



AMERICAN
BANKRUPTCY
INSTITUTE

42nd Annual Alexander L. Paskay Memorial Bankruptcy Seminar

Faculty Biographies

Hon. Frank J. Bailey was appointed as a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Massachusetts in Boston on Jan. 30, 2009, and served as Chief Judge from December 2010 until December 2015. He also serves on the First Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel. Previously, Judge Bailey clerked for Hon. Herbert P. Wilkins of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court from 1980-81 and was an associate at the Boston office of Sullivan & Worcester LLP until 1987, where he practiced in its litigation and bankruptcy departments. He spent the next 22 years as a partner at Sherin and Lodgen LLP, where he chaired its litigation department and was a member of its management committee. His practice focused on complex business litigation and creditors' rights, and he often represented clients in medical device, pharmaceutical and high-technology businesses. Judge Bailey served as the consul for the Republic of Bulgaria in Boston before his appointment to the bench, and he has participated in many international judicial programs. In 2013, he taught at the Astrakhan State University School of Law in south central Russia, and he has also taught courses in Bulgaria and in Uzbekistan. In addition, he taught legal writing and research at Boston University School of Law from 1981-93 and currently teaches business bankruptcy at Suffolk University Law School in Boston. Judge Bailey was appointed by the First Circuit to oversee the financial restructuring of the City of Central Falls, R.I., a rare chapter 9 case. The City of Central Falls filed a contested plan of readjustment that was confirmed in a little more than a year from filing. Judge Bailey serves on the Board of Governors of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges and is the chair of the National Conference of Federal Trial Judges of the American Bar Association. In addition, he serves on the Standing Committee on Diversity in the American Judiciary of the Judicial Division of the American Bar Association. Judge Bailey received his B.S.F.S. from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service and his J.D. from Suffolk University School of Law.

David C. Banker is a shareholder with Bush Ross, PA in Tampa, Fla., and is civil trial lawyer who has tried a broad range of cases in federal and state courts involving product liability, employment discrimination, medical negligence, personal injury, commercial disputes and consumer disputes. He has also litigated mass tort and class action cases involving prescription drugs, medical devices and consumer products. Mr. Banker represented the National Football League in defending the League's pat-down search policy for stadiums. He has also tried cases of public interest, including the prosecution of harbor pilots for shipping accidents in Tampa Bay, medical negligence cases involving the training and education of medical residents, and the first case extending Florida's Lemon Law to motor homes. In addition, he represents corporate and individual clients at the appellate level. Mr. Banker has lectured on Florida tort reform, medical negligence reform and evidence, and he has written on Florida product-liability law. He has also appeared on ESPN's nationally-televised "Outside the Lines" program as counsel for the NFL to discuss the constitutionality of the League's pat-down search policy at NFL stadiums. Mr. Banker is a member of the Florida Bar, the American Bar Association, the Tampa Bay Inn of Court and the American Board of Trial Advocates. He has been recognized in The Best Lawyers in America and is admitted to practice in Florida, the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. He received his B.A. *magna cum laude* in 1978 from Vanderbilt University and his J.D. with honors in 1981 from the University of Florida, where he worked on the *University of Florida Law Review*.

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 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.

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 27 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 and is a member of its Faculty Committee. 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 Southwest Florida Bankruptcy Professionals Association and the San Diego Bankruptcy Forum. 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 founding shareholder in the Miami office of GrayRobinson, P.A., where she concentrates on complex business litigation, bankruptcy and insolvency matters representing creditors, receivers, assignees, trustees and debtors. She has served as mediator, custodian, examiner, receiver, special master and as an expert witness in federal and state court proceedings, and her practice in the area of restructuring and creditors' rights is currently focused on complex business and cross-border bankruptcy and commercial litigation matters. She is also a certified civil court mediator. Ms. Blanco is currently Finance Director for the International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation and Secretary of the Florida Bar's Business Law Section. She was also co-editor for ABI's Asset Sales Committee's newsletter. Ms. Blanco is a past president of the Bankruptcy Bar of the Southern District of Florida and past chair of the Florida Bar Business Law Section's Bankruptcy/UCC Committee and Bankruptcy Judicial Liaison Committee. She was awarded the Key Partners Award by the *South Florida Business Journal* in 2012 and was recently recognized in the *Wall Street Journal* as being among the Top 50 Women Attorneys in Florida in 2016 and Top 100 Lawyers in Miami-Dade County. Ms. Blanco is a 2014 Fellow for the Legal Council in Legal Diversity and a member of Leadership Florida Class XXXII. She is ranked in *Chambers USA*, and has been named a *Florida Super Lawyer* and Top Lawyer by *Florida Trend's Legal Elite*. 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.

Jacob A. Brown is a partner with Akerman LLP in Jacksonville, Fla., where he practices in the areas of bankruptcy, creditors' rights and commercial litigation. His practice also includes workouts and business reorganizations, as well as the analysis of complex legal and business issues associated with bankruptcy and real estate matters and representation of commercial landlords in bankruptcy

cases throughout the U.S. Mr. Brown is a member of ABI, the Florida Bar Association, the Georgia Bar Association and the Jacksonville Bar Association, and he is a past president and chairman of the Jacksonville Bankruptcy Bar Association. He currently serves on the executive council of the Florida Bar's Business Law Section as its Treasurer and is a past chair of the Section's Legislative, Bankruptcy Judicial Liaison, and Bankruptcy/UCC Committees. He is admitted to practice in the federal and state courts of Florida and Georgia and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. Following law school, Mr. Brown clerked for Hon. Jerry A. Funk, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida. He received two B.S. degrees from North Carolina State University and his J.D. from Samford University's Cumberland School of Law, where he was a member of Cumberland's trial advocacy program.

