

Faculty Biographies

Stephnie B. Anthony is a founding member of Anthony & Partners, LLC, with offices located in Tampa and Bartow, Fla., and is a trial lawyer focusing on creditors' rights, bankruptcy law and commercial litigation. In addition to general civil litigation, she focuses on creditor/debtor litigation in breach-of-contract, foreclosure, replevin, lender-liability and other loan-enforcement contexts. Ms. Anthony's litigation experience includes representation in state and federal trial and appellate courts statewide. She is a past president, chairman and secretary of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association, having served on the Association's Board for eight consecutive years. For two years following admission to the Florida Bar, Ms. Anthony clerked for Hon. Alexander L. Paskay, Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida. During her career, she has represented lenders, fiduciaries and other parties-in-interest in chapter 11, 13 and 7 bankruptcy cases. Ms. Anthony is admitted to practice before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit and the U.S. District Courts for the Middle, Northern and Southern Districts of Florida. She received her B.S. in finance/multinational business operations in 1994 from Florida State University and her J.D. in 1997 from Stetson University College of Law.

Douglas A. Bates is a shareholder with Clark Partington Hart Larry Bond & Stackhouse, P.A. in Pensacola, Fla., where he focuses his practice on banking and commercial and real estate litigation, as well as bankruptcy and creditors' rights cases. In his 12 years of practice, he has handled insolvency matters and distressed situations across Florida and the United States. Mr. Bates is an active member of the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar and serves on the Section's Executive Council, as well as on several substantive committees. He is also a member of the Florida Bar's Standing Committee on Student Education and Bar Admissions. Mr. Bates is licensed to practice in all Florida state courts, the U.S. District Courts for the Northern, Middle and Southern Districts of Florida, and all U.S. bankruptcy courts in Florida. He has been listed in *Florida Trend Magazine's* "Legal Elite" (2014-15) and "Up and Comer" (2007-13) designations, *Florida Super Lawyers* as a "Super Lawyer" (2014-15) and "Rising Star" (2009-13), and in *Chambers & Partners USA* (2011-present). Mr. Bates received his B.S.B.A. *summa cum laude* from Birmingham Southern College and his J.D. *cum laude* from the University of Florida College of Law.

Lee Ann Bennett has been clerk of court for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida in Tampa since June 2006, after serving seven months as acting clerk. Prior to her appointment, she served as chief deputy clerk for three years and was deputy-in-charge of the Orlando division for two years. Ms. Bennett began her bankruptcy career as a paralegal for a chapter 7 trustee in North Carolina. She later worked for the chapter 11 law firm of Zusmann, Small & White in Atlanta before starting with the court. Throughout her court career, Ms. Bennett has actively led national efforts to improve the judiciary. She was appointed by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts to various committees, councils and working groups, including the Human Resources Advisory Council, and the Budget and Finance Advisory Council's Voluntary Shared Services Subgroup. She is currently the clerk representative to the Committee on Administration of the Bankruptcy System and chairs its Bankruptcy Clerks Advisory Group. In addition, she is the immediate past president for the National Conference of Bankruptcy Courts and has served on its board since 2009. Ms. Bennett is the 2015 recipient of the Director's Award for Outstanding Leadership, a national award given by the director of the U.S. Courts that recognizes someone who has contributed on a national level through leadership skills. She received her B.S. from Barton College in Wilson, N.C., and completed a paralegal certificate program at Meredith College in Raleigh, N.C.

Steven M. Berman is a partner in the Tampa, Fla., office of Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP, where he practices in the firm's Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights Practice group. Mr. Berman has more than 25 years of bankruptcy experience and has focused his practice as a business bankruptcy litigator representing creditors, trustees, committees and business entities. He is Board Certified by the American Board of Certification in both Creditors' Rights and Business Bankruptcy Law, and he serves on ABC's board of directors. Mr. Berman is a member of ABI, for which he has served as the Special Projects/Task Force Leader for ABI's Public Companies and Claims Trading Committee, and he is a member of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association, the San Diego Bankruptcy Forum, and the Florida and California Bars. He is also a frequent lecturer for ABI and guest lectures for the Advanced Bankruptcy Seminars at the University of Florida Levin College of Law, as well as Stetson University College of Law. Mr. Berman received his B.S. in multinational business operations from Florida State University and his J.D. from the University of Florida Levin College of Law.

Leyza F. Blanco is a shareholder in the Miami office of GrayRobinson, P.A., where she concentrates on a wide range of litigation and insolvency matters, including out-of-court workouts, debt restructuring and representation of creditors, receivers, assignees, trustees and debtors in bankruptcy, and general commercial litigation matters in state and federal courts. Her practice in the area of restructuring and creditors' rights is currently focused on complex business and cross-border bankruptcy and commercial litigation matters. Ms. Blanco has served as examiner, receiver, special master and as an expert witness in federal and state court proceedings, as well as an arbiter in an arbitration proceeding. She is also a certified civil court mediator. Ms. Blanco currently serves on the Executive Council of the Florida Bar's Business Law Section and is a past chair of its Bankruptcy/UCC Committee. She also serves on the national board of directors of the International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation and is immediate past chair of its Florida Network, and she is a past-president of the Bankruptcy Bar of the Southern District of Florida. Her other notable activities include having served as lead adjunct professor at the Florida International University College of Law, where she launched its bankruptcy clinical program. Ms. Blanco has been recognized in *Chambers and Partners, U.S.A.* and was recently named one of the "Top 50 Women Attorneys in Florida" and "Top 100 Attorneys in Florida" by *SuperLawyers*. She also received the *South Florida Business Journal* 2012 Key Partner Award and the 2011 Women Extraordinary Award from *Business Leader* magazine. Ms. Blanco received her B.A. from Miami College of Arts & Sciences and her J.D. *magna cum laude* from the University of Miami Law School, where she was articles and comments editor for the *Inter-American Law Review* and a member of the Order of the Coif.

Gregory A. Champeau is the managing member of Champeau Law, P.A. in Naples, Fla., where he primarily focuses on representing debtors in chapter 13 and chapter 7 consumer cases and related litigation. He has been an active consumer bankruptcy practitioner since 2000, and is licensed to practice in both Massachusetts and Florida. Mr. Champeau is the former president of the Southwest Florida Bankruptcy Professionals Association, and is the recipient of the inaugural Honorable Alexander A. Paskay Professionalism Award. He also serves as the Fort Myers representative to the Middle District Local Rules Committee, and has been selected as the 2015 Pro Bono Attorney of the Year for Collier County, Fla. Mr. Champeau received his undergraduate degree from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and his J.D. *cum laude* from Nova Southeastern University.

