

Faculty Biographies

Hon. Karen Arnold-Burger is a U.S. Court of Appeals Judge with the Kansas Court of Appeals in Topeka, sworn in in February 2011 after serving 20 years as the presiding judge of the Overland Park Municipal Court. She previously served as first assistant city attorney for Overland Park, Kan., and as assistant U.S. attorney for the District of Kansas. Judge Arnold-Burger taught for 15 years at the National Judicial College in Reno, Nev., where she was elected by her fellow faculty members to its Faculty Council. She has presented judicial educational programs around the country on topics as diverse as traffic law, racial profiling and disproportionate minority confinement, collateral consequences of criminal convictions including immigration consequences, and legal issues related to jury selection and deliberation. In 2015, she received the American Bar Association's Burnham "Hod" Greeley Award "in honor of her significant positive impact on public understanding of the role of the judiciary in a democratic society and its importance to the rule of law." She currently serves on the ABA Judicial Division Taskforce on Implicit Bias. In 2016, the Kansas Bar Association honored her with its highest award, the Distinguished Service Award, for exemplary service to the legal profession. Judge Arnold-Burger received both her undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Kansas.

Theodore O. Bartholow, III is an attorney with Kellet & Bartholow PLLC in Dallas, where he focuses on representing consumer debtors in individual and class action litigation in bankruptcy court and in federal district court. In particular, his practice focuses on vindicating debtors' rights against secured creditors, especially mortgage servicers, and he has obtained several favorable published opinions in connection with these efforts. In 2016, Mr. Bartholow received the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys' (NACBA) "Distinguished Service Award" in recognition of his efforts and achievements litigating on behalf of consumer debtors in bankruptcy. He is also a frequent speaker on consumer litigation and consumer bankruptcy issues at local, regional and national conferences and workshops, including at the Great Debates at ABI's Winter Leadership Conference in December 2015. Mr. Bartholow has also been honored to serve as NACBA's representative (on behalf of consumer debtors) at the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges' Rules Committee's "Mortgage Mini-Conference" regarding the development and implementation of Rule 3002.1 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure in 2012. Professional associations in which he is an active member include the National Association of Consumer Attorneys, the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys (currently serving as state chair for the Northern District of Texas), the Bankruptcy and Commercial Law Section of the State Bar of Texas and the Dallas Bar Association, as well as the Dallas Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys' Association. Mr. Bartholow is licensed to practice in Texas and in New York. He received his undergraduate degree in philosophy from the University of Texas in 1998 and his J.D. in 2002 from the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in New York, where he was executive editor of the *Cardozo Journal of International and Comparative Law*.

Lisa G. Beckerman is a partner with Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP in New York, where her practice focuses on representing debtors, informal groups of creditors and official creditors' committees in chapter 11 cases and out-of-court restructurings in a variety of areas, including manufacturing, airlines, media, retail, energy and real estate. Some of her recent representations include Walter Energy, Inc., Chassiz Holdings, Inc., YRC Worldwide, Metro Affiliates, Inc., Journal Register Co., Pinnacle Airlines Corp., Nortel Networks Inc., WCI Communities, Inc., Delta Air Lines and Bear Stearns. Ms. Beckerman has been recognized by *Chambers USA* from 2005-15 and was in the *Practical Law Company's* list of top bankruptcy attorneys in the U.S. She was also recognized in *Who's Who Legal for Insolvency & Restructuring* in 2014-16. Ms. Beckerman serves on ABI's Board of Directors and is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy. She also serves on the Dean's Advisory Board for

Boston University School of Law. Ms. Beckerman is admitted to practice in the District of Columbia, New Jersey and New York, and before the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern and Southern Districts of New York and the District of New Jersey. She received her B.A. with honors from the University of Chicago in 1984, her M.B.A. from the University of Texas at Austin in 1986 and her J.D. from Boston University School of Law in 1989.

Alane A. Becket is a managing partner at Malvern, Pa.-based Becket & Lee LLP, a Women's Business Enterprise, as certified by the Women's Business Enterprise National Council, that provides comprehensive nationwide representation of creditors in bankruptcy matters. She is also ABI's Vice President-Publications. AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell, Ms. Becket specializes in litigation strategy, and has been lead or co-counsel in some of the most successful and influential decisions in consumer bankruptcy over the last 10 years. She is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and has represented creditors and debt purchasers in commercial and bankruptcy matters and Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA) defense. She is a member of the National Association of Retail Collection Attorneys (NARCA), the National Association of Chapter Thirteen Trustees (NACTT) and the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees (NABT). Ms. Becket served on the editorial board of ABI's Consumer Bankruptcy website and is a past co-chair of ABI's Consumer Bankruptcy Committee. A frequent lecturer, she also co-authored *Consumer Bankruptcy: Fundamentals of Chapter 7 and Chapter 13, Third Edition* (ABI, 2011) and edited the 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2015 editions of the book series *Best of ABI: The Year in Consumer Bankruptcy*. Ms. Becket graduated from Pennsylvania State University and received her J.D. from Widener University School of Law.

Hon. Duane Benton is a U.S. Court of Appeals Judge for the Eighth Circuit in Kansas City, Mo., sworn in on July 8, 2004. He previously served on the Missouri Supreme Court for 13 years (including two years as Chief Justice). Following law school, Judge Benton served as a Navy JAG and is the first and only U.S. Circuit Judge who is a Certified Public Accountant. After six years in private practice, he served three years as Missouri's Director of Revenue. Judge Benton has taught as an adjunct professor at Westminster College, and the law schools of the University of Missouri, Brooklyn, Pepperdine, St. Louis University and Vanderbilt University. He graduated from Northwestern University with highest honors, received his M.B.A. in accountancy from Memphis State University and received his J.D. from Yale Law School, where he was managing editor of the *Yale Law Journal*.

Hon. Robert D. Berger was appointed as a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Kansas in Kansas City in October 2003. Prior to his appointment, Judge Berger practiced law as a bankruptcy and insolvency specialist representing debtors and creditors, and was among the first group of attorneys in Kansas and Missouri to be certified by the American Board of Certification in both consumer and business bankruptcy law. Judge Berger is a member of ABI and the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, and a founding member of the Kansas Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. He has written numerous articles on bankruptcy issues, including chapter 13 tax matters, and is a contributing author to the Kansas Bar Association's *Journal* and *Bankruptcy Handbook* and to *Collier on Bankruptcy*. He is also co-editor of the Kansas Bar Association's *Family Law Handbook* chapter on bankruptcy, has been a contributor to the *Washburn Law Journal*, and has also served as a frequent lecturer on bankruptcy, insolvency and related tax issues. Judge Berger received his B.A. from the University of Kansas in 1983 and his J.D. from Washburn University School of Law in 1986.