Hon. Mildred Cabán was sworn in as a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Puerto Rico on March 19, 2010. She sat at the Southwestern Divisional Office in Ponce, P.R., until Aug. 31, 2011, and is currently sitting in Old San Juan. Judge Cabán is chair of NCBJ's Public Outreach Committee and chaired its HNBA Liaison Committee. She is also part of the District Examination Committee for the Federal Bar in Puerto Rico, and she serves as the First Circuit representative for the Bankruptcy Judges Advisory Group and as faculty for the Education Committee for the Federal Judicial Center. Previously, Judge Cabán clerked for Judge Laffitte of the U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico, then practiced bankruptcy law at Brown Newsom & Córdova. She was then a partner for 11 years at Goldman Antonetti & Córdova, P.S.C., where her law practice focused on representing creditors in both commercial and consumer bankruptcy cases. Judge Cabán has spoken on various bankruptcy and consumer law topics for several organizations and has judged trial and moot court competitions. She is a member of ABI and the Judicial Counsel of HNBA, and in 2014 she received the CARE Volunteer of the Year Award in honor of her work with the Credit Abuse Resistance Education organization. Judge Cabán received her B.A. from Barnard College in 1983 and her J.D. from New York University School of Law in 1986.

Hon. Roberta A. Colton is a bankruptcy judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida in Orlando, the first bankruptcy judge to be appointed under a memorandum of understanding between the Eighth and Eleventh Circuit Courts. She also serves as a member of the mediation team involved in the Puerto Rico PROMESA cases. Prior to taking the bench, Judge Colton practiced at Trenam Law in Tampa, Fla., where she was a shareholder and a member of the firm's Executive Board. Her practice areas included business reorganization, bankruptcy litigation, foreclosure/lender liability, creditors' committees, bankruptcy trustee representation, commercial litigation and bankruptcy asset sales. Prior to joining Trenam Law, she served as a judicial law clerk for Hon. James C. Hill of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit in Atlanta. During her more than 30 years in practice, Judge Colton has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy & Creditor-Debtor Rights, Bet-the-Company Litigation and Bankruptcy Litigation. She was also featured as a "Tampa Best Lawyer of the Year" in bankruptcy law. Prior to her appointment, Judge Colton was named one of the top 10 *Super Lawyers* in Florida from 2011-16. She has served as Eleventh Circuit Regent for the American College of Bankruptcy, chair of the Local Rules Committee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court of the Middle District of Florida, and chair of the Grievance Committee of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida. She also is the former chair of the Florida Bar Business Law Section's Bankruptcy/UCC Committee, as well as the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association. Judge Colton has taught numerous CLE programs over the past 20 years, both for the Florida Bar and for bankruptcy programs across the country, on topics ranging from specific bankruptcy and

foreclosure issues, workout issues, mediation, and trial and discovery issues. 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.

Louis T. M. Conti is a partner in the Tampa, Fla., office of Holland & Knight, where his practice includes serving as outside counsel to domestic and foreign businesses of all sizes; mergers and acquisitions; corporation, LLC and partnership formation and owner disputes; cash flow and asset-based financings; leveraged buyouts; public and private equity placements; venture capital investments; corporate and LLC governance; complex domestic and cross-border transactions; joint ventures; and strategic alliances. He has served as a special master and arbitrator in LLC disputes, and as an expert witness in connection with Florida corporate and LLC law in cases around the state. Mr. Conti was a Uniform Law Commissioner representing the state of Florida at the Uniform Law Commission from 2011-16. He chaired The Florida Bar LLC Act Drafting Committee (2008-13), which drafted the Florida Revised LLC Act, signed into law on June 14, 2013. He also served as the principal author for the 2000 Florida Limited Liability Limited Partnership Act, and chaired the Florida Revised Uniform Partnership Act Drafting Committee. Mr. Conti is an adjunct law professor at the University of Florida, Levin College of Law (2006-present) and was an instructor at the Advanced Judicial College for Florida Circuit Court Judges (2012 and 2015). He has been a speaker at the Florida Annual Federal Securities Institute for more than 14 years, speaking on mergers and acquisitions developments, and has been a speaker at ABA and/or Florida Bar CLE programs every year for the past 22 years (1995-17). Mr. Conti is AV-Preeminent peer-review rated by Martindale-Hubbell and has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Corporate Law, Tax Law from 1995-2018 and as a Florida Legal Elite in *Florida Trend* magazine from 2005-10 and 2014-16, received the Outstanding Member of the Year Award from the Florida Bar's Business Law Section in 2013 and the Gerald T. Hart Outstanding Tax Attorney of the Year from the Florida Bar's Tax Section from 2011-12. He has also been listed in *Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who in American Law*, *Who's Who in Business and Finance* and *Florida Super Lawyers* (2006-09 and 2012-17), as well as in *Corporate Counsel Top Lawyers*. Mr. Conti is admitted to practice in Florida, Pennsylvania, the U.S. District Courts for the Middle District of Florida and the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, the U.S. Tax Court, the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit and the U.S. Supreme Court. He received his B.S. with honors from LaSalle University, his M.B.A. with honors from Drexel University, his J.D. from Creighton University School of Law and his LL.M. in Taxation from Temple University Beasley School of Law.

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

cum laude in 1976 from the University of South Florida and her J.D. in 1979 from Indiana University School of Law, having completed her final year of law school at Emory University School of Law.

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.