Sonia Colón is a senior member of Ferraiouli LLC in Orlando, Fla., where she focuses her practice on bankruptcy law with a particular emphasis on creditors' rights. She has practiced before federal and state courts for nearly 20 years, primarily in the area of commercial litigation, including creditors' rights and bankruptcy, collection actions, breach of contracts, construction law and bond claims for financial institutions, bonding and insurance companies, shopping center owners and manufacturing companies. Ms. Colón has represented clients in numerous bankruptcy cases, including out-of-court restructurings and all aspects of complex bankruptcy litigation including dischargeability, fraudulent transfers, preference actions, super-priority lending, cramdowns and valuation. She also advises clients in insolvency-related transactions, such as workouts, restructuring of financial transactions and tracing funds, fraudulent conveyance actions, acquiring bankruptcy assets, and securing diverse types of financing agreements during a bankruptcy case. After working as a law clerk of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Puerto Rico from 1998 to 2001, Ms. Colón joined another major law firm in San Juan, P.R., where she became a partner and a member of its bankruptcy practice group. She has since been serving clients in Florida and Puerto Rico in bankruptcy-related issues. A frequent speaker, Ms. Colón is admitted to the Bars of Puerto Rico, Florida, the U.S. and Puerto Rico Supreme Courts, the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the First and Eleventh Circuits, the U.S. District Courts for the Middle District of Florida and the District of Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Court of International Trade. She is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification and is a member of ABI, the Puerto Rico Bar Association and the Central Florida Bankruptcy Law Association. Ms. Colón received her B.S. in foreign service from Georgetown University and her J.D. from the University of Puerto Rico School of Law, and attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Minority Introduction to Engineering and Science (MITES) Program.

Roberta A. Colton is a shareholder with Trenam Law in Tampa, Fla., where she serves on the firm's Executive Board and is a member of its Bankruptcy, Creditors' Rights & Insolvency practice group. Her practice areas include business reorganization, federal bankruptcy (creditor and debtor representation), bankruptcy litigation, foreclosure/lender liability, creditors' committees, bankruptcy trustee representation, commercial litigation and bankruptcy asset sales. Prior to joining the firm, she served as a judicial law clerk for Hon. James C. Hill of the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta. Ms. Colton is admitted to practice in Florida, the U.S. District Courts for the Middle, Southern and Northern Districts of Florida, and the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Ninth and Eleventh Circuits. She has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy & Creditor-Debtor Rights, Bet-the-Company Litigation and Bankruptcy Litigation, having also been featured as Tampa Lawyer of the Year in bankruptcy law. In addition, she has been listed in *Chambers USA*, as a top-10 *Florida Super Lawyer* since 2011, and as one of *Florida Trend Magazine's* Florida Legal Elite. Ms. Colton is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy and is in the Legal Elite Hall of Fame. She received her B.A. in commerce with distinction from the University of Virginia in 1979 and her J.D. from William & Mary Law School in 1982, where she served on its law review and was a national moot court finalist.

Prof. Jeffrey Davis is the Gerald A. Sohn Research Scholar and Professor of Law for the University of Florida Levin College of Law in Gainesville, Fla., and has specialized in contract, commercial and bankruptcy law since 1973, having publishing numerous articles on consumer credit, bankruptcy and banking law. He taught at the University of South Dakota, Rutgers-Camden University and New York University Law Schools before joining the University of Florida faculty in 1981. Prof.

Davis is a member of the California, Florida and American Bar Associations. He is a past chair of the Bankruptcy/UCC Committee of the Business Section of the Florida Bar, and regularly serves on the Legislation Committee of the Executive Council of the Business Law Section. From 1995-2001, he served as the reporter for the Business Section's Special Committee on Post-Judgment Creditors' Remedies and was the principal drafter of the Florida Judgment Lien Statute. In recent years, he has received the Florida Law School Professor of the Year Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar, and has written about Florida's new Judgment Lien Statute, the use of the *in pari delicto* defense in bankruptcy cases, the amendments to Florida's assignment-for-the-benefit-of-creditors law, protection of charities from avoidance of donations as fraudulent conveyances, and the first steps taken by the U.S. and Australia to regulate the decision to grant consumer credit. Prof. Davis received his B.S. in 1965 from the University of California, Los Angeles, his J.D. in 1972 from Loyola Law School and his LL.M. in 1973 from the University of Michigan.

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

Denise D. Dell-Powell is a partner in Burr & Forman LLP's Orlando, office where she practices in the firm's Creditors' Rights and Bankruptcy Practice Group. She also serves on the firm's Executive Committee and co-chairs the firm's Strategic Growth Committee. Ms. Dell-Powell has more than 22 years' experience in bankruptcy and creditors' rights, distressed property, dealer distribution and inventory finance litigation, including CMBS foreclosures, workouts and bankruptcy matters. In addition to a focus on banking and financial institutions, her career also includes extensive counsel to the hospitality, restaurant and citrus industries. In her commercial litigation practice, Ms. Dell-Powell has represented parties in federal and state court and has experience trying both jury and nonjury trials. Her litigation practice involves representing clients in real estate, mortgage foreclosure, receiverships, lender liability, commercial evictions, partnership disputes and other real estate-based litigation. Ms. Dell-Powell has been listed in *Florida Super Lawyers* and *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy and Creditor-Debtor Rights Law, and was also named by *Best Lawyers* as the "Bankruptcy Lawyer of the Year" for Orlando in 2012. In addition, she has been named a "Leader in their Field" in Bankruptcy & Restructuring in *Chambers USA*, a legal directory featuring client-led intelligence on America's leading lawyers. She is also an AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell. Ms. Dell-Powell holds current or has held past leadership positions in a variety of organizations, including the Florida Bar, the Central Florida Bankruptcy Law Association and the Jacksonville Bankruptcy Bar Association. She is a member of the State Bar of Georgia, Orange

County and American Bar Associations, ABI, the Central Florida Bankruptcy Law Association and the International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation. She has been a frequent lecturer, presenter and author on bankruptcy, restructuring and related issues. Ms. Dell-Powell received her B.S. from Florida State University and her J.D. from Mercer University School of Law.