Michael L. Bernstein is a partner in the Washington, D.C., office of Arnold & Porter LLP and chairs its national bankruptcy and corporate restructuring practice. He represents secured and unsecured creditors, committees, bondholders, investors, asset-purchasers, debtors and other parties in a wide variety of bankruptcy and corporate-restructuring matters and in related litigation throughout the United States. Mr. Bernstein is a co-author of ABI's *Bankruptcy in Practice*, now in its Fifth Edition, and *Chapter 11-101: The Nuts and Bolts of Chapter 11 Practice CD-Rom*. A Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, he has written numerous articles, lectured on bankruptcy law topics and been interviewed by major newspapers and on television and radio. He has also testified before Congress as an independent expert on the status of collective bargaining agreements and retiree and pension benefits in bankruptcy. Mr. Bernstein has been recognized as a leading bankruptcy lawyer by numerous publications, including *The Best Lawyers in America*, *Chambers USA: America's Leading Business Lawyers*, *The Legal 500 US: Corporate and Finance*, *Guide to the World's Leading Insolvency and Restructuring Lawyers*, *Washington D.C. Super Lawyers*, *Washingtonian Magazine* and *Lawdragon 3000 Leading Lawyers in America*. He received his A.B. from Brandeis University and his J.D. from Northwestern School of Law.

Prof. Andrea J. Boyack is a professor at Washburn University School of Law and co-director of the school's Business and Transactional Law Center. She teaches debtor/creditor relations (bankruptcy), property, real estate transactions, landlord/tenant law, contracts and other courses relating to real estate, transactions and finance. Prof. Boyack has written extensively in the areas of consumer financial protection and housing finance, law and policy. Prior to joining the faculty of Washburn Law, she was a visiting professor in at Fordham University School of Law and George Washington University School of Law. Before she entered academia, Prof. Boyack practiced commercial real estate and finance law for 13 years in New York City and the Washington, D.C., area with several large law firms and as regional counsel to a publicly traded national real estate developer. In practice, she dealt with a broad range of issues relating to finance and real estate development, including asset-backed financing and securitization, common interest community governance, commercial leasing and residential development. Prof. Boyack received her B.A. with honors in Russian and International Relations from Brigham Young University, her M.A.L.D. from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University and her J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law.

Daniel J. Casamatta is the Acting U.S. Trustee for Region 13 in Kansas City, Mo., which includes the judicial districts in Arkansas, Missouri and Nebraska. He was sworn in on Jan. 1, 2015. Mr. Casamatta has served as the Assistant U.S. Trustee in the Kansas City, Missouri office of the U.S. Trustee Program (USTP) since 2008. Prior to that appointment, he served as Assistant U.S. Trustee in Grand Rapids, Mich., for 18 years, was an attorney advisor in the Cleveland USTP office for three years, and for periods of time was also the Acting Assistant U.S. Trustee in Indianapolis and the Acting Chief of the USTP's National Bankruptcy Training Institute, located in the Department of Justice's National Advocacy Center in Columbia, S.C. Mr. Casamatta regularly speaks at the National Advocacy Center on a variety of topics and was the recipient of USTP's Director's Award for Exemplary Service (the USTP's second-highest award) in 2002. Before joining the USTP, he spent five years in private practice in Cleveland with an emphasis on bankruptcy and commercial litigation. Mr. Casamatta received his J.D. in 1982 from Case Western University School of Law.

Rudy J. Cerone is a member of McGlinchey Stafford PLLC in New Orleans and a former chair and president of the American Board of Certification. A frequent lecturer on both business and complex consumer bankruptcy issues for more than 20 years, he also served as on ABI's Executive Committee as Secretary, co-chaired ABI's Bankruptcy Litigation Committee from 2005-06 and chaired its Hospitality, Entertainment Venues and Gaming Subcommittee from 2001-05. He was also a member of ABI's Southwest Bankruptcy Conference Advisory Board from 2003-11. Mr. Cerone chaired the State Bar of California's Board of Legal Specialization from 2002-04 and is a member of the State Bar of California, the Louisiana State Bar Association, and the Federal Fifth Circuit and American Bar Associations. He is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification (1993) and by the Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization (1997), and is also a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy. Mr. Cerone received his B.A. *summa cum laude* from the University of California at San Diego and his J.D. *cum laude* from Boston College Law School, where he was a member of the Order of the Coif and received a "Best Law Review Editor" award as executive editor of the *Boston College International & Comparative Law Review*.

Hon. Thad J. Collins is the Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Iowa in Cedar Rapids, appointed on March 29, 2010. Previously, he clerked for Hon. Michael J. Melloy as Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Iowa and as Chief U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Iowa, and for Hon. David R. Hansen, U.S. Eighth Circuit Court Judge. He was also an associate with Leonard, Street and Deinard in Minneapolis and a partner with Pickens, Barnes & Abernathy in Cedar Rapids. Judge Collins is a member of the American, Iowa and Linn County Bar Associations, as well as the Dean Mason Ladd Inn of Court. He received his J.D. from the University of Iowa College of Law in 1990.

John J. Cruciani, CPA is a partner with the Kansas City, Mo., office of Husch Blackwell LLP, where he practices in the areas of bankruptcy, insolvency, creditors' rights and commercial litigation. He is a member of the firm's Technology, Manufacturing & Transportation group and the leader of its Insolvency & Commercial Bankruptcy team. Mr. Cruciani is licensed in Kansas and Missouri and is a member of the Missouri, Kansas, Johnson County, Kansas City Bankruptcy and Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Associations, as well as ABI. He is Board Certified in Business and Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification (ABC) and previously served on the ABC's Board of Directors. Mr. Cruciani was a contributing author for the bankruptcy treatise *Small Business Bankruptcy Reorganization* (John Wiley & Sons, Inc. 1994) and has published articles on bankruptcy matters for various publications. He has been a speaker for programs for the KBA, the KCMBA, the KCBBA and other organizations in the areas of bankruptcy and insolvency, and he is the past chair of the KCMBA's Commercial and Bankruptcy Law Committee. Mr. Cruciani has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law since 2009 and was named the 2014 Lawyer of the Year in Kansas City for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law. He has also been listed in the *Kansas City Business Journal's* Best of the Bar and in *Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers* for Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights. Mr. Cruciani received his J.D. in 1994 from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law.

Daniel F. Dooley, CTP is a principal and CEO at Morris Anderson in Chicago, where he is an operational, financial and transactional specialist. He has successfully managed projects and assumed

such in-terim management positions as CRO, CEO, COO and CFO for publicly and privately owned companies in the manufacturing, distribution and service sectors. Mr. Dooley has negotiated numerous transactions involving sales, refinancing and recapitalization of companies. He also has experience in the development and implementation of cost-reduction and restructuring plans, as well as lender and key-supplier restructuring negotiations. He educates company ownership and management on realistic business plans, implementation of cost and liquidity improvements and effective end-game strategies for clients. Mr. Dooley collaborates effectively with management on issues related to turnaround/restructuring plans and business sales. Prior to joining Morris Anderson in 1997, he served as an executive with several Fortune 500 manufacturers in both general-management and financial-management capacities, including Illinois Tool Works, an industrial manufacturer, and Allied Signal, an automotive electronics and aerospace manufacturer. In 2011, Mr. Dooley was honored with the Turnaround Management Association's "Turnaround of the Year - Small Company" award for Analytics, Inc., an independent research laboratory in St. Louis, Mo. He has also served on boards of directors and been a key advisor to corporations and nonprofit organizations. Mr. Dooley is a Certified Turnaround Professional (CTP), a former board member and vice president of the International Turnaround Management Association, and a contributing author to *The Chief Restructuring Officer's Guide to Bankruptcy: Views from Leading Insolvency Professionals* (ABI 2013). He received his B.B.A. and M.B.A. in finance at the Carlson School of Management from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis.