Fentrice D. Driskell is a shareholder with Carlton Fields Jorden Burt, P.A. in Tampa, Fla., where she represents banks and other financial institutions in commercial litigation and bankruptcy matters. She also defends clients throughout all stages of consumer finance litigation involving the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA), Florida Consumer Collection Practices Act (FCCPA), Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA), Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA), Fair Credit Billing Act (FCBA) and Truth in Lending Act (TILA). Ms. Driskell partners with clients to develop policies, procedures and compliance best practices with respect to state and federal consumer protection laws, including the TCPA. In addition, she handles commercial and contested foreclosures and works with clients to enforce creditors' remedies in bankruptcy proceedings. As a business litigator, Ms. Driskell has handled cases involving breach of contract, civil theft, the Uniform Commercial Code, covenants not to compete, nonsolicitation clause disputes, theft of trade secrets, and unfair and deceptive trade practices. She also has experience litigating civil lawsuits to recover criminal restitution. Prior to joining Carlton Fields, Ms. Driskell clerked for Hon. Anne C. Conway, Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida. She also previously interned for Magistrate Judge Andrew J. Peck of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. Ms. Driskell is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell and currently serves as president of the George Edgecomb Bar Association. She has been selected by *Florida Super Lawyers* as a "Rising Star" each year since 2011, and in 2015, she was listed as an "Up-and-Comer" in *Florida Trend's* Florida Legal Elite. Mr. Driskell is admitted to practice in Florida and before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, the U.S. District and Bankruptcy Courts for the Middle District of Florida, and the U.S. District Court for the Southern

District of Florida. She received her B.A. in 2001 from Harvard University, where she was the first African-American woman elected president of the Undergraduate Council, and her J.D. in 2004 from Georgetown University Law Center, where she was a member of the Frederick Douglass Moot Court Team and received the Dean's Certificate for Outstanding Service to the Law Center Community.

Sara Dunn is a commercial litigation associate with the law firm of Quarles & Brady LLP in Tampa, Florida. Sara frequently handles a wide variety of commercial, insurance recovery, professional liability, real property, and business litigation matters. She has assisted with jury and non-jury trials in both state and federal court. Her recent work includes representing a client in a three-day federal bench trial prosecuting *replevin* and conversion claims, which resulted in a favorable settlement for the client prior to the conclusion of trial, and representing an individual in an adversary proceeding requesting a full discharge of her student loans and obtained a consent judgment providing for all requested relief, including a full student loan discharge. Prior to joining Quarles & Brady, Ms. Dunn served as a law clerk at Infinite Energy Inc. while attending law school. She received her B.A. *magna cum laude* in international studies and her M.A. in international business from the University of Florida Warrington College of Business, and her J.D. *cum laude* from the University of Florida Levin College 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.

Robert F. Elgidely is an attorney with Genovese Joblove & Battista, P.A. in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., and regularly represents clients in connection with bankruptcy, construction, ERISA/employee benefits, federal taxation and real estate disputes in Florida and New York. For the past six years, his practice has primarily been devoted to the representation of chapter 7 trustees in bankruptcy cases stemming from mass fraud. Mr. Elgidely represented the chapter 11 trustee of Rothstein Rosenfeldt & Adler, P.A., a law firm that had collapsed following the revelation of its principal's \$1.2 billion Ponzi scheme; this resulted in a 100 percent distribution to the victim-creditors of Rothstein's fraud. He has also served as U.S. special counsel to the chapter 7 trustee of the *Ulrich Engler* bankruptcy case,

involving a \$350 million international Ponzi scheme, in which significant recoveries were obtained on behalf of the 7,000 victim-creditors, and he represents the chapter 7 trustee of the Frank Mongeluzzi bankruptcy case, which stemmed from an alleged massive check-kiting scheme. Mr. Elgidely is a board member for the PACE Center for Girls Broward and a mentor to law students at Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad College of Law. He is also an active member of the American Bar Association, the Federal Bar Association, the Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida and the Broward County Bar Association. Selected as a “Top Lawyer” by *South Florida Legal Guide*, Mr. Elgidely also served in the U.S. Army National Guard and the U.S. Army Reserve from 1989-93, having completed Basic Combat Training in April 1989 at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and advanced individual training as a medic at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, in August 1990. He received his B.A. from Siena College in 1993, his J.D. in 1996 from Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad College of Law and his LL.M. in taxation in 1997 from the University of Miami School of Law.

Kristina E. Feher is a sole practitioner with Feher Law, P.L.L.C. in St. Petersburg, Fla., and has practiced in the areas of foreclosure defense, bankruptcy, immigration, and divorce. She is a member of the Florida Bar’s Young Lawyers Division Board of Governors and has been a Sixth Judicial Circuit Representative since 2014, a member of the St. Petersburg Bar Association’s Young Lawyers’ Division, and a Secretary for the Pinellas County Chapter of the Florida Association for Women Lawyers, for which she also served as membership director and public relations director. Ms. Feher received her undergraduate degree in criminology with honors from Barry University and her J.D. from Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

Lara Roeske Fernandez is a shareholder with Trenam Law in Tampa, Fla., and leads the firm’s Bankruptcy, Creditors’ Rights & Insolvency Practice Group. Her clients include financial institutions, fiduciaries/trustees and private-equity groups in the areas of business reorganizations, trustee representation, bankruptcy litigation, commercial foreclosures and workouts, and loan modifications. She also serves as a chapter 11 trustee and liquidation trustee. Ms. Fernandez is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification and is ranked in *Chambers USA*, listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*, and rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell. She previously served on the board of directors for the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association from 2007-13 as president and past chair. Ms. Fernandez 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.