John D. Eaton is a co-founder of Shawde & Eaton, P.L. in Weston, Fla., where he focuses his practice on creditors' rights, specifically the representation of creditors, trustees, debtors in possession, committees and other parties-in-interest all aspects of chapter 7 and 11 cases and adversary proceedings, with a particular emphasis on bankruptcy-related litigation and contested matters. He also has substantial experience in commercial litigation in both state and federal courts. During the course of his career, Mr. Eaton has been primary bankruptcy counsel or has had significant involvement in many complex chapter 7 and 11 cases. He has represented both plaintiffs and defendants with respect to breach of fiduciary duty and other claims against directors and officers. In addition, he has been representing student loan creditors in bankruptcy cases and adversary proceedings since he started his legal career in 1990, and he has represented a patient care ombudsman in health care business bankruptcy cases involving skilled nursing facilities and assisted living facilities. Mr. Eaton has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy and Creditor-Debtor Rights Law since 2008, as a *Florida Super Lawyer* since 2006, in *Florida Trend Magazine's* "Legal Elite" from 2007-09 and in 2015, as one of South Florida's "Top Rated Lawyers" for 2012, and in *The Legal 500 United States* for 2009. He is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell and is admitted to practice in Florida and before the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, and the U.S. District Courts for the Middle and Southern Districts of Florida. Mr. Eaton received his B.S. *cum laude* from Florida State University and his J.D. with honors from the University of Florida.

William K. "Keith" Fendrick is a partner in Holland & Knight LLP's Tampa, Fla., office and a member of the firm's Bankruptcy Practice Group. He focuses his practice on bankruptcy and creditors' rights, corporate reorganizations and restructurings, and commercial litigation. Mr. Fendrick represents financial institutions, corporations, insurance companies and creditor groups in numerous large chapter 11 cases around the country. He also works with secured and unsecured creditors in workouts, nonbankruptcy corporate reorganizations, and acquisitions of troubled businesses. Mr. Fendrick has also been appointed as a receiver for the Securities and Exchange Commission. In that capacity, he has taken over the management and liquidation of a business, the collection of assets, and the pursuit of claims and recovery of monies for the creditors and investors of the business. He has also represented receivers in state court receiverships involving Ponzi schemes and fraudulent business activities. Mr. Fendrick is a Florida Supreme Court-certified circuit mediator. He is a former director of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association, and has been a panelist for the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges and has spoken at seminars on Florida asset protection, creditors' rights and remedies, and bankruptcy law. Mr. Fendrick has been listed in *Chambers USA - America's Leading Business Lawyers* for Bankruptcy/Restructuring from 2013-15, in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy and Creditor-Debtor Rights Law/Insolvency and Reorganization Law from 1999-16 and for Litigation - Bankruptcy from 2014-16, in *Florida Super Lawyers* from 2006-15, and as a "Florida Legal Elite" in *Florida Trend* magazine from 2004-09 and 2013-15. He received his B.A. from Auburn University and his J.D. from the University of Houston Law Center.

Lara Roeske Fernandez is a shareholder with Trenam Law in Tampa, Fla., and leads the firm's Bankruptcy, Creditors' Rights & Insolvency Practice Group. Her practice area includes business reorganizations (debtor and creditor representation), trustee representation, bankruptcy litigation, commercial foreclosures and workouts, and loan modifications. Ms. Fernandez has served as a chapter 11 trustee and liquidation trustee. She currently serves on the Local Rules Lawyers Advisory Committee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida and on the Board of Directors for the Tampa Bay Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. She previously served on the board of directors for the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association from 2007-13, serving as the president and past chair. Ms. Fernandez is listed in *Florida Super Lawyers* and *Florida Trend Magazine's* "Legal Elite" for bankruptcy and creditors' rights law, and holds an AV-Preeminent rating from Martindale-Hubbell. She received both her B.A. and J.D. from Emory University, and following law school clerked for Hon. Alexander L. Paskay, Chief Bankruptcy Judge Emeritus of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida, from 2001-04 and in 1996.

Richard B. Gaudet is a managing director with HDH Advisors, LLC in Atlanta, where his practice includes extensive involvement in all facets of commercial, asset-based, real estate and consumer lending, as well as risk management, underwriting, credit analysis, credit risk review, portfolio management, due diligence and business refinancing. He spent more than 25 years in banking and was focused on commercial and real estate loan workouts, managing the resolution of over \$1 billion in problem assets by utilizing a wide range of strategies including restructure, foreclosure, litigation, bankruptcy, loan sales and business sales. Since 2004, Mr. Gaudet has acted as a financial advisor. His practice provides broad-based financial advisory services to a wide range of clients ranging from borrowers, to banks and the FDIC. He has overseen the resolution of more than \$20 billion in distressed debt as a financial advisor, and frequently serves as litigation expert in matters related to banking practices, bankruptcy plan feasibility and cramdown interest rates. Mr. Gaudet received his undergraduate degree in commercial banking from Louisiana State University.

Guy G. Gebhardt is the Acting U.S. Trustee for Florida, Georgia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands (Region 21) in Atlanta, appointed by Attorney General Eric Holder on Jan. 12, 2013. Previously, he had served as the Assistant U.S. Trustee in the Atlanta office. Mr. Gebhardt has participated in numerous working groups to implement U.S. Trustee Program (USTP) priorities that include coordinating national enforcement against identity theft and unlawful "foreclosure rescue" operations, tracking and reporting civil enforcement activities, and streamlining field office operations. He received the Director's Award for Exemplary Service for his longstanding contributions to the USTP. Before joining the USTP in 1991, Mr. Gebhardt practiced law in Atlanta for 17 years. He is a member of the Atlanta Bar Association's Bankruptcy Section and the State Bar of Georgia's Bankruptcy Section, as well as ABI. Mr. Gebhardt received his undergraduate degree *cum laude* from Illinois Wesleyan University and, after completing active duty in the U.S. Army, received his law degree from Vanderbilt University School of Law.

Hon. Robert E. Gerber is 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. In February 2016, he became Of Counsel to the law firm of Joseph Hage Aaronson, where he 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.

Samuel J. Gerdano is the executive director of the American Bankruptcy Institute in Alexandria, Va., the nation's largest multi-disciplinary organization in the field of insolvency. He joined ABI in May 1991. In 2007, on the occasion of ABI's silver anniversary, he was awarded ABI's first Lifetime Achievement Award. From 1985-91, he was the chief legal counsel to Sen. Charles E. Grassley (R-Iowa) and staff director for the Subcommittee on Courts and Administrative Practice of the Senate Judiciary Committee. The subcommittee had jurisdiction over the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; Mr. Gerdano has thus been involved in all major bankruptcy policy changes since 1985. Immediately prior to his service on the Senate Judiciary Committee, he was assistant chief counsel for advocacy for the U.S. Small Business Administration in Washington, D.C. Prior to that, he was with a major law firm in the District of Columbia. He is admitted to practice in the federal and local courts of the District of Columbia and the U.S. Supreme Court, and was named a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy in 2001. Mr. Gerdano is the author of numerous articles on bankruptcy and other legal topics, regularly appears as a presenter at continuing legal education programs and is a frequently cited authority on bankruptcy in the national news media. He is a 1983 honors graduate of Syracuse University College of Law and received his B.A. from Syracuse.