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

Scott A. Eisenberg, CPA is a partner and co-founder of Amherst Partners in Birmingham, Mich., and has more than 25 years of experience structuring and negotiating transactions and advising companies on financial matters. His experience includes merger-and-acquisition transactions, restructuring and turnaround engagements, and a wide variety of management advisory services. He has acted as CRO, court-appointed receiver and trustee for clients in a wide range of industries. Mr. Eisenberg has worked on more than 75 investment banking assignments and has advised more than 200 manufacturing, service, financial services and technology companies. Many of the completed transactions involved publicly traded client companies. Before founding Amherst Partners, Mr. Eisenberg was a vice president at Onset

BIDCO, a subordinated debt fund that invested primarily in manufacturing and technology businesses. Prior to that, he was a manager in the National Corporate Finance Group of Deloitte & Touche, where he provided M&A advisory services to middle-market companies. He began his career as an accountant with Deloitte & Touche, providing accounting and audit services and taught national firm training seminars. Mr. Eisenberg is active in many organizations, having served as president of the Detroit Chapter of the Association for Corporate Growth and an international board member, president of the Detroit Chapter and international board member of the Turnaround Management Association, president and board member of the Detroit Chapter of the Young Entrepreneur's Organization, president of the Young Adult Division of the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit and member of the Federation's Board of Governors, president of the American-Israel Chamber of Commerce of Michigan, chairman of the Automotive Supplier Committee of the Michigan Association of CPAs and president of the Southeastern Michigan Venture Group. Mr. Eisenberg is a past recipient of *Crain's Detroit Business* list of "40 under 40" and a finalist for the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year award for 2007 and 2008. He received his undergraduate degree in accounting from the University of Illinois and his M.B.A. in finance from Indiana University.

Lisa A. Epps is a partner with Spencer Fane LLP in Kansas City, Mo., where she guides business owners in transactions, opportunities and legal issues that can arise throughout the life of their businesses. She specializes in corporate law, commercial and contract law, sales and acquisitions, business workouts, restructuring, creditors' rights, cybersecurity and data breaches. She also helps lenders in loan structuring, negotiating and drafting transaction documents, and regulatory compliance. Ms. Epps has represented debtors, secured and unsecured creditors, bond trustees, bondholders, investors, bankruptcy trustees, and creditors' and equity-holders' committees in complex corporate restructuring, workout and bankruptcy planning, negotiation and litigation both locally, regionally and nationally. She is skilled in complex business issues, has represented large corporations in chapter 11 restructuring and brought multiple companies out of bankruptcy. Ms. Epps is an advisory board member of the ABI/UMKC Midwestern Bankruptcy Institute, founder and co-chair of IWIRC's Midwest Network, and a member of the Bench Bar Committees for the U.S. Bankruptcy Courts for the District of Kansas and the Western District of Missouri, ABI, the Kansas City Bankruptcy and Kansas Bar Associations, the Central Exchange and the Association of Women Lawyers of Greater Kansas City. She has also been featured in *Best Lawyers – Women in the Law* 2016 for Bankruptcy and Creditor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law, received the *Missouri Lawyers Weekly* 2015 Women's Justice Award – Business Practitioner, and listed in *Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers* for 2012-15, *Kansas City Business Journal* Best of the Bar from 2010-15, and *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy and Creditor-Debtor Rights Law from 2012-17. Ms. Epps is admitted to practice in Missouri and Kansas, and before the U.S. District Courts for the District of Kansas, the Western District of Missouri and the Eastern District of Missouri, and the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Eighth and Tenth Circuits. She received her B.A. in 1991 *magna cum laude* from The American University and her J.D. in 1997 from the University of Kansas School of Law.

David P. Eron is the owner of Eron Law, P.A., in Wichita, Kan., where he represents businesses and consumers in bankruptcy, litigation and commercial transactions. He is the only attorney in Wichita certified by the American Board of Certification as a business bankruptcy specialist. Mr. Eron has been included on the *Super Lawyers* list every year since 2012 in the area of business bankruptcy, and he has received Martindale-Hubbell's AV rating. He was also listed as one of Wichita's "40 Under 40" in 2015. Mr. Eron is the immediate past president of the KBA Bankruptcy and Insolvency Section and a past member of the Kansas Bankruptcy Bench Bar Committee. He regularly presents seminars and

writes articles on bankruptcy-related topics and is a past contributing editor of the *ABI Journal*. Mr. Eron received the KBA's Pro Bono Certificate in 2013. Prior to forming Eron Law, he worked as a trial attorney for the U.S. Trustee in Kansas. Mr. Eron started his career with a large firm in California, where he represented debtors, trustees and creditors in all chapters of bankruptcy. He received his B.A. in political science from Iowa State University in 1998 and his J.D. with honors from the University of Iowa College of Law in 2002.

Hon. Arthur B. Federman is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Missouri in Kansas City, appointed on Dec. 18, 1989, and reappointed in 2003. He currently serves as Chief Judge of the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the Eighth Circuit in Kansas City, and was a member of the Committee on Codes of Conduct of the Judicial Conference of the United States for six years, ending in 2015. Upon graduation from law school, he worked as a trial attorney in the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. From 1979-89, Judge Federman was in private practice in Kansas City and served as a panel trustee for the Western District of Missouri. While in private practice, he represented debtors, creditors and creditors' committees in chapter 7, 11, 12 and 13 cases. Judge Federman became a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy in 2003. He graduated from the University of Kansas in 1973 and from the University of Missouri - Kansas City School of Law in 1976 with distinction, where he was elected to the Order of the Bench and Robe and was an associate editor of its law review.

Brian T. Fenimore is a partner in the Kansas City, Mo., office of Lathrop & Gage LLP and co-chair of its Banking & Creditors' Rights practice area. He represents borrowers and lenders in structuring, negotiating and documenting loan originations and workout, restructuring, deed-in-lieu and voluntary surrender transactions. He also represents borrowers and lenders in problem loan matters, including loan enforcement, guarantor liability, workouts, reorganizations and bankruptcies throughout the U.S. Mr. Fenimore's clients include secured and unsecured creditors, debtors, committees, landlords, tenants, trustees, servicers of mortgage-backed securities, asset buyers and other parties in interest in all aspects of chapter 11 reorganization. He focuses on use of cash collateral, debtor-in-possession financing, automatic stay relief, adequate protection, asset sales and acquisitions, contract assumption and rejection, claim allowance, dischargeability, preferences and fraudulent conveyances, and plan confirmation and cramdown litigation. Mr. Fenimore is admitted to practice in Kansas and Missouri, and before the U.S. Bankruptcy Courts for the Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri and the District of Kansas, as well as the U.S. District Courts for the District of Kansas and the Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri. He is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell and has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* every year since 2003, among other listings. He is also a frequent speaker and ABI member. Mr. Fenimore received his B.S. magna cum laude in 1988 from the University of Missouri-Columbia and his J.D. in 1990 from the University of Michigan Law School.