James D. Gassenheimer is a partner on Berger Singerman LLP’s Dispute Resolution Team in Miami and has extensive jury and non-jury trial experience in state, federal and bankruptcy courts, having tried over 100 cases to jury verdict or judgment. His practice includes bankruptcy litigation, real estate related litigation, business torts, complex commercial litigation, insurance litigation and product-liability litigation. Mr. Gassenheimer is Board Certified as a Civil Trial Lawyer by The Florida Bar and National Board of Trial Advocacy, and has been recognized as a leading commercial litigator by *Chambers USA*, *The Best Lawyers in America*, and a number of other national and regional publications. He currently serves on the Executive Counsel of the Trial Lawyer’s section of the Florida Bar and the Civil Trial certification committee. Mr. Gassenheimer received his B.A. from Brown Univer-

sity and his J.D. *cum laude* from the University of Miami School of Law, where he served as editor of the *Business Law Journal* and was a member of the Order of the Coif.

Paul A. Giordano is a partner with Roetzel & Andress, LPA in Fort Myers, Fla., and is Practice Group Manager for Business Litigation. He handles a variety of business, commercial and banking litigation, with a special focus on bankruptcy & 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 nonjury trial practice. Mr. Giordano is active in several bankruptcy-related professional organizations, including the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association, the Bankruptcy Legal Education Series Foundation Inc. (for which he served as treasurer from 2014-15 and president and chairman of the board from 2013-14), and the Southwest Florida Bankruptcy Professional Association, where he served as President in 2014. He has received professional accolades for his work in bankruptcy and has been named by *Florida Trend* as one of the "Legal Elite" for Bankruptcy & Workout (2013 and 2016), in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Litigation - Bankruptcy (2018), by *Florida Super Lawyers* as a "Rising Star" in Bankruptcy (2011-13) and in *Florida Super Lawyers* (2015-17), and is rated AV-Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell. 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. Judge Glenn has been a featured speaker or panelist at continuing legal education sessions for the American Bar Association, ABI, the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, the American College of Bankruptcy, the Turnaround Management Association, the Equipment Leasing and Finance Association, the Florida Bar, the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants and local bar associations. He has been a guest lecturer at the University of Florida and Stetson University Colleges of Law, and at Florida Coastal School of Law. He is also a contributing editor for the *Norton Handbook for Bankruptcy Trustees, Debtors in Possession, and Committees*. 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 has traveled to St. Petersburg, Russia, on an international judges visitation, and he has spoken to visiting judges from Russia. He has also been a speaker at international seminars in Budapest, Hungary, and in Toronto. Judge Glenn has served as president and a director of the Ferguson-White American Inn of Court in Tampa, Fla. In 2010, he was elected to the National Board of Trustees of the American Inns of Court Foundation. He recently served as president of the Chester Bedell American Inn of Court in Jacksonville, which was awarded Platinum status in the Achieving Excellence Program. In 2013, Judge Glenn was appointed to the Budget Committee of the Judicial Conference of the United States and served until 2017. In 2014, he received the Distinguished Service Award from the Bankruptcy Inn Alliance of the America Inns of Court at the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges. Judge Glenn 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. 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*.

Hon. Robert E. Grossman is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of New York in Central Islip and serves as a visiting judge in the Southern District of New York. Prior to taking the bench, he practiced in the areas of corporate law, business reorganization and litigation at Duane Morris, where a significant part of his practice focused on providing advice to troubled or newly restructured companies, as well as investors, with respect to their financing needs. Judge Grossman has extensive experience in complex bankruptcy and creditor-rights litigation for both individuals and institutions, and he has represented parties in the restructuring and transfer of assets in bankruptcy court. He is experienced in the intricacies of bankruptcy and restructuring matters across a wide range of industries, including real estate and health care, and has represented borrowers, secured creditors, landlords and owners across the U.S. Prior to joining Duane Morris, Judge Grossman chaired the restructuring practice group of Arent Fox, directing almost 20 professionals in matters across the U.S. and in Europe. He began his legal career at the Securities and Exchange Commission in its Division of Enforcement in a group associated with the Division of Corporate Finance. After leaving the SEC, he founded and served as general counsel to a large financial services company that focused on acquiring and operating distressed assets. Judge Grossman is an adjunct professor at Touro Law School and a past chair of the International Secured Transactions and Insolvency Committee of the American Bar Association's Section of International Law, and he is a frequent speaker both in the U.S. and in Europe. In addition, he is a past president of the Brooklyn Law School Alumni Association. Judge Grossman was recently elected to the Board of Governors of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges. He received his undergraduate degree from Rider University and his J.D. from Brooklyn Law School in 1973.

Scott M. Grossman is a bankruptcy and restructuring attorney and litigator based in Greenberg Traurig, LLP's Ft. Lauderdale and Miami offices, where he represents distressed companies, debtors, trustees, secured and unsecured creditors, landlords, official committees, defendants in insolvency-related litigation, and purchasers of distressed assets. He has worked on bankruptcy cases across various industries, including real estate, hospitality, health care, banking, technology, energy and financial fraud. He also litigates and advises clients on bankruptcy tax issues, Florida's homestead exemption, and fraudulent transfer and preference claims. While primarily involved in chapter 11

reorganizations, Mr. Grossman also represents clients in out-of-court workouts and restructurings, chapter 7 liquidations, receiverships, assignments for the benefit of creditors, and insolvency-related litigation. Previously, he was a trial attorney in the Attorney General's Honors Program with the U.S. Department of Justice, Tax Division, where he litigated federal tax controversies in bankruptcy courts and federal district courts. From July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2016, Mr. Grossman served as the president of the Bankruptcy Bar Association of the Southern District of Florida. He received his B.S. in 1996 from the University of Florida and his J.D. in 1999 from George Washington University Law School.

