

