Paul A. Giordano is a partner with Roetzel & Andress, LPA in Fort Myers and Naples, Fla., and leads the firm's Banking Industry Group - Litigation and Creditors' Rights Subgroup. He handles a variety of business, commercial and banking litigation, with a special focus on bankruptcy and creditors' rights, troubled-debt restructuring, workouts and related litigation, partnership disputes, commercial foreclosures, contract and corporate disputes, construction liens, and general and professional liability lawsuits. He regularly assists national, regional and community banks in stabilizing distressed commercial and industrial properties, from negotiating pre-foreclosure agreements to advocating for the appointment of receivers and judicial sales. He also has experience in insurance coverage litigation, as well as jury and non-jury trial practice. Mr. Giordano is AV-Preeminent rated by Martindale-Hubbell, and was selected as a *Florida Super Lawyers* "Rising Star" for 2011-15 and as one of *Florida Trend Magazine's* "Legal Elite" for Bankruptcy & Workouts in 2013. He is admitted to practice in Florida, the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, and the U.S. District Courts for the Middle, Northern and Southern Districts of Florida. Mr. Giordano is a member of the American, Federal, Florida, Lee County and Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Associations, and was treasurer of the Bankruptcy Legal Education Series Foundation Inc. from 2014-15. He also served as president of

the Southwest Florida Bankruptcy Professional Association from 2014-15. Mr. Giordano received his B.A. in 1995 from the University of Florida and his J.D. in 1999 from the University of Florida Levin College of Law.

Hon. Paul “Bill” M. Glenn is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida in Jacksonville, appointed in 1993. He served as Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District from March 2003 through September 2011. Prior to his appointment, he practiced corporate and commercial law in Jacksonville and Miami, and had been the chief executive and administrative officers of two insurance companies. In 2005, Judge Glenn was inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, and in 2007 he was honored by the Hillsborough County Bar Association with the Robert W. Patton Outstanding Jurist Award. He also served as director of the Endowment for Education of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, and is a member of NCBJ’s Finance Committee. In addition, he has served as president of the Ferguson-White American Inn of Court in Tampa and of the Chester Bedell American Inn of Court in Jacksonville, and he has served on the National Board of Trustees of the American Inns of Court Foundation. In 2013, Judge Glenn was appointed to the Budget Committee of the Judicial Conference of the United States, and in 2014, he received the Distinguished Service Award from the Bankruptcy Inn Alliance of the American Inns of Court. A contributing editor for the *Norton Handbook for Bankruptcy Trustees, Debtors in Possession, and Committees*, he received his B.A. *cum laude* from Florida State University, where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, Omicron Delta Kappa and Gold Key, and his J.D. from Duke University School of Law, where he was president of the Law School Student Body.

Alberto F. Gomez, Jr. is a partner in the Tampa, Fla., office of Johnson Pope Bokor Ruppel & Burns, LLP, where he focuses primarily on bankruptcy law, insolvency, assignments for the benefit of creditors and all other aspects of debtor/creditor law. He has been practicing in the areas of insolvency and bankruptcy law in the Tampa Bay area since 1990, and his practice includes all aspects of bankruptcy law with an emphasis on business-related cases, such as chapter 11 reorganizations, assignments for the benefit of creditors and workouts. Mr. Gomez is a frequent lecturer on insolvency related topics and has previously lectured on the fundamentals of bankruptcy, assignments for the benefit of creditors, the interplay between bankruptcy law and family law, and bankruptcy law and environmental law. He is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell, has been included among *Florida Trend Magazine*’s “Legal Elite,” and was named a “Super Lawyer.” Mr. Gomez is or has been a member of the Hillsborough County Bar Association, Hillsborough County Bar Foundation Board of Trustees, the Florida Bar, the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association, the Federal Bar Association and ABI, and actively participates in local pro bono efforts. He received his B.A. from the University of Florida in 1985 and his J.D. from Stetson University College of Law in 1988, where he was a member of the *Stetson Law Review*.

Karim Guirguis, PMP, CAE, is chief information officer of the American Bankruptcy Institute in Alexandria, Va., the nation’s largest association of bankruptcy professionals, comprised of over 12,000 members in multidisciplinary roles, including attorneys, bankers, judges, lenders, professors, turnaround specialists, accountants, auctioneers and others. He oversees ABI’s Interactive Media and Technology Department, which is responsible for ABI’s website, videos, podcasts, distance-learning programs and multimedia production. Mr. Guirguis provides vision and leadership in transforming and conducting the company’s internal and external IT plans. He joined the ABI

staff in 2002 after several positions in website architecture and computer animation, most recently with Disney MGM Studios in Florida. Mr. Guirguis's work has earned several awards from his peers, including the prestigious Horizon Award for ABI's video honoring its founders, as well as the Webby Award for his work with Tiffany Inc. and Polo.com. He is a regular presenter on cutting-edge technology issues for professional educators such as the American Society of Association Executives, for which he serves on its technology board. Mr. Guirguis received his B.S. in electrical engineering from Cambridge University in England and his Master's in multimedia and animation from George Mason University, and he is working toward completing an executive M.B.A. program at the Harvard Business School.

Hon. Karen S. Jennemann is a U.S. Bankruptcy Court Judge for the Middle District of Florida in Orlando. She was initially appointed in November 1993 and served as chief judge from Oct. 1, 2011, to Sept. 30, 2015. Prior to her judicial appointment, Judge Jennemann was a shareholder in the law firm of Mahoney Adams & Criser, P.A. in Jacksonville, Fla., where she specialized in bankruptcy law. Prior to that, she was an associate at Smith Hulsey & Busey in Jacksonville, Fla., and also served as a law clerk to Hon. Robert Doumar of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia in Norfolk. Judge Jennemann received her J.D. from the Marshall Wythe School of Law at the College of William and Mary, her Masters in Liberal Studies from Rollins College and her undergraduate degree from Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff.

David S. Jennis is a founding member and shareholder of Jennis & Bowen, P.A. in Tampa, Fla., where he focuses his practice in the areas of complex corporate bankruptcy, workouts, restructuring and reorganizations, and commercial litigation. His clients include debtors, trustees and creditor committees, as well as clients requiring successful outcomes in commercial litigation. Mr. Jennis is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification and has been appointed to its board of directors. He is a member of the American Bar Association, the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar, ABI and other professional organizations. Mr. Jennis has authored numerous *ABI Journal* articles and routinely presents on various bankruptcy issues relating to his practice throughout the state of Florida. He is AV Peer Review-Rated by Martindale-Hubbell. Mr. Jennis received his B.S.B.A. and his J.D. with honors in 1988 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he was a member of the Holderness Moot Court Bench and the National Moot Court Team.