R. Lawrence Heinkel is a tax lawyer with Heinkel Tax Law Group, LLC in St. Petersburg, Fla., and represents taxpayers throughout the U.S. and beyond. A lawyer for 34 years, his practice is limited to resolving state and federal tax problems, with an emphasis on discharging taxes in bankruptcy. Mr. Heinkel created the Tax Discharge Determinator, the only online program designed to make it easy for attorneys to determine the earliest date an income tax debt is dischargeable in bankruptcy. His papers have been published in the *Journal of Real Estate Taxation* and the *Notre Dame Law Journal*, among others. Mr. Heinkel has degrees in accounting and law from the University of Florida, where he served on its law review, and has an LL.M. in taxation, also from the University of Florida.

Matthew M. Holtsinger is an associate attorney at Kass Shuler, P.A. in Tampa, Fla., where he focuses primarily on the representation of mortgage creditors and automobile lenders in consumer and commercial bankruptcy cases throughout Florida. He is experienced in handling routine and litigated bankruptcy matters, including valuation proceedings, mortgage-modification mediations and real estate litigation, among others. Mr. Holtsinger has been recognized as a *Super Lawyers Rising Star* for 2017 and is admitted to practice in federal court in the Northern, Middle and Southern Districts of Florida. He is a member of the Florida and the Hillsborough County Bar Associations, as well as the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association and ABI. Mr. Holtsinger received his B.A. in history from Stetson University in 2006 and his J.D. *cum laude* from Stetson University College of Law in 2011.

Hon. Laurel M. Isicoff is Chief Judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida in Miami, initially appointed on Feb. 13, 2006, and named chief judge on Oct. 1, 2016. She also serves on ABI's Board of Directors. Judge Isicoff is immediate past secretary, and currently serves as a director, of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, and is also on the board of directors of CARE (Credit Abuse Resistance Education). She is a member of the Pro Bono Committee of the American College of Bankruptcy and chair of its Judicial Outreach Committee. She also currently serves as judicial chair of the Pro Bono Committee of the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar and is a member of the Florida Bar Standing Committee on Pro Bono. Prior to her appointment to the bench, Judge Isicoff specialized in commercial bankruptcy, foreclosure and workout matters both as a transactional attorney and litigator for 14 years with the law firm of Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton, after practicing for eight years with Squire, Sanders & Dempsey, now known as Squire Patton Boggs. She also developed a specialty in bankruptcy and SEC receiverships involving Ponzi schemes. After law school, Judge Isicoff clerked for Hon. Daniel S. Pearson of the Florida Third District Court of Appeals before entering private practice. She is a past president of the Bankruptcy Bar Association (BBA) of the Southern District of Florida and, until she took the bench, chaired its Pro Bono Task Force. Judge Isicoff speaks extensively on bankruptcy around the country, and is committed to increasing pro bono service, diversity in the bankruptcy community and financial literacy. She received her J.D. from the University of Miami School of Law in 1982.

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

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 Hulse & 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 Law Firm 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. He is or has been 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. in business administration in 1985 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 A. Johnston, Jr. is the founder of Richard Johnston Law in Fort Myers, Fla., and specializes in bankruptcy, creditors' rights, commercial litigation and commercial landlord/tenant litigation. He is a board-certified business civil trial attorney and is or has been 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.

Roy S. Kobert is a shareholder in the Orlando and Tampa, Fla., offices of GrayRobinson, P.A., where focuses his practice in the areas of alternative dispute resolution, banking and finance, bankruptcy and creditors' rights law, hospitality and litigation. He has also mediated over 50 bankruptcy and commercial litigation disputes and is the first Florida graduate of the 40-Hour Bankruptcy Mediation

Training program, jointly sponsored by ABI and the Hugh Carey Center for Dispute Resolution at St John's University School of Law. Mr. Kobert is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification, is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell, was designated a "Florida Legal Elite" in *Florida Trend Magazine* (2005, 2009 and 2012, 2014-17), and has been featured in *Chambers USA: A Guide to America's Leading Business Lawyers* as a leading bankruptcy and creditors' rights attorney (2006-17). He has also been recognized in *Orlando Magazine* as one of the region's "Best Lawyers" (2006-07, 2009-17), in *Law & Politics* magazine as a "Florida Super Lawyer" and in *The Best Lawyers in America* (2006-18). In addition, the *Orlando Business Journal* named him one of the "Top 10 Businessmen to Watch" for 2009, and he was inducted as a Fellow in the Litigation Counsel of America in 2014. Mr. Kobert is a former president of the Central Florida Bankruptcy Law Association. He received both his B.A. and J.D. from the University of Miami.

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.

Coral Lopez-Castro has been a partner at Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton, LLP in Miami since 1998 and was a managing partner from 2011-12. She concentrates her practice on bankruptcy and commercial litigation matters. Ms. Lopez-Castro's practice focuses on bankruptcy reorganizations and liquidations, receiverships, debt restructuring and creditors' rights. She has been involved with the liquidation of four bank holding companies in bankruptcy courts around the country and in state court. Ms. Lopez-Castro served on the panel of trustees for the Southern District of Florida between 1998 and 2002, during which she time was responsible for the liquidation of assets in bankruptcy cases filed in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida. She has also been appointed a receiver in several cases. In 2014, Ms. Lopez-Castro was inducted as a Fellow into the 25th Class of the American College of Bankruptcy. In 2006, she was elected the second woman president of the Cuban American Bar Association, the largest voluntary bar association in Florida. She has devoted most of her career promoting diversity in the legal profession. Ms. Lopez-Castro received her B.A. from Brown University and her J.D. *cum laude* from the University of Miami School of Law.