Prof. Barbara Glesner Fines is a professor of law at the University of Missouri - Kansas City School of Law in Kansas City, where she teaches courses on professional responsibility, ethical issues in the representation of families, family law, family violence, poverty law, entrepreneurial lawyering, solo and small firm practice, legal aid externship and family court clerkship. She is also associate dean for Faculty Development and co-director of the university's Family Law Program. Prior to arriving at UMKC, Prof. Fines taught courses at the University of Oklahoma College of Law and the University of Cincinnati College of Law, and she has been a visiting professor at the University of Illinois - Urbana

Champaign College of Law, University of Iowa College of Law, University of Wisconsin - Madison School of Law and the Council for Legal Educational Opportunity. She has authored or co-authored several publications, including *Ethical Issues in Family Representation* and *Professional Responsibility: A Collaborative Approach*, and has published articles in several law reviews. Prof. Fines received her undergraduate degree in 1980 from Grand Valley State University, her J.D. *cum laude* in 1983 from the University of Wisconsin - Madison School of Law, where she was assistant managing editor of the *Wisconsin Law Review*, and her LL.M. in 1986 from Yale University Law School, where she was senior editor of the *Yale Journal of International Law*.

Richard V. Fink is the standing chapter 13 trustee for the Western District of Missouri in Kansas City and is a frequent speaker on topics related to chapter 13 law and administration. He is licensed in the state of Missouri and is admitted to practice before the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Missouri, the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Missouri, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit and the U.S. Supreme Court. Mr. Fink received his B.A. from Baker University and his J.D. from the University of Missouri - Kansas City.

Will H. Griffin is a chapter 13 trustee for the District of Kansas in Fairview, appointed in 1990. He served in Kansas in both Topeka and Kansas City until 1998, and since then has been serving only in Kansas City, Kan., where he is currently administering more than 4,700 cases. Has served as a panelist for the NACTT, Kansas Bar Association and Kansas City Metro Bar Association, and has sponsored brown bag lunches for the local bar on current topics in chapter 13. Mr. Griffin received his undergraduate degree in business and psychology from Trinity University in San Antonio in 1969 and his J.D. from Washburn University in 1973.

Thomas M. Horan is the founding member of Shaw Fishman Glantz & Towbin, LLC's Wilmington, Del., office, where he represents official committees of unsecured creditors and debtors in complex chapter 11 cases. In addition, he regularly represents secured creditors, trustees and debtor-in-possession lenders in bankruptcy-related disputes. Mr. Horan is a member of ABI's Board of Directors co-chairs its Mid-Atlantic Bankruptcy Workshop. He actively contributes pro bono legal services to deserving causes, including acting as a guardian *ad litem* through Delaware's Office of the Child Advocate, and representing clients in protection from abuse proceedings through Delaware Volunteer Legal Services. Mr. Horan is a frequent speaker on a wide range of bankruptcy topics throughout the country, and often contributes articles to the *ABI Journal* and other publications. Previously, he was a partner at Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, LLP and an associate at Morris James LLP. Mr. Horan received his B.A. in 1989 and his M.A. in 1992 from Fordham University, and his J.D. *cum laude* from St. John's University School of Law in 2002, where he was executive notes and comments editor for the *ABI Law Review*.

Laura Uberti Hughes is a restructuring associate in Bryan Cave LLP's St. Louis office, where her practice focuses on corporate restructuring, bankruptcy litigation and out-of-court workouts, in which she represents creditors, debtors and other significant parties-in-interest in complex restructurings and chapter 7 and 11 bankruptcies. Prior to joining the firm, she practiced corporate restructuring and bankruptcy law as an associate at another law firm in St. Louis. While in law school, Ms. Hughes worked as an intern at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Missouri. She is admitted to practice in Illinois and Missouri, before the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern and Western

Districts of Missouri, Southern District of Illinois and the District of Kansas, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. Ms. Hughes received her B.A. *summa cum laude* in 2002 from the University of Notre Dame and her J.D. *cum laude* in 2008 from Washington University, where she served as an articles editor for the *Washington University Law Review*.

Hon. Lee M. Jackwig is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of Iowa in Des Moines. Prior to her appointment in 1986, she was an assistant U.S. attorney in the Southern District of Iowa, an Iowa Deputy Industrial Commissioner and an Assistant Attorney General of Iowa. Judge Jackwig is a former member of ABI's Board of Directors, a former member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges' Board of Governors and a former chair of the Bankruptcy Section of the Federal Bar Association. She served on the Committee on Automation and Technology of the Judicial Conference of the U.S. from 1990-97. Judge Jackwig received her B.A. *magna cum laude* in the classics from Loyola University and her J.D. from DePaul University College of Law.

Stacey L. Janssen is Of Counsel with Dysart Taylor Cotter McMonigle & Montemore, P.C. in Kansas City, Mo., where her practice focuses primarily on elder law. She provides guidance for her clients on issues regarding Medicaid, estate planning, guardianship and conservatorship, Social Security disability, patients' and residents' rights, and special needs planning. Previously, Ms. Janssen served as a project attorney and volunteer attorney coordinator for the Kansas Elder Law Hotline, where she was responsible for the recruitment, supervision and training of 150 private volunteer attorneys, as well as providing legal advice to more than 3,000 elderly Kansans and their families. She also served as a project attorney for Kansas Legal Services for Older Adults, where she provided legal advice and represented persons age 60 or older in Johnson and Wyandotte Counties of Kansas in the areas of Medicaid, division of assets, Medicare, advanced directives, patients' and resident's rights, Social Security, domestic relations/violence and landlord/tenant law. Ms. Janssen was awarded the Kansas Bar Association's Outstanding Service Award in 2008 and has been listed in *Super Lawyers* every year since 2013. She received her B.A. in 1985 from the University of Kansas and her J.D. in 1988 from the University of Kansas School of Law.

Hon. Janice M. Karlin was appointed as a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Kansas in Topeka in 2002 and is in her second five-year term on the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. She became Chief Judge of the Tenth Circuit BAP on Sept. 4, 2015. Before taking the bench, Judge Karlin served as an assistant U.S. attorney for 22 years, concentrating on civil litigation in the federal courts. She also served as an adjunct professor of trial practice at the University of Kansas. Judge Karlin chairs the Bankruptcy Judges Advisory Group to the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, is the court's liaison to the Bankruptcy Bench Bar Committee, and serves on the board of editors of the *Journal of the Kansas Bar Association*. She is also a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, ABI, the American and Kansas Bar Associations, and the Women Attorney Association of Topeka. Judge Karlin received her undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Kansas and served as note and comment editor for the *Kansas University Law Review*.

Lee M. Kutner is a shareholder and director of KutnerBrinen, P.C. in Denver, where his practice focuses on representing debtors, creditors and creditors' committees in chapter 11 and 7 bankruptcy cases, business restructurings, and debtor and creditor rights litigation. He has considerable experi-

ence in the process of negotiating, drafting and confirming chapter 11 plans and developing out-of-court workouts, and he has been involved in numerous receivership actions and debtor/creditor remedies, including assignments for the benefit of creditors. Mr. Kutner has successfully confirmed chapter 11 plans of reorganization for a wide range of businesses and in complex cases for individuals. He established precedent-setting law in the area of security interests in hotel room revenues in chapter 11 cases that eventually led to amendments to the Bankruptcy Code, and he has lectured on bankruptcy and business entity issues. Mr. Kutner has also been involved in numerous real estate chapter 11 cases, including vacant land developments, office buildings, retail shopping centers, and resort, office and retail projects. AS member of ABI and the American and Colorado Bar Associations, Mr. Kutner was named a *Super Lawyer* from 2006-16 and has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*. He is also AV-rated by Martindale Hubbell. Mr. Kutner received his bachelor's degree with distinction from the University of Michigan in 1976 and his J.D. from the National Law Center of George Washington University in Washington, D.C. in 1980.