Richard Johnston, Jr. is the founder of Richard Johnston Law in Fort Myers, Fla., and specializes in bankruptcy, creditor's rights, commercial litigation and commercial landlord/tenant litigation. He is a board-certified business civil trial attorney and a member of the Florida Bar, ABI, the Tallahassee, Lee County and American Bar Associations and the International Council of Shopping Centers. Mr. Johnston is admitted to practice before the U.S. District Courts for the Middle and Southern Districts of Florida, Western District of Pennsylvania and Eastern District of Michigan, and before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. He received his B.S. and B.A. from the University of Florida in 1979 and his J.D. in 1981 from the University of Florida Fredric G. Levin College of Law.

Soneet R. Kapila is a founding partner of KapilaMukamal, LLP in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., where he focuses on litigation support, restructuring, insolvency, fiduciary and creditors' rights matters.

He regularly advises clients about the insolvency implications involved in business transactions, and represents debtors, secured creditors and creditors' committees in formulating, analyzing and negotiating plans of reorganization. Mr. Kapila is a recognized expert in fraudulent conveyance, Ponzi scheme and insolvency issues. He has provided expert testimony and extensive litigation support services to law firms involving complex insolvency issues and in commercial damages. To that end, he has worked in conjunction with the SEC, the FBI and the U.S. Attorney's Office, and has served both as a consultant and expert witness for litigation matters in state and federal courts. Mr. Kapila is a federal bankruptcy trustee and has served as an examiner, chief restructuring officer, chapter 11 trustee, liquidating trustee, corporate monitor (SEC appointment), and state and federal court-appointed receiver of operating businesses in numerous matters in the Southern and Middle Districts of Florida. He has spoken to various groups, including New York Law School, St. Thomas University Law School, National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees, Receiver's Forum, Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Advisors, Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants, National Business Institute, National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees (NABT) and ABI on topics related to insolvency, underperforming businesses and insolvency taxation. Mr. Kapila is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and was named best trustee in the *Daily Business Review's* "Best of 2012." He is also on the board of directors and is a past president and past chairman of the Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Advisors, co-chairs ABI's Southeast Bankruptcy Workshop, and co-authored *Fraud and Forensics: Piercing Through the Deception in a Commercial Fraud Case* (ABI 2015). Mr. Kapila received his M.B.A. in 1978 from Cranfield School of Management.

Hon. Erik P. Kimball is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of Florida in West Palm Beach, appointed in 2008. Prior to his appointment to the bench, he was a member of the Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Department at Hale and Dorr (now Wilmer Hale) in the firm's Boston office, where he specialized in corporate bankruptcy, workouts and debt restructuring, and spent considerable time on pro bono representation of individual debtors. Judge Kimball left Hale and Dorr to become a vice president at Colonial Management Associates Inc., a Boston-based mutual fund advisor, where he oversaw all fixed-income defaults for the firm's municipal department. Thereafter, he was a shareholder with the Florida firm Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson, P.A., where his practice focused on representing institutional investors and indenture trustees in connection with defaults of publicly traded debt securities. He later returned to Boston as a vice president in the Investment Department at Columbia Management Advisors, an affiliate of Bank of America, where he supervised all fixed-income defaults and assisted in the management of its Municipal Department. From 2003 until his judicial appointment in 2008, Judge Kimball was a shareholder at Akerman Senterfitt in the firm's Orlando office, where he represented secured creditors, indenture trustees, institutional investors, corporate debtors and other parties in bankruptcy, receivership and debt-restructuring matters. Prior to his appointment, Judge Kimball was a member of the Board of Governors and a member of the Executive Committee of the National Federation of Municipal Analysts, an organization of more than 2,000 municipal credit analysts whose primary goal is to provide educational programs for municipal finance professionals. During his long association with the NFMA, he assisted in writing and presenting on numerous topics relevant to municipal finance. Judge Kimball is a recipient of the Denis Maguire Pro Bono Award of the Boston Bar Association. He received his B.A. from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst in 1987 and his J.D. from Boston College Law School in 1990.

Donald R. Kirk is a shareholder with Carlton Fields Jordan Burt, P.A. in Tampa, Fla., and leads the firm's bankruptcy and creditors' rights practice. He represents clients in high-value bankruptcy and creditors' rights litigation, complex workouts, financial restructurings, asset sales, commercial litigation and contract disputes. He also represents secured lenders, unsecured creditors, vendors and purchasers of assets from troubled companies, and counsels debtors, trustees, creditors' committees and other stakeholders in multiparty disputes and reorganizations. In addition to representing businesses in all aspects of chapter 11-related litigation, Mr. Kirk provides guidance on ways to identify and mitigate bankruptcy risk, and works with clients on both in-court and out-of-court debt restructurings. His clients span a broad range of industries, from financial services, manufacturing and real estate to consumer products and restaurants. He has handled matters in numerous state and federal courts, including those in Delaware, New York, California, Georgia, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts. Mr. Kirk is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. He is the former president of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association and currently chairs the American Bar Association Model Bankruptcy APA Task Force, the Florida Bar Proceeding Supplementary Task Force, and the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida Local Rules Committee. Mr. Kirk received his B.A. from the University of Florida in 1983 and his J.D. with high honors from the University of Florida Levin College of Law in 1996, where he was a member of the Order of the Coif.

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. He has participated in more than 200 bankruptcy 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.

Stephen R. Leslie is a shareholder with Stichter, Riedel, Blain & Postler, PA in Tampa, Fla., where he advises clients on restructuring and deleveraging. He also heads the firm's Ft. Myers office. Mr. Leslie has acted as lead chapter 11 or workout counsel in matters involving hundreds of millions of dollars in assets spanning marinas, condominium projects of various types, condotel projects, hotels, self-storage facilities, general contractors, construction companies, motorcycle retailers, trucking companies, block and concrete manufacturers, furniture manufacturing, window and

construction component manufacturing, farming operations of various types including citrus, real estate developers, apartment complexes, aerospace concerns and defense contractors, design firms, medical and dental manufacturing and sales concerns, national carnival operators, diamond retailers, clothing retailers, auto repair retailers, retail strip centers, home accessory retailers, open-cast mining concerns, and several different types of restaurant chains. He has also represented lenders and creditors' committees in multiple chapter 11 cases. Mr. Leslie is admitted to practice in Florida and North Carolina and before the U.S. District Courts for the Middle, Northern and Southern Districts of Florida, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. He is listed as a Florida "Super Lawyer" in the area of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Practice in *Super Lawyers Magazine*, in the "Legal 500" Finance, Bankruptcy South Section, in the 2009-15 editions of *Chambers & Partners* in the area of Insolvency Practice in Florida, in the 2012-15 editions of *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights, Insolvency and Reorganization Law, and in *Tampa Bay's Best Lawyers*. He is also AV-rated in Martindale-Hubbell and received book awards for the highest academic scores in six law school courses, including the Alexander L. Paskay Bankruptcy Book Award and the American Jurisprudence Secured Transactions Book Award. Mr. Leslie received his B.S.B.A. from the University of South Florida in 1990 and his J.D. *cum laude* in 1993 from Stetson University College of Law.