Michael G. McCartney is president of Avalon Cyber in Buffalo, N.Y., and is a highly decorated 22-year veteran member of the law enforcement community, having served as an Assistant Chief Investigator for the New York State Attorney General's Office (NYSAG), as well as five years with the

U.S. Attorney's Office (USAO) for the Western District of New York. He is an internationally known expert in computer crime investigations and computer forensics and has worked on some of the nation's largest cyber-crime investigations. Beginning in the mid 1990s, Mr. McCartney initiated and established the Computer Forensic Unit and authored law enforcement evidence-processing standards for the NYSAG. He also established several covert and undercover electronic evidence-collection procedures that are still used as the standard today by law enforcement. Mr. McCartney was one of the original founders of the Western New York Regional Computer Forensic Lab and authored its original policies and procedures for evidence handling and processing. He has been responsible for investigating several complex, high-profile, national and international computer crime cases ranging from unauthorized computer intrusion, theft of intellectual property, white collar crimes, securities fraud, investor protection and narcotics to child pornography. Mr. McCartney was responsible for one of the largest national undercover internet investigations, which netted over 200 arrests and convictions, as well as for coordinating a complex international takedown of a group of organized law-breakers. In this role and after the terror attacks of 9-11, he was assigned as a task force officer (TFO) for the FBI and investigated numerous critical infrastructure and national security matters for the federal government. Mr. McCartney has served as a board member and committee chair member on numerous national and international panels overseeing high-technology crime and computer forensic policy, including the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST's) Electronic Crime Partnership Initiative (ECPI). He is a past president of the High Technology Crime Investigators Association's (HTCIA's) Northeast Chapter, and currently serves on the HTCIA International Executive Committee as a co-chair of the International Conference. Mr. McCartney is a past board member of the International Association of Computer Investigative Specialists (IACIS) and National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) Buffalo. He has lectured extensively throughout the U.S. to federal, state and local law enforcement, as well as the American Bar Association, District Attorneys Associations and the National Association of Attorneys General, and to numerous trade and professional organizations, including AICPA, NYSSCPA and IIA. He has also written several publications that have been published nationally and regularly interviewed by numerous media and print organizations. Mr. McCartney served as an adjunct professor at Hilbert College, teaching network security and computer forensics. He received his Bachelor's degree from Canisius College and is a graduate of the State University of New York at Buffalo School of Management Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership.

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 was elected into the American Law Institute in 2012. Among her other honors are the Stetson University College of Law Distinguished Alumnus Award (2007), Hillsborough County Bar Association Jimmy Kynes Pro Bono Service Award (2008), the Stetson University College of Law J. Ben Watkins Award (2009), the Florida Association for Women Lawyers Leaders in the Law inaugural class designation (2010), the Tampa Bay Hispanic Bar Association's Luis "Tony" Cabassa Award (2012), the George Edgecomb Bar Association's Delano S. Stewart Diversity Award (2015), the inaugu-

ral Florida Supreme Court Chief Justice's Distinguished Federal Judicial Service Award (2016), the Stetson Lawyers Alumni Association Ben C. Willard Award (2016), the University of South Florida Distinguished Alumna Award (2016) and the Bay Area Legal Services Inc. Judge Don Castor Justice Award (2016). In 2017, Judge McEwen was appointed by Chief Justice John Roberts, Jr. to serve a two-year term as the nonvoting bankruptcy judge observer to the Judicial Conference of the United States, beginning Oct. 1, 2017. Prior to becoming a lawyer, she was a sportswriter from 1975-79 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.

Charles G. Moore is a sole practitioner with Charles G. Moore Attorney at Law in St. Petersburg, Fla., where represents consumer debtors in chapter 7 and 13 bankruptcy cases. He has been practicing law in excess of 27 years and has handled well over 2,400 bankruptcy cases. Mr. Moore is an active member of ABI, the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys, the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association and the National Association of Chapter Thirteen Trustees. He is also currently serving as NACBA's State Chair for the Middle and Northern Districts of Florida. Previously, Mr. Moore was a criminal prosecuting attorney with the Sixth Judicial Circuit of the State of Florida. He received his B.S. in business administration in 1987 from the University of Florida and his J.D. in 1991 from Stetson University College of Law.

Irving H. Picard is a partner in BakerHostetler LLP's Bankruptcy, Restructuring and Creditors' Rights Group in New York, where he focuses primarily on representing unsecured and secured creditors, commercial landlords, bankruptcy trustees and other parties in interest in bankruptcy reorganization cases, as well as in out-of-court restructurings. He is also currently the court-appointed Securities Investor Protection Act (SIPA) trustee for the Liquidation of Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities LLC. As part of his bankruptcy reorganization and insolvency practice, Mr. Picard has served as a court-appointed SIPA trustee in more than 10 securities brokerage house liquidations since 1984, including Investors Center Inc., Hanover, Sterling Co., Ltd., Klein Maus & Shire, Inc. and Park South Securities, LLC. He also has served as counsel to trustees under SIPA, counsel for chapter 11 creditors' committees, and as a receiver and a disbursing agent in connection with Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) enforcement actions. After spending more than five years working on Wall Street, Mr. Picard was on the staff of the SEC's Division that handled bankruptcy reorganization matters, including Equity Funding Corp. of America, from 1972 to early 1976. From 1976 through 1979, he served as Assistant General Counsel of the SEC and, among other things, represented it in connection with legislation that resulted in the passage of the Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1978 (the Bankruptcy Code). In 1979, he was appointed as the first U.S. Trustee for the Southern District of New York, a position in which he served from October 1979 until May 1982. In addition to being a speaker and panelist at numerous seminars and conferences, Mr. Picard has been a contributing author on Stockbroker Liquidations to *Collier on Bankruptcy*. He received his B.S. from the Wharton School University of Pennsylvania and his J.D. from Boston University School of Law.