Kathleen A. Laughlin is the standing chapter 13 trustee for the District of Nebraska in Omaha and has served since 1986. She administers all chapter 13 bankruptcies filed in the federal district of Nebraska. Ms. Laughlin received her Master's in social work in 1971 from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and her J.D. in 1982 from Creighton University School of Law.

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

Hon. Kevin P. Moriarty is Chief Judge of the 10th Judicial District and presides over the Johnson County, Kansas District Court Judge in Olathe, Kan., appointed on March 23, 2004. He was a member of the Johnson County Ethics Committee from 1987-2004 and was a trustee for the Johnson County Bar Foundation from 2002-06. Judge Moriarty is a master and former president of the Earl E. O'Connor Inn of Court. He is currently a member of the Kansas Judicial Council Advisory Committee and has been since 2009. Judge Moriarty was a board member of Johnson County Mental Health from 2009-13 and served as chairman in 2012 and 2013. He has been member of the Johnson County Judicial Nominating Commission since 2008. Judge Moriarty received his B.A. from Washburn University in 1975, his J.D. from Washburn University in 1978 and a master's in public administration from Kansas University in 1984.

Andrew J. Nazar is a shareholder in Polsinelli P.C.'s Kansas City, Mo., bankruptcy group and has represented numerous parties in chapter 11 proceedings, including secured creditors, debtors, unsecured creditors, committees, buyers, guarantors, principals, trade creditors and vendors, landlords, licensees, licensors, tenants, and the numerous other parties who voluntarily or involuntarily get caught up in bankruptcy proceedings, state court receiverships and foreclosure suits. He has helped clients in many diverse industries as well, including manufacturing, retail, technology, agribusiness, air transport, architecture, construction, auto dealers, banking, finance, real estate, restaurants, medical, oil and gas, and transportation, among others. Mr. Nazar routinely appears in and tries cases in bankruptcy courts throughout the country. He is a past-president of the Kansas City Bankruptcy Bar Association and president-elect of the Missouri chapter of the Turnaround Management Association, as well as a frequent speaker and author on bankruptcy-related topics. Mr. Nazar is a *cum laude* graduate of the Boston College Honors Program and received his J.D. from the University of Kansas School of Law.

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

Hon. Robert E. Nugent is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Kansas in Wichita, initially appointed June 14, 2000, and he served as Chief Judge from 2002-16. He has also served on the U.S. Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the Tenth Circuit since 2002. Prior to taking the bench, Judge Nugent was a partner in the Wichita firm of Morris, Laing, Evans, Brock & Kennedy, Chtd., where he practiced in the areas of commercial litigation, real estate and bankruptcy

law. He was admitted to the Kansas and Federal Bars in 1980, was president of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges from 2014-15 and was secretary (2010-12) and a member of NCBJ's Board of Governors (2006-09). He has also served as a member of the Committee on Federal and State Jurisdiction of the U.S. Judicial Conference and is a former president of the Wichita Bar Association (1998-99). A frequent speaker for bankruptcy organizations and continuing legal education groups, Judge Nugent is a co-editor and chapter author of the *Kansas Bankruptcy Handbook, Third Edition* (Kansas Bar Association 2009) and a member of the board of editors of the *Journal of the Kansas Bar Association*. He received his B.A. in English and political science in 1977 with honors from the University of Kansas and his J.D. from the University of Kansas School of Law in 1980.

Jill D. Olsen is a solo-practitioner at The Olsen Law Firm, LLC in Kansas City, Mo., practicing primarily in the areas of bankruptcy, collections and commercial litigation. She represents both creditors and debtors and is also a chapter 7 panel trustee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Missouri. Ms. Olsen is admitted to practice in Missouri, Kansas, the Western District of Missouri and the District of Kansas, as well as in the Eighth and Tenth Circuits. She was on the Bankruptcy Bench-Bar Committee for the District of Kansas and the Ac-Hoc Advisory Committee for the WDMO Bankruptcy Court. Ms. Olsen is a member of the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association, Association of Women Lawyers, Kansas City Bankruptcy Bar Association, Topeka Area Bankruptcy Counsel, ABI, National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees, National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees, International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation and the Turnaround Management Association, and she is a chairperson of the Kansas City Women's Bankruptcy Association. She received her J.D. with honors in 2000 from the University of Missouri at Kansas City School of Law.

Domenic E. Pacitti is a partner in the Wilmington, Del., office of Klehr Harrison Harvey Branzburg LLP, where he regularly represents debtors, distressed-asset purchasers, creditors' committees and other strategic parties in connection with pre-packaged and traditional bankruptcies, out-of-court workouts, DIP and exit financings, bankruptcy litigation and § 363 sales. He also advises officers and directors of distressed companies on corporate governance and fiduciary duties. Mr. Pacitti's recent notable representations include serving as lead debtors' counsel in the chapter 11 cases of Edwin Watts Golf Shops LLC, Life Uniform Co. Inc., Tactical Intermediate Holdings, Massif Mountain Gear Co. LLC and Jevic Transportation, Inc. He has also served as Delaware co-counsel for numerous chapter 11 debtors, including Appleseeds Intermediate Holdings LLC, Atrium Corp., Conexant Systems, Muzak Holdings LLC, North American Petroleum Corp. USA, Physiotherapy Associates LLP, Samson Resources Corp. and TMP Directional Marketing, Inc. Mr. Pacitti has been named one of "America's Leading Lawyers in Bankruptcy" by *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business, The Client's Guide* since 2006 and in the 2014 and 2015 *The Best Lawyers in America*. Previously, he clerked for Hon. Rosemary Gambardella of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Jersey. Mr. Pacitti received his B.A. in 1984 from Lycoming College and his J.D. in 1987 from the University of Richmond School of Law.

Richard Peil is a financial professional with GlassRatner Advisory & Capital Group LLC in Phoenix and has more than 25 years of financial advisory experience. Prior to joining GlassRatner in 2011, he was a managing director in the Corporate Finance and Financial Restructuring practices of XRoads Solutions Group, LLC from 2000-11 and was a director in the Valuation Services group

at PricewaterhouseCoopers LLC from 1991-2000. Mr. Peil has led hundreds of complex valuation and financial advisory assignments for a multitude of reasons, such as advising buyers and sellers on transaction prices, purchase price allocations and fairness opinions; advising debtors and creditor groups in connection with the reorganized value of companies in chapter 11 bankruptcy and fresh-start accounting for reorganized companies; providing solvency and fair value opinions for bankruptcy litigants involved in fraudulent conveyance and preference actions; providing Topic 820 (FAS 157) valuations of closely held debt and equity securities owned by private-equity firms and hedge funds; and the determination of economic damage computations for both plaintiffs and defendants embroiled in commercial litigation disputes. He has worked with companies operating in a broad range of industry sectors, including aerospace, consumer electronics, defense, energy, financial services, manufacturing, media and entertainment, real estate, restaurants, retail, technology, telecommunications and utilities. Mr. Peil is a member of the CFA Institute and holds the FINRA Series 79 investment banking license. He is a frequent speaker and panelist at business valuation conferences, including those hosted by the Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Analysts (AIRA). He has also presented CLE seminars to a number of the leading U.S. law firms on the topics of business valuation principles and understanding financial statements. Mr. Peil holds a B.S. in economics and an M.B.A from the University of Kansas.