Dennis J. LeVine is a partner in the Tampa, Fla., office of Kelley Kronenberg, where he focuses his state-wide practice on bankruptcy litigation and creditors' rights. He is one of only seven attorneys in Florida to be Board Certified in both Consumer Bankruptcy Law and Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification (ABC). Prior to joining the firm, Mr. LeVine was founder and president of Dennis LeVine & Associates, P.A. in Tampa for 19 years where he primarily represented creditors and chapter 7 trustees in all bankruptcy courts and creditors in commercial and consumer collection actions. He is licensed to practice in the federal courts in the Northern, Middle and Southern Districts of Florida. Mr. LeVine is a past president of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association and an active member of ABI, for which he served on its Board of Directors, and the Florida Bar's Business Law Section. He has published numerous articles on consumer bankruptcy law in the *ABI Journal*, the *Florida Bar Journal*, the ABI Consumer Bankruptcy Committee e-newsletter and *The Cramdown*, the monthly publication of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association. He has also been a guest speaker on bankruptcy and collection law throughout the U.S. Mr. LeVine received his undergraduate degree from Tulane University, where he was elected Phi Beta Kappa, and his J.D. from George Washington University's National Law Center.

Jerry M. Markowitz is a founding shareholder of Markowitz Ringel Trusty + Hartog, P.A. in Miami and a member of the firm's Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights practice group. He concentrates his practice in the areas of creditors' and debtors' rights, including workouts, bankruptcy, asset recovery, insolvency, receiverships, reorganizations, restructuring and mediation. Mr. Markowitz is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*, *Chambers USA* in the bankruptcy and restructuring category, the "Top 250 Attorneys in South Florida" by the *South Florida Legal Guide*, *Super Lawyers* "Top 100 Lawyers in Florida," and the "Best of the Bar" by the *South Florida Business Journal*. He was also recognized by *Florida Trend's* Hall of Fame for being named in their Florida Legal Elite list for the past 10 years. Mr. Markowitz is a member of the Florida Bar, ABI (for which he has served on its Board of Directors, the American Bar Association's Business Law, Business Bankruptcy Committee and Commercial Financial Services Committee Sections, and the Continuing Legal Education Committee for the University of Miami Bankruptcy Skills Workshop (for

which he has served as chairman and co-chairman), and he is a member of, and a former president of, the Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida. He is also the past president of the University of Miami School of Law Alumni Association. As an active ABI member, Mr. Markowitz is a regional chair for ABI's Endowment Fund and co-Education Director of ABI's Mediation Committee. He also sits on the advisory boards of ABI's Southeast Bankruptcy Workshop and Caribbean Insolvency Symposium, and has served as faculty for the ABI/St. John's University School of Law's mediation training program. He is a certified mediator in Florida. Mr. Markowitz received his B.S. in business administration with a concentration in accounting from the University of Florida and his J.D. from the University of Miami School of Law.

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

Hon. Catherine Peek McEwen is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida in Tampa, appointed by the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals on Aug. 22, 2005, and an adjunct professor at Western Michigan University Cooley Law School. She is the first female judge appointed in her district. Prior to becoming a judge, she was in private practice for almost 23 years in Tampa and was a solo practitioner from 2001 until the date of her appointment to the bench. Before opening her solo practice, she was a shareholder of Akerman Senterfitt & Eidson, P.A., formerly known as Moffitt, Hart & Herron, P.A., where she practiced law from 1982-2001 in its Tampa office, concentrating on commercial litigation with an emphasis on representing parties in bankruptcy cases. Judge McEwen is the judicial chair of the Florida Bar Business Law Section Bankruptcy/UCC Committee and a member of the Florida Bar Business Law Section Executive Council, as well as past chair of the Florida Bar Federal Court Practice Committee. She is also a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges Legislative Committee, and her past NCBJ committee appointments include chair of the Newsletter Committee and editor-in-chief of Conference News, National Bar Association Liaison Committee, Endowment for Education Board, and co-chair of the Future of the Conference Committee. Judge McEwen is the immediate past chair and a member of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit (of Florida) Pro Bono Committee. She also sits on the Board of Directors of the Hillsborough Association for Women Lawyers. Judge McEwen was elected into the American Law Institute in 2012. Among her other honors are the Stetson University College of Law Distinguished Alumnus Award (2007), Hillsborough County Bar Association Jimmy Kynes Pro Bono Service Award (2008), the Stetson University College of Law J. Ben Watkins Award (2009), the Florida Association of Women Lawyers Leaders in the Law designation (2010), and the Tampa Bay Hispanic Bar Association's Luis "Tony" Cabassa Award (2012). Prior to becoming a lawyer, she was a sportswriter from 1975-1979 for the *Tampa Tribune* and the *Tampa Times*. Judge McEwen received her B.A. in political science from the University of South Florida in 1979 and her J.D. *cum laude* from Stetson University in 1982.

Mark S. Mitchell is a shareholder at Rogers Towers, PA in Jacksonville, Fla., where his practice focuses on commercial litigation with an emphasis on insolvency matters, creditors' rights and bankruptcy. He represents creditors and borrowers in a variety of financially distressed matters, including bankruptcies, loan workouts, commercial foreclosures and receiverships, assignments for the benefit of creditors, and judgment enforceability actions. Mr. Mitchell represents parties in bankruptcy cases and adversary proceedings, including secured and unsecured lenders, bankruptcy trustees, creditor committees and debtors. He also represents court-appointed receivers and fiduciaries, including assignees in assignments for the benefit of creditors. Mr. Mitchell began his legal career as a law clerk to U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Proctor. He received his B.A. in 2001 from Samford University and his J.D. *cum laude* from the University of Arkansas School of Law in 2004.

Tara E. Nauful joined Adams and Reese LLP in 2014 as a partner in the firm's Columbia, S.C., office and is a member of its Transactions and Corporate Advisory Services Practice Group. She assists clients in general business counseling, corporate restructuring and liquidation matters, commercial lending transactions, and asset acquisitions. Ms. Nauful is a member of the South Carolina, North Carolina and Georgia bars, and is a certified specialist in Bankruptcy-Debtor/Creditor Law by the South Carolina Supreme Court. Among her other professional activities, she is the current newsletter editor for ABI's Ethics and Professional Compensation Committee. Ms. Nauful received her B.A. in 1989 from the University of Virginia and her J.D. in 1992 from the University of South Carolina School of Law, and is a graduate of ABI/St. John's 40-Hour Mediation Program.