Hon. Anthony E. Porcelli is a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Middle District of Florida in Tampa, sworn in in August 2009. After law school, he clerked from 1998-2000 for Hon. Harvey E. Schlesinger, then worked for the U.S. Attorney's Office from 2000-09, during which time Judge Porcelli tried more than 30 federal trials. Judge Porcelli ended his tenure with the U.S. Attorney's Office as the Tampa Division's Senior Litigation Counsel. Judge Porcelli has spoken on the topic of e-discovery

for many bar organizations, taught e-discovery at Stetson College of Law as an adjunct professor, taught technology and the law at the Law Society of Ireland, and, as a member of the Committee on Magistrate Judge Education, teaches e-discovery and other substantive topics annually to other magistrate judges. He received his B.A. in 1993 from Stetson University, his M.B.A. from Jacksonville University in 1995 and his J.D. from Stetson University College of Law in 1998.

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 real estate projects. 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.

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. In 2017, Ms. Redmond chaired the selection committee for ABI's inaugural "40 Under 40" program, helping to select its first group of honorees. She received her J.D. in 1979 from the University of Miami.

Edwin G. Rice is a partner with Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP in Tampa, Fla., and has more than 27 years of experience primarily in the area of bankruptcy and insolvency law. He has represented nearly every major constituency in bankruptcy, including debtors, chapter 11 trustees, unsecured creditors committees, major secured creditors and lessors. Mr. Rice has extensive experience in loan workouts, mortgage foreclosures, lending transactions, lending-related litigation and assignments for

the benefit of creditors. His bankruptcy experience includes the defense and prosecution of preference, fraudulent transfer and other avoidance actions, claims litigation, dischargeability actions, relief-from-stay litigation, cash-collateral litigation, valuation litigation, contested confirmations, director and officer claim litigation, lease assumptions and rejections, bankruptcy sales and debtor-in-possession financing. Mr. Rice is a past president and chairman of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association and is recognized by *Chambers USA*, *The Best Lawyers of America* and *Super Lawyers*. He received his B.S.B.A. in 1987 from the University of Florida and his J.D. in 1990 from the University of Florida Levin College of Law, where he was a member of the Order of the Coif.

William J. Rochelle, III is ABI's Editor-at-Large and resides in New York. Previously, he published for Bloomberg from 2007-15. Prior to his second career in journalism, Mr. Rochelle practiced bankruptcy law for 35 years, including 17 years as a partner in the New York office of Fulbright & Jaworski LLP. In addition to writing, he travels the country for ABI, speaking to bar groups and professional organizations on hot topics in the turnaround community and trends in consumer bankruptcies. Mr. Rochelle earned his undergraduate and law degrees from Columbia University, where he was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar.

R. Scott Shuker is a bankruptcy partner with Latham, Shuker, Eden & Beaudine, LLP in Orlando, Fla., and practices primarily in the areas of bankruptcy and creditors' rights. He has represented corporate debtors, and secured and unsecured creditors in the bankruptcy cases of corporate and individual debtors. Prior to entering law school, Mr. Shuker was a corporate banking officer for Southeast Bank, N.A. He is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification, was ranked number 1 in *Chambers USA* in 2017, and has been listed in *Orlando Magazine's* Best Lawyers in Orlando from 2011-17, *The Best Lawyers in America* from 2006-17, *Florida Super Lawyers* for 2014, and *Florida Trend's* 2015, 2016 Florida Legal Elite. A Fellow in the Litigation Counsel of America, Mr. Shuker received his B.S. in finance in 1986 with high distinction from Pennsylvania State University and his J.D. with high honors in 1993 from the University of Florida College of Law, where he was a member of the Order of the Coif.

Hon. Julie S. Sneed is a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida, appointed on June 15, 2015. After law school, she clerked for Hon. James D. Whittemore, U.S. District Judge for the Middle District of Florida, and Hon. Chris W. Altenbernd, State of Florida, Second District Court of Appeals. Prior to her appointment to the court, Judge Sneed worked in private practice handling complex civil litigation as a partner at Akerman LLP and Fowler White Boggs Banker, P.A. She also worked in private practice as a litigation associate at Trenam, Kemker, Scharf, Barkin, Frye, O'Neill, and Mullis, P.A. Judge Sneed is a past president of the Tampa Chapter of the Federal Bar Association and the George Edgecomb Bar Association. She previously served on the board of the Hillsborough County Bar Foundation, the Hillsborough Association for Women Lawyers, and the Center for Autism and Related Disabilities at the University of South Florida. She is currently a Master of the Judge Clifford J. Cheatwood American Inn of Court. Judge Sneed is a recipient of the Judge George C. Carr Memorial Award from the Federal Bar Association for excellence in federal practice, and she has published articles for the *Florida Bar Journal*. She received her B.S. from the University of Florida in 1991 and her J.D. with honors in 1994 from the Florida State University College of Law.

Robert A. Soriano is a sole practitioner with Soriano Law, P.A. in Tampa, Fla., and has more than 35 years of experience representing a wide variety of business clients in bankruptcy cases, commercial litigation and transactions. He has represented clients in and out of court on matters that have resulted in the restructuring of billions of dollars of debt, litigating and negotiating many complex commercial and bankruptcy law issues; represented corporate debtors, creditors' committees, sellers and purchasers of assets, indenture trustees and bondholders, landlords, and significant creditors; participated in corporate restructurings; and served as a mediator of disputes and plans of reorganization. Previously, Mr. Soriano clerked for Hon. Mark A. Costantino, U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, and worked at international law firms in New York and Florida before opening his own firm. He has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*, 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 was 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 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, where he served as senior notes and comments editor of its law review.