Nancy A. Peterman is chair of Greenberg Traurig, LLP's Business Reorganization & Financial Restructuring Practice in Chicago and focuses on corporate restructurings, bankruptcy and creditors' rights law. She has a wide range of experience representing debtors, asset-purchasers, committees and secured creditors. Ms. Peterman is a former member of ABI's Executive Committee and is a former chair of the Chicago Bar Association's Bankruptcy & Reorganization Committee. She also assisted in drafting the health care bankruptcy provisions of the 2005 amendments to the Bankruptcy Code. Ms. Peterman has been listed in *Chambers & Partners USA Guide*, *The Best Lawyers in America*, *Illinois Super Lawyers* and *Leading Lawyers Network*, was named "Restructuring Lawyer of the Year-Middle Markets" by *Global M&A Network* in 2013 and is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. She was also inducted into the American College of Bankruptcy as a Fellow in 2011. Ms. Peterman is admitted to practice in Illinois, New York and the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. A frequent speaker and author, she was co-editor in chief of *Wiley Bankruptcy Law Update*, assistant editor for *West's Norton Bankruptcy Law and Practice* treatise, and an assistant editor and a contributing author for ABI's *Health Care Insolvency Manual*. Ms. Peterman earned both her undergraduate degree and J.D. from the University of Michigan.

Patricia A. Redmond is a shareholder in the Bankruptcy and Restructuring Department of the Miami office of Stearns, Weaver, Miller, Weissler, Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A. and is a former ABI president. She has practiced in the insolvency field in Miami for more than 30 years and has appeared in many reorganizations and out-of-court workouts in all industries. Ms. Redmond has represented developers, financial institutions, public and private owners and distressed-asset purchasers. She has particular experience in the representation of creditors' committees, secured creditors and debtors in chapter 11 cases. Ms. Redmond is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and served on its Board of Directors (2005-08) and as Secretary. She has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy Debtor/Creditor Rights since 1995, has been recognized as a Band I attorney by *Chambers USA*, and has been listed as a top lawyer in the *South Florida Legal Guide* and in *Florida Trend* magazine's "Legal Elite." Ms. Redmond is a member and former director of IWIRC, and received IWIRC's "Woman of the Year" award in 2013 for Restructuring. In addition, she has co-chaired ABI's

Caribbean Insolvency Symposium and has been a member of the advisory board of ABI's Southeast Bankruptcy Workshop. Ms. Redmond is admitted to practice before the Bars of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the state of Florida, and she is an adjunct professor at the University of Miami School of Law, where she received its Outstanding Professor Award in 2003 and 2011 and its Leaders in Law award in 2014. She also founded its Bankruptcy Assistance Clinic in 2004. Ms. Redmond received her J.D. in 1979 from the University of Miami.

John C. Reed is an attorney with Pletz and Reed, P.C. in Columbia, Mo., where he focuses his practice on chapters 7, 11, 12 and 13 and represents both debtors and creditors. He specializes in pre-bankruptcy planning, business law, commercial litigation and landlord/tenant representation. Mr. Reed is admitted to the Missouri Bar Association and before the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Missouri. Previously, he was the assistant Missouri attorney general from 1980-84. Mr. Reed holds an AV-Preeminent Peer Review rating by Martindale-Hubbell and is a member of the Panel of Bankruptcy Trustees for the Western District of Missouri (1992-present), ABI and the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees. He received his B.S. in 1977 from Northeast Missouri State University and his J.D. in 1980 from the University of Columbia School of Law.

Hon. Charles E. "Sketch" Rendlen, III is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri in St. Louis, appointed to a 14-year term on May 23, 2006. He was also appointed as a *pro tem* member of the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel in August 2010 and was appointed to the Eighth Circuit Judicial Council in January 2015. Judge Rendlen previously was in private practice as a litigator for 28 years and served as the firm's managing partner for 13 years. In June 2003, he was appointed by the Attorney General to serve as a U.S. Trustee for Region 13, which is comprised of Arkansas, Missouri and Nebraska. Judge Rendlen graduated *magna cum laude* from William Jewell College in 1972 and received his J.D. from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1976.

Claire Ann Resop is a partner in the Madison, Wis., office of Steinhilber Swanson, LLP, where she concentrates her practice in bankruptcy, real estate, and commercial and claim litigation. She has served on ABI's Board of Directors, was appointed to the panel of chapter 7 trustees for the Western District of Wisconsin from 2004-11, and was formerly a member of the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees' New Trustee Advisory Committee. She is also past chair of the State Bar of Wisconsin's Bankruptcy, Insolvency and Creditors' Rights Section and serves as co-chair of its Legislative Committee. Ms. Resop formerly served as chair of both ABI's Central States Bankruptcy Workshop advisory board and the State Bar of Wisconsin's Convention Committee, and she was a member of the Ethics Committee for the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees. In 2005, she was recognized as one of the "Top 25 Female Super Lawyers," and has been named a "Super Lawyer" in *Law & Politics* and *Milwaukee Magazine* since 2005. Ms. Resop received her B.A. from Marquette University in 1987 and her J.D. from the University of Wisconsin in 1993.

Sara Rittman is in private practice with Rittman Law, LLC in Jefferson City, Mo., where she provides ethics consultation and advice to attorneys and represents attorneys in disciplinary and reinstatement matters. She also represents applicants in attorney admission matters and other licensed professionals in disciplinary proceedings. Ms. Rittman was Missouri's first Legal Ethics Counsel from 2003-12. She became deputy chief disciplinary counsel in 2000 after becoming staff counsel for the Office of the Chief Disciplinary Counsel in 1993. Beginning in 1985, Ms. Rittman was the Unit Chief of

the Professional Licensing Unit of the Attorney General's Office. She became an Assistant Attorney General for Missouri in 1981. Ms. Rittman served as an officer of the National Organization of Bar Counsel from 2008-12 and as president from 2011-12. She received her B.S.Ed. in 1978 from The University of Missouri at Columbia and her her J.D. from The University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law in 1981.

René S. Roupinian is a partner and co-chair of the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification (WARN) Practice Group and member of the firm's Class Action Practice Group at Outten & Golden LLP in New York, and has been practicing law since 1995. Since 2002, she has exclusively litigated federal WARN class actions on behalf of employees terminated in mass layoffs and plant closings without advance written notice. Ms. Roupinian's practice is national and covers a wide range of industries, and she is listed in the *Legal 500*. In 2008, she was invited to submit testimony before the U.S. Senate's Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee by Sen. Ted Kennedy (chair) about the WARN Act and its possible reform on the 20th anniversary of its enactment. Ms. Roupinian has written and lectured on the WARN Act, and she has been quoted and her cases cited in major media publications. She has also spoken at national American Bar Association and National Employment Lawyer Association conferences, among others, on WARN and the litigation of employment claims in bankruptcy. A member of the New York and Michigan bars, Ms. Roupinian is also admitted to practice in the U.S. District Courts for the Southern and Western Districts of New York, Eastern and Western Districts of Michigan and District of Colorado, and the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Second, Third, Fifth and Ninth Circuits. She received her B.A. in 1989 from the University of Michigan and her J.D. in 1994 from Michigan State University College of Law, where she was a member of the Moot Court Executive Board.