William L. Norton, III is a member in the Nashville, Tenn., office of Bradley Arant Boult Cummings, PLC, which he joined in 1984. He practices in the area of commercial finance and focuses primarily on creditors' rights and insolvency law. Mr. Norton is certified as a business bankruptcy law specialist by the Tennessee Commission on Legal Education and Specialization, and he is an adjunct professor at Vanderbilt University School of Law and a frequent speaker at seminars on bankruptcy, real property foreclosure and the Uniform Commercial Code. He is also the managing editor of *Norton Bankruptcy Law & Practice 3d* and co-wrote *Norton Creditors' Rights Handbook* (Thomson Reuters). Mr. Norton is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, a past president and emeritus board member of the American Board of Certification, a past president and founder of the Tennessee Turnaround Management Association, a past president, board member and frequent speaker at the Mid-South Commercial Law Institute, and the seminar manager for the Norton Institutes (www.nortoninstitutes.org). He is also the current chair of the Subcommittee on Individual Chapter 11s of the ABA Business Bankruptcy Committee of the ABA's Business Section. Mr. Norton received his B.A. in 1975 and his J.D. in 1982 from Vanderbilt University.

Jimmy D. Parrish is a partner in the Orlando, Fla., office of BakerHostetler in its Bankruptcy, Restructuring and Creditors' Rights group and has extensive experience in a broad range of insolvency and business bankruptcy matters. He is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy by the American Board of Certification and has represented corporate debtors, committees, trustees, secured lenders and other creditors in virtually every industry, including agriculture, airline, health care, manufacturing, communications, real estate, hospitality and energy. Mr. Parrish is admitted to practice in Alabama and Florida, and before U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, as well as the U.S. District Courts for the Northern, Southern and Middle Districts of Florida. He received his B.A. in

1997 from the University of Alabama and his J.D. in 2000 from the University of Alabama School of Law.

Charles A. Postler is a partner with Stichter, Riedel, Blain & Postler, P.A. in Tampa, Fla., where he handles large and complex business transactions. Much of his practice is devoted to the representation of parties buying or selling operating companies or other significant assets through asset-purchase agreements or stock-purchase agreements. Mr. Postler has represented parties in sale and purchase or financing transactions in a wide variety of matters, including the sale or acquisition of public companies and billion-dollar multinational commercial enterprises to luxury resorts and yachts. In the chapter 11 context, he routinely handles the drafting of plans of reorganization and disclosure statements in many of the firm's largest cases, as well as transactional documents, debtor-in-possession financing documents and plan-confirmation funding documents. Mr. Postler has taken the lead in the representation of numerous large, publicly traded and private companies in successful chapter 11 cases. Previously, he was with Fowler, White, Gillen, Boggs, Villareal and Banker, P.A. in Tampa, where he specialized in securities law, mergers and acquisitions, and corporation and banking law. Mr. Postler received his J.D. in 1984 from the University of Florida.

John Rao is an attorney with the National Consumer Law Center in Boston, where he focuses on consumer credit, mortgage servicing and bankruptcy issues, and he has served as a panelist and instructor at numerous bankruptcy and consumer law trainings and conferences. He is a contributing author and editor of *NCLC's Consumer Bankruptcy Law and Practice*, co-author of *NCLC's Foreclosures*, and author of *Bankruptcy Basics*, *Guide to Surviving Debt* and *NCLC Reports: Bankruptcy and Foreclosures Edition*. He is also a contributing author to *Collier on Bankruptcy* and a member of its editorial board, as well as a contributing author to the *Collier Bankruptcy Practice Guide*, and has authored articles for the *ABI Journal*. Mr. Rao served as a member of the federal Judicial Conference Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules from 2006-12, appointed by Chief Justice John Roberts, and has served as an expert witness and testified before Congress on consumer matters. He is a conferee of the National Bankruptcy Conference, a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, board member of the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys and a former ABI Board member. He has also served as an adjunct faculty member at Boston College School of Law. Mr. Rao is a graduate of Boston University and received his J.D. from the University of California.

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.

Robert C. Schweitzer is the principal of RCS Mediation & Consulting Services in Boca Raton, Fla., and has more than 35 years of experience in the financial services industry. He currently serves as chairman of the board of 1-800-PetMeds and RiceBran Technologies, and as lead independent director of OmniComm. He was a former lead independent director of Altisource Asset Management. Mr. Schweitzer holds certification as a mediator for the Florida Supreme Court and as a FIN-RA arbitrator. He previously served as president of Shay Investment Services, a registered broker-dealer and investment management company; Florida Regional President Northwest Savings Bank following its acquisition of Equinox Bank, where he was president and CEO; regional president of Union Planters Bank Broward/Palm Beach; EVP head of Commercial Banking at Barnett Bank/Bank of America in Jacksonville, Fla.; director and head of Real Estate Consulting firm Coopers & Lybrand in Washington, D.C.; SVP manager of Central North America Commercial Real Estate/manager of Credit Review at First National Bank of Chicago; and SVP/manager of Central North America Corporate Banking at Wachovia Bank. Mr. Schweitzer served in the U.S. Navy/Naval Reserve in the Submarine Force for 30 years and retired with a rank of Captain. He received his B.S. from the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., and his M.B.A. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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 current 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 A-V 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.

Robert A. Soriano is a shareholder with Greenberg Traurig, LLP in Tampa, Fla., where he focuses his practice on bankruptcy litigation, business restructuring and creditor rights representation. He has represented major banks, secured lenders, private creditors and property owners in a variety

of bankruptcy proceedings and reorganizations over his 30-year career. Previously, Mr. Soriano clerked for Hon. Mark A. Costantino, a U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, and practiced in New York at Skadden Arps. He has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for 23 years, has received the highest rating in *Chambers USA Guide to America's Leading Business Lawyers*, was listed as one of the "Top 100 Lawyers in Florida" from 2006-14 in *Super Lawyers*, and is among *Florida Trend Magazine's* "Legal Elite," having been named 2014 Tampa Lawyer of the Year by *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law. He is also a contributing editor to the *Collier Bankruptcy Practice Guide* and *Chapter 11 Theory and Practice*. A Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, Mr. Soriano is a member of ABI and the American Law Institute, as well as a founding director of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association. He received his A.B. from Rutgers University and his J.D. *cum laude* from Syracuse University.

Wayne Spivak is a staff attorney for Laurie Weatherford, the standing chapter 13 trustee in Orlando, Fla.. Prior to joining the office in October 2013, he worked for several years as a creditors' rights attorney with both Albertelli Law and Ronald R. Wolfe and Associates, P.L. Before practicing law, Mr. Spivak spent nine years on active duty in the U.S. Navy as an electronics technician, then worked seven years as a claims representative for the Social Security Administration. He received his B.A. in public administration in 1998 from San Diego State University and his J.D. from Stetson Law in 2005.

Charles W. Throckmorton is a founding member of Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton, LLP in Miami and leads the firm's bankruptcy department. His practice focuses on bankruptcy, creditors' rights and complex commercial litigation matters. Mr. Throckmorton is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy. He was named Miami's Lawyer of the Year in the field of Bankruptcy Law by *The Best Lawyers in America* in 2014, and the *Miami Daily Business Review* named him Miami's "Most Effective Lawyer" in the field of bankruptcy in 2013. He has been AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell since 1985 and is now rated AV-Preeminent. He is also a member of *Florida Trend Magazine's* Legal Elite Hall of Fame. Mr. Throckmorton has extensive experience in debt restructurings and workouts, bankruptcy sales, pre-bankruptcy planning, fraudulent conveyance and preferential transfer litigation, and all forms of commercial disputes that arise from secured transactions, lending agreements and business contracts. He has represented numerous companies in chapter 11 reorganizations and also regularly represents lenders, secured and unsecured creditors, creditors' committees and trustees in bankruptcy matters. He is also an experienced trial and appellate attorney who has litigated many jury and nonjury matters in federal and state trial and appellate courts in Florida and elsewhere around the U.S. Mr. Throckmorton regularly lectures and writes on bankruptcy and commercial law. He received his J.D. in 1979 from the University of Virginia.

Philip J. von Kahle is president of Michael Moecker & Associates, Inc. and its affiliates in Hollywood, Fla., where he manages and administers the day-to-day operations of insolvency cases throughout the Southeast. He has been acted as assignee, liquidating trustee, receiver, conservator, custodian, chapter 11 trustee, plan administrator, special master and guardian. His notable appointments include Buy Owner, Inc., for which he was assignee and stabilized and sold 17 entities; HWA Properties, Inc., for which he was chapter 11 trustee for a high-end real estate company; RQB Resorts/TPC Sawgrass Marriott & Golf Course, for which he was liquidating trustee; S&P/P&S

General Partnerships, for which he was conservator for Bernard Madoff feeder funds; estate of Victor Posner, for which he was curator of complex estate with 147 companies; Dade Medical College/USMF, for which he was assignee for eight-campus college; Oriole Home Corp., for which he was assignee for a developer of 2,200 home sites; Dennis J. Fullenkamp, for whom he was creditor trustee for \$88 million of property; and Gregory Talbot, for whom he was bankruptcy plan administrator for a multi-million-dollar estate.

Jeffrey W. Warren is a founder and president of Bush Ross, PA in Tampa, Fla., where he focuses on commercial litigation and dispute resolution. He has a experience in chapter 11 reorganization cases, both as courtroom counsel and as an out-of-court negotiator and problem-solver. Mr. Warren is admitted to practice in Florida, the U.S. District Courts for the Middle, Northern and Southern Districts of Florida, the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Fourth, Fifth, Tenth and Eleventh Circuits, and the U.S. Supreme Court. He has been inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and is a former contributing editor for the *ABI Journal*. He is also Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. Mr. Warren has served as president and chair of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association, and has authored several chapters for Florida Bar publications and numerous articles regarding creditors' rights issues. In 2008, the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association presented Mr. Warren with its "Douglas P. McClurg Professionalism Award." He has been recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America* since 1995 and received its "Lawyer of the Year" designation in Bankruptcy Creditor Debtor Rights and Bankruptcy Litigation in 2011 and 2013, respectively. He has also been named to Florida's "Legal Elite" by *Florida Trend Magazine* since 2005, and has been recognized as one of the top 10 *Florida Super Lawyers* for 2008, 2009, 2013, 2014 and 2015. Mr. Warren is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell. He received both his B.S. in 1969 and his J.D. in 1972 from the University of Florida.

Hon. Michael G. Williamson is Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida in Tampa, initially appointed as bankruptcy judge in March 2000 and as chief judge on Oct. 1, 2015. He is also an adjunct professor at Stetson University College of Law, where he teaches bankruptcy law, and co-authored West's *Bankruptcy Law Manual*. Judge Williamson served as a chapter 7 panel trustee from 1977-1979 and represented numerous chapter 11 corporate debtors, creditors' committees and trustees in bankruptcy cases throughout Florida. He is a past chair of the Committee on Creditors' Rights for the Section of Litigation of the American Bar Association, past chair of the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar and its Bankruptcy/UCC Committee, and a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy. Judge Williamson received his undergraduate undergraduate degree from Duke University in 1973 and his J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center in 1976.

Mark J. Wolfson is a member of Foley & Lardner LLP's Bankruptcy and Business Reorganizations Practice in Tampa, Fla., for the Southeast region and is a former chair of the firm's Litigation Department in Tampa. He has extensive experience in out-of-court loan workout and restructuring matters, as well as broad experience in all types of insolvency and bankruptcy cases, representing secured creditors, creditors' committees, buyers of assets in chapter 11, equity-holders, bondholders and parties to contracts such as landlords and franchisors. He also has experience in state, federal district and bankruptcy courts litigating fraudulent-transfer and preference actions, and has been involved in state assignment-for-the-benefit-of-creditors proceedings. Mr. Wolfson has been the lead attorney on workout and restructuring engagements involving more than \$1 billion in complex real

estate and corporate loans. He also has experience in real estate, manufacturing, telecommunication, technology, health care, automotive and agriculture insolvency cases. Mr. Wolfson has been appointed by the Circuit Court of Hillsborough County, Fla., as a special master, a role in which he effectively acts as a “magistrate judge” to hear evidence, make evidentiary and procedural rulings, and render findings of fact and conclusions of law for review by a trial judge. He has been peer-review rated as AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell and has been recognized in *Chambers USA: America’s Leading Business Lawyers* since 2003. He has also been selected for inclusion in the 2006-13 editions of *Florida Super Lawyers* and in *The Best Lawyers in America* from 2007-12 for Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights Law. He was also honored by the Florida Bar Business Law Section as its Outstanding Member of the Year for 2001. Mr. Wolfson received his bachelor’s degree with high honors from the University of Tennessee in 1979, where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Omicron Delta Kappa, and his J.D. from the University of Florida in 1982, after which he served a judicial clerkship to the Florida Second District Court of Appeals.