuming the bench, Judge Stout served as Crittenden County attorney for 21 years and as Master Commissioner of Crittenden Circuit Court for five years. He was admitted to practice law in Kentucky in 1981 and in Illinois in 1998. Judge Stout has served as president and on the board of directors of the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees (NABT). He also previously served as Chairman of the Board of Regents of Murray State University and on the board of directors of Farmers Bank and Trust Company in Marion, Ky. While in private practice, he achieved an AV-Preeminent rating by Martindale-Hubbell. Judge Stout received his B.S. in 1978 from Murray State University and his J.D. in 1981 from Salmon P. Chase College of Law at Northern Kentucky University.

Phyllis A. Ulrich is a shareholder and principal with Carlisle, McNellie, Rini, Kramer & Ulrich Co., L.P.A. in Cleveland, where she focuses her practice on real estate, creditors' rights and creditor representation in bankruptcy. She has lectured on bankruptcy, real estate and title issues for the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, Akron Bar Association, Cincinnati Bar Association, Credit Education Coalition, National Business Institute, Ohio State Bar Association, Columbus

Bar Association, The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland and the Stark County Bar Association. Ms. Ulrich is a member of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association and chaired its Bankruptcy and Commercial Law Section from 2012-13, and was a member of the board of trustees of its Women in Law Section from 2012-15. She is also a member of ABI, the National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees and the International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation. Ms. Ulrich received her B.A. *magna cum laude* in 1988 and her J.D. in 1991 from The University of Akron.

Hon. Lawrence S. Walter is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of Ohio in Cincinnati, appointed in 2003. Previously, he was a partner with the law firm of Sebaly, Shillito & Dyer in Dayton, Ohio, and headed the firm's bankruptcy and commercial law group. His primary practice was in chapter 11 reorganization cases representing both creditors and debtors. Judge Walter is a member of ABI, the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges and the American Bankruptcy Law Forum and is nationally certified by the American Board of Certification as a business bankruptcy specialist. He has been actively involved with local and national groups devoted to enhancing technological services for the federal judiciary and has continued to teach and write about bankruptcy issues for a variety of organizations. Judge Walter is a contributing editor to *Norton Bankruptcy Law and Practice, 3rd Ed.* (2008-13 Vols.), chair of the Technology Committee of and webmaster for the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, a member of the Information Technology Advisory Council of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, a member of the Steering Committee of Next Generation of Bankruptcy CM/ECF, a faculty member of the Advanced Consumer Bankruptcy Practice Institute and a member of the Local Bankruptcy Rules Committee for the Southern District of Ohio. He received his bachelor's degree with honors from the University of Kansas in 1972, his master's degree from the University of Michigan in 1973 and his J.D. from the University of Cincinnati in 1986.

Hon. Eugene R. Wedoff served as a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Illinois in Chicago) from 1987-2015 and as chief judge from 2002-07. He presided over the chapter 11 reorganization of United Air Lines. Judge Wedoff was a member of the Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules from 2004-14 and served as its chair after 2010. He was the president of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges in 2013 and 2014 and also served as a member of the NCBJ's Board of Governors, as its secretary, and as chair of its education committee. Judge Wedoff is ABI's President-Elect and a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, as well as a member of the National Bankruptcy Conference. He is the author of the chapter on professional employment in Queenan, Hendel and Hillinger, *Chapter 11 Theory and Practice* (LRP Publications 1994) and has been an associate editor of the *American Bankruptcy Law Journal*. Judge Wedoff is a frequent lecturer and has served as a member of the Federal Judicial Center's Committee on Bankruptcy Judge Education. In 2009, he received the Lawrence P. King Award from the Commercial Law League, and in 1995, he received the Excellence in Education Award from the NCBJ. Judge Wedoff graduated from the college and law school of the University of Chicago.

Hon. John A. West is a judge with the Hamilton County Common Pleas Court in Cincinnati. He practiced law for 24 years before being appointed to the bench of the Hamilton County Municipal Court in 1996. In 2001, he joined the Hamilton County Common Pleas Court General Division. Judge West is a former member of the executive committee and board of trustees for the Cincinnati Bar Association, as well as a former board member of the Ohio Common Pleas Judges Association.

He is also co-chair of the BLAC-CBA Roundtable and a founding member of the Black Lawyers Association of Cincinnati (BLAC). He currently chairs the Community Advisory Council. Judge West received his undergraduate degree from the University of Cincinnati and his J.D. from the Salmon P. Chase College of Law.

Deborah D. Williamson is a member of Dykema Cox Smith in San Antonio and has practiced insolvency and restructuring law for over 30 years. She is regularly called on by clients in a variety of industries for her bankruptcy experience and advice regarding counterparty risk. She also serves as one of the 19 members of ABI's Commission to Study the Reform of Chapter 11. In 2011, Ms. Williamson received ABI's Lifetime Achievement Award. She travels frequently around Texas, the U.S. and the world to address colleagues and clients regarding bankruptcy issues, and has been involved in representing parties in oil and gas restructurings and bankruptcies for more than 30 years. Ms. Williamson co-authored *When Gushers Go Dry: The Essentials of Oil and Gas Bankruptcy* (ABI 2012) and *Bankruptcy Litigation Manual: What Civil Litigators Need to Know* (ABI 2007). She is recognized as a leader in her field by *Chambers USA* and has been selected by *Texas Super Lawyers* as one of the "Top 100 Lawyers," one of the "Top 50 Women Lawyers in Texas" and one of the "Top 50 Lawyers in Central Texas" since the honor's inception. Named one of *The Best Lawyers in America* for over two decades, she was recently included for a second time in *Texas Lawyer's Go-To Guide* (published every five years) as one of the top five bankruptcy attorneys in the state of Texas. Ms. Williamson co-chaired the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Litigation Committee of the Litigation Section of the American Bar Association. Previously, she served as managing director of Cox Smith prior to its merger with Dykema, and was responsible for the firm's business and client service strategies. She is currently a member of Dykema's executive board. Ms. Williamson is admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Fifth and Second Circuits, and the U.S. District Courts for the Northern, Southern, Western and Eastern Districts of Texas. She is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by both the Texas Board of Legal Specialization and the American Board of Certification. Ms. Williamson received her B.A. in political science with honors from the University of Texas, El Paso and her J.D. *cum laude* from the University of Houston Law Center.