Hon. Thomas L. Saladino is Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nebraska in Omaha, sworn in on Aug. 31, 2006, and named chief judge in 2008. He was appointed to the Eighth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel in 2009. Previously, Judge Saladino was with the firm of Fitzgerald, Schorr, Barmettler & Brennan, P.C., L.L.O. in Omaha, where he specialized in real estate law, banking law, finance, bankruptcy and debtor/creditor relations. Until his judicial appointment, he had spent his entire legal career at the Fitzgerald, Schorr law firm. Judge Saladino has been a speaker at numerous seminars and training programs pertaining to commercial lending, commercial leasing, landlord/tenant law and bankruptcy law. Prior to his appointment, he was a member of the Building Owners and Managers Association of Omaha, Nebraska, and ABI, and a Fellow in the American College of Mortgage Attorneys. Judge Saladino received his B.B.A. from Creighton University and his J.D. magna cum laude in 1987 from Creighton University School of Law, where he served as editor of the *Creighton Law Review*.

Thomas J. Salerno is a partner in the Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights practice at Stinson Leonard Street LLP in Phoenix, where he represents distressed companies, acquirers and creditors in financial restructurings and bankruptcy proceedings, pre- and post-bankruptcy workouts, and corporate recapitalizations. He works with clients from an array of industries, including casinos, resort hotels, sports teams, real estate, high-tech manufacturing, electricity generation, agribusiness, construction, health care, airlines and franchised fast-food operations. Mr. Salerno has represented parties in insolvency proceedings in 30 states and five countries. He has been involved in restructurings in the U.S., U.K., Germany, France, Switzerland, and the Czech and Slovak Republics. In addition, Mr. Salerno taught

comparative international insolvency at the University of Salzburg and Gray's Inn School of Law in London, and is an adjunct professor at the Sandra Day O'Connor School of Law at Arizona State University, teaching bankruptcy litigation and advanced chapter 11 bankruptcy. He is also a regular guest lecturer at the Eller MBA Program for the University of Arizona. Mr. Salerno has served as an expert witness on U.S. insolvency law in litigation in Germany, and represented Coyote Hockey LLC, the owners of the Phoenix Coyotes of the National Hockey League (NHL), in historic bankruptcy proceedings that resulted in an unprecedented solution: the NHL purchasing one of its own teams for the first time in the league's 90-year history. He headed the U.S. delegation to the Czech Republic in advising the Czech Government in the historic revamping of its bankruptcy law, which took effect in January 2008, and he has also advised on revamping insolvency laws in the Dominican Republic and Costa Rica. Mr. Salerno is a member of the UNCITRAL working group on its Insolvency Law Reform Project, completed in early 2007. He is a former ABI Board and Executive Committee member, a past director of the American Board of Certification, a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, and a member of the Plan Issues Advisory Subcommittee for ABI's landmark Bankruptcy Review Commission. Mr. Salerno received his B.A. *summa cum laude* from Rutgers University and his J.D. *cum laude* from Notre Dame Law School, where he served as an editor of the *Notre Dame Law Review*.

James Patrick Shea is a partner with Armstrong Teasdale LLP in Las Vegas, where he focuses on advising financial institutions, landlords, vendors and other creditors in business bankruptcy proceedings. He has represented numerous hotel casino properties, guides creditors in all aspects of litigation relating to the debtor/creditor relationship, and assists in protecting and enforcing their rights, interests and remedies, both inside and outside of insolvency proceedings, including reorganizations, liquidations and informal out-of-court workouts. An ABI member since 1988 and ABI's immediate past president, he is formerly ABI's Vice President-Communication & Information Technology and the founding chair of ABI's former subcommittee on Gaming Insolvencies and Reorganizations. He also chairs ABI's Civility Task Force and is a former program chair of ABI's Southwest Bankruptcy Conference. Mr. Shea is past chair and current vice chair of the State Bar of Nevada's Bankruptcy Law Section, a member of the State Bar of Nevada's Civility Task Force, chair of the advisory committee of the Southern Nevada Association of Bankruptcy Attorneys, a Ninth Circuit Lawyer Representative for the District of Nevada, and a member of the Ninth Circuit LRCC and Conference Planning Committee. He is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell and is consistently listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* and as a *Mountain West Super Lawyer*. Mr. Shea received both his undergraduate degree and his J.D. from the University of Arizona, where he received the chairmanship to the Moot Court Board and the Mitchell C. Nelson Award for legal scholarship.

Hon. Anita L. Shodeen is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of Iowa in Des Moines, appointed in 2009. She also serves on the Eighth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel and teaches bankruptcy and debt collection as an adjunct professor at Drake University Law School. Prior to her appointment to the bench, Judge Shodeen was in private practice in Des Moines, where she focused on bankruptcy, debtor/creditor and transactional issues. She served as a chapter 7 trustee and chapter 12 Trustee for the Southern District of Iowa. Judge Shodeen has been appointed as a member of the Judicial Resources Committee of the Judicial Conference, is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy, and is a member of ABI, National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges and the Federal Bar Association. She actively participates in a number of CLE presentations on the topics of bank-

ruptcy, insolvency and debtor-creditor rights. Judge Shodeen received her J.D. in 1985 from Drake University.

P. Glen Smith is the owner of Smith Elder & Business Law, LLC, with offices in Kansas City, Mo., with other Missouri offices in Liberty and Richmond. After focusing his practice on asset protection, workouts and bankruptcy (chapters 7, 11, 12 and 13) for some 30 years, he transitioned to elder law in 2015. Mr. Smith is a member of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys and its Missouri chapter, as well as Northland Professionals in Aging, and serves with the Missouri Bar Association on the Estate Planning and Probate Administration Law Committee and the Elder Law Committee. Previously, he clerked for Hon. Russell G. Clark, U.S. District Court, Western District of Missouri from 1983-85 and Hon. Robert A. Hoffman, Chancery Court of Tennessee, Tenth Chancery Division, from 1981-82. He concentrates his practice on Medicaid planning and asset protection, comprehensive estate planning, special needs planning and trusts, guardianship/conservatorship and VA benefits. Mr. Smith received his J.D. in 1983 from the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law at the University of Memphis.

Wesley F. Smith is a partner at Stevens & Brand, LLP in Lawrence and Topeka, Kan., and primarily represents debtors and creditors in bankruptcy cases. He is the past-president of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Section of the Kansas Bar Association and an advisory board member of the ABI/UMKC Midwestern Bankruptcy Institute. Mr. Smith has been an adjunct professor of law at the University of Kansas teaching commercial law, and is frequently a lecturer on bankruptcy and commercial law for continuing education classes. Since 2009, he has been selected to the *Kansas Super Lawyers* list in the area of bankruptcy & creditor/debtor rights. Since 2008, he has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* in the area of bankruptcy and was recently named its 2017 Topeka, Kansas Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law “Lawyer of the Year” listing. Mr. Smith received his undergraduate degree from Oklahoma State University and his J.D. from the University of Kansas School of Law.

Hon. Dale L. Somers is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Kansas in Topeka, appointed in September 2003. He hears cases in Topeka, Kansas City and Wichita. Previously, he was in private practice for 32 years. Judge Somers was appointed to the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit in March 2010. He also serves as a member of the Judicial Resources Committee of the Judicial Conference of the United States. Judge Somers served on the Board of Governors for the Kansas Bar Association from 1988-98 and as president from 1995-96. He is a member of the American and Kansas Bar Associations and a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy. Judge Somers received his undergraduate degree from Kansas State University in 1968 and his J.D. from the University of Kansas School of Law in 1971.

Mark G. Stingley is the global head of the Bankruptcy, Restructuring and Creditors’ Rights Client Service Group at Bryan Cave LLP in Kansas City, Mo. He represents a number of lending institutions in litigation and insolvency matters, and has represented several commercial and lending clients in real estate and commercial litigation cases in both state and federal courts in a number of jurisdictions nationally. Mr. Stingley is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, for which he serves as co-chair of education for the Eighth Circuit Fellows, and he is an adjunct professor of law at the University of Missouri – Kansas City School of Law, where he teaches a course on debtor/creditor re-

lations. In addition, he has contributed to chapters in two Thomson Reuters books, *Strategic Alternatives for Distressed Businesses* and *Commercial Bankruptcy Litigation*, and is currently writing two chapters for ABI's to-be-released *Secured Creditors' Handbook*. Mr. Stingley serves on ABI's Executive Committee and was appointed to the Executory Contracts and Unexpired Leases Committee that reported to ABI's Commission to Study the Reform of Chapter 11. He also served on the advisory board of ABI's Midwestern Bankruptcy Institute from 1992-2014 and is now an emeritus member of its planning committee. Mr. Stingley has been listed annually as "Best of the Bar" in Kansas City, as a Missouri and Kansas *Super Lawyer*, and in *The Best Lawyers in America* as the 2014 Kansas City bankruptcy litigation "Lawyer of the Year" and the 2016 Bankruptcy/Insolvency Law "Lawyer of the Year." He received his B.S. from William Jewell College and his J.D. from the University of Missouri at Kansas City.

Bruce E. Strauss is a partner with Merrick Baker & Strauss, P.C. in Kansas City, Mo., where he represents creditors and debtors in bankruptcy proceedings and has served as a chapter 7 panel trustee since 1986 in the Western District of Missouri. He has practiced in commercial and bankruptcy matters in Kansas City since 1977 and was formerly a partner in the firm of Shockley Reid & Koger. Mr. Strauss is a frequent speaker regarding bankruptcy matters and has been appointed as a receiver in courts in Clay, Platte and Jackson counties. He has been named a *Super Lawyer* every year since 2007 and has been named as Best of the Bar by the *Kansas City Business Journal*. Mr. Strauss received his B.A. from Park College in 1970, his M.P.A. from the University of Missouri-Kansas City in 1973 and his J.D. from its School of Law in 1977.

Hon. Kathy A. Surratt-States was sworn in as a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri in St. Louis on March 17, 2003. From 1991-93, she was a law clerk for Hon. James J. Barta in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, and from 1993-98, she was an associate with Campbell & Coyne P.C. She later joined Ziercher & Hocker, P.C., eventually rising to partner, then Husch & Eppenberger, LLC as a result of a merger, where she practiced in its Insolvency Practice Group. In 1997, she was appointed to the panel of bankruptcy trustees for the Eastern District of Missouri and as chapter 7 trustee in 1999 for Family Company of America (d/b/a National Supermarkets). In 2000, the Missouri Supreme Court appointed her to its Regional Disciplinary Committee, and in 2001, she was appointed by then-Gov. Bob Holden as one of four commissioners for the St. Louis City Board of Election Commissioners. Judge Surratt-States was featured as one of five "Up and Coming Lawyers" by *Missouri Lawyers Weekly* in 1999. She is a member of Missouri and Metropolitan St. Louis Bar Associations, Mound City Bar Association, National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, ABI and the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation (IWIRC). She received her B.A. *cum laude* from Oklahoma City University in 1988 and her J.D. from Washington University School of Law in 1991.

Sherri L. Wattenbarger is a trial attorney with the Office of the U.S. Trustee, Region 13, in Kansas City, Mo., and is a former law clerk to Hon. Pasco M. Bowman, II of the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals. She joined the U.S. Department of Justice through the highly competitive Attorney General's Honors Program in 1994, serving as a trial attorney in the Civil Division in Washington, D.C., before joining the U.S. Trustee's Office in Kansas City in 1997. In 2014, the Missouri Bar awarded her the Roser Award for Excellence in Bankruptcy Law for her contributions to bankruptcy law. Ms. Wattenbarger currently serves on the advisory board for ABI's Midwestern Bankruptcy Institute, the Kansas City

Bankruptcy Bar Association, the Kansas Bar Foundation and the Credit Abuse Resistance Education Program (CARE) for the Western District of Missouri and the District of Kansas, of which she is the chair. She is a past chair of the Attorney Advisory Committee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Missouri and is a member of the Association for Women Lawyers of Greater Kansas City, the Kansas Women Attorneys Association and the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association, and she chairs the board of Women's Foundation. In 2012, Ms. Wattenbarger was awarded the U.S. Attorney General's Award for Community Service, as well as a Women's Justice Award for Public Service by *Missouri Lawyer's Weekly*, and was named "Woman of the Year" by the AWL in 2011. She graduated first in her class from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law in 1993.

Hon. Brian C. Wimes is a District Judge for the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Missouri in Kansas City, appointed on April 30, 2012. Following law school, he worked for the Department of Justice, Bureau of Prisons Litigation Branch, in Washington, D.C. Judge Wimes returned to Kansas City in 1995, when he began serving as an assistant prosecuting attorney for the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office. As a prosecutor, Judge Wimes received many awards and honors. He served as an assistant prosecuting attorney until 2001, when he was appointed to the position of Jackson County Drug Court Commissioner, where he played a critical role in combating drug abuse in Jackson County, and specifically in Kansas City. During Judge Wimes' tenure as commissioner, more than 500 people graduated from the Drug Court Program, and more than 90 percent of those graduates remained conviction-free after five years. In 2007, Governor Matt Blunt appointed Judge Wimes to the 16th Judicial Circuit Court of Jackson County, Mo. He served as a circuit court judge until his appointment to the federal bench. Judge Wimes is a current member of the Federal Judges Association, a board member of Lawyers Encouraging Academic Performance (LEAP), a board member of the Historical Society of the U.S. Eighth Circuit Court, and a board member for the National Courts and Science Institute. He often speaks at local and regional colleges and universities on varying aspects of the law, and he is a regular speaker at grade schools and high schools around the metropolitan area, opening up his courtroom to schools and students who wish to view the court first-hand. Judge Wimes received his bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Kansas in 1990 and his J.D. from the Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University in 1994.

Molly M. Wood is a partner with Stevens & Brand LLP in Lawrence, Kan., where she limits her practice to elder law. She is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* in Elder Law and holds an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell. Ms. Wood co-authors a four-volume elder law treatise, *Advising the Elderly Client* (Thompson Reuters 2016), and a law school text, *Elder Law: Readings, Cases, and Materials* (4th ed. Carolina Academic Press 2012), and she edits the Kansas Bar Association's *Long-Term Care Handbook* (2nd ed. 2009). A member of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA) and its Litigation Committee and Kansas Chapter, she serves on the KBA Continuing Legal Education Committee as liaison from the Elder Law section. She concentrates her practice in Medicaid eligibility for long-term care and division of assets, including federal and state Medicaid litigation, special needs and disability planning, guardian/conservatorship of adults and general estate planning. Ms. Wood is a member of the Douglas County and Kansas Bar Associations and the Kansas Women Attorneys Association. She is admitted to the U.S. District Court for the District of Kansas and the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals. Ms. Wood received both her B.A. in 1976 and her J.D. in 1991 from the University of Kansas.