Gavin N. Stewart is an associate with Buckley Madole, P.C. in Tampa, Fla., and has represented both businesses and individuals in various commercial, consumer and bankruptcy matters throughout Florida and New Jersey for nearly a decade. He is admitted to practice in New Jersey, Florida, the U.S. District Courts for the Northern, Middle and Southern Districts of Florida, the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Bankruptcy Courts for the Northern, Middle and Southern Districts of Florida. Mr. Stewart received his undergraduate degree from Rutgers University and his J.D. from Stetson University College of Law.

Barbara E. Thompson is the associate director in University of Central Florida's Office of Diversity and Inclusion in Orlando, Fla. She has designed and facilitated learning experiences on numerous topics related to diversity and inclusion for more than 25 years. Ms. Thompson is a Certified Public Accountant and practiced as a tax professional for eight years. She received her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in psychology from Florida Atlantic University, and has made and written several conference presentations and publications related to human memory and concept development.

Joseph H. Varner, III is a partner with Holland & Knight in Tampa, Fla., and has tried cases ranging from medical malpractice wrongful death to \$100 million shareholder disputes to patent infringement to \$400 million unfair competition cases. He is a Board Certified Civil Trial Lawyer and a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers, and has been named one of the Top 10 lawyers in Florida by *Florida Super Lawyers* for six of the last seven years. Mr. Varner is in the *Florida Trend* Legal Elite Hall of Fame, is named in *The Best Lawyers in America* in Commercial Litigation and Bet-The-Company Litigation, and is a past recipient of the HCBA Trial Lawyers Section Michael A. Fogarty In The Trenches Award and the Tampa Bay Chapter of the Federal Bar Association George C. Carr Memorial Award. Most recently, he received the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Professionalism Award. Mr. Varner received his J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law in 1983 and has practiced in the Tampa area since then.

Prof. Jack F. Williams is a tenured full professor at Georgia State University College of Law and the Center for Middle East Studies in Atlanta. He is also a principal in the Restructuring, Disputes & Valuation Advisory Services Group with Baker Tilly Virchow and Krause, LLP. His areas of interest include bankruptcy and business reorganizations, mergers and acquisitions, business valuations in dispute, forensic accounting, commercial law and damages models, corporate finance, capital markets, fraud and anti-corruption, Islamic banking and finance, taxation, public finance, and law and statistics. Prof. Williams is a member of the board of advisors of both the St. John's University School of Law LL.M. in Bankruptcy Program and the *ABI Law Review*, and is the Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Advisors Scholar in Residence. He also served as the inaugural Robert M. Zinman ABI Scholar in Residence in 2001 and returned to that post in 2008. In 2009, Prof. Williams was recognized by ABI with its Annual Service Award in 2009, which honors an ABI member whose contributions over the past year have been extraordinary. He is a Fellow in both the American College of Bankruptcy and the Bankruptcy Policy Institute at St. John's University School of Law, and he presently serves on the board of the Department of Human Services for the State of Georgia. He also co-authored ABI's *Admitting Expert Valuation Evidence Before the U.S. Bankruptcy Courts* (2017). Prof. Williams received his B.A. in economics from the University of Oklahoma, his J.D. with high honors from the George Washington University National Law Center and his Ph.D. in archaeology from the University of Leicester. He presently serves on the board of the Department of Human Services for the State of Georgia.

Hon. Michael G. Williamson is Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida in Tampa, initially appointed as bankruptcy judge in March 2000 and as chief judge on Oct. 1, 2015. He is also an adjunct professor at Stetson University College of Law, where he teaches bankruptcy law, and he co-authored West's *Bankruptcy Law Manual*. Judge Williamson served as a chapter 7 panel trustee from 1977-79 and represented numerous chapter 11 corporate debtors, creditors' committees and trustees in bankruptcy cases throughout Florida for 20 years afterward. 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 has been a partner and litigation lawyer with Foley & Lardner LLP in Tampa, Fla., since 1991, with a subspecialty in complex insolvency matters, both in court proceedings and in out-of-court restructurings. He is rated as AV-Preeminent with Martindale-Hubbell and has been recognized by *Chambers USA: America's Leading Business Lawyers* since 2003. He has also been selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America* since 2007 for bankruptcy and creditor/debtor rights law. In 2001, Mr. Wolfson was honored by the Florida Bar's Business Law Section as its Outstanding Member of the Year. He has lectured and written on foreclosure, UCC, lender liability, fraudulent transfer and complex bankruptcy matters. He also is co-author of the chapter titled "The Impact of Bankruptcy" for the Florida Bar manual *Florida Construction Law and Practice*. Mr. Wolfson was the 2005-06 chair of the Florida Bar's Business Law Section and is a member of its Executive Council. He also chaired the Section's Bankruptcy/UCC Committee. Mr. Wolfson was the Section's point man in connection with the enactment of Revised Article 9 in Florida. He also chaired the Section's subcommittee that drafted Florida's Assignment of Rents statute. Mr. Wolfson has been a member of ABI's Caribbean Insolvency Symposium advisory board for more than eight years and is currently a

42ND ANNUAL ALEXANDER L. PASKAY MEMORIAL BANKRUPTCY SEMINAR

member of ABI's Annual Alexander L. Paskay Memorial Bankruptcy Seminar's advisory board. He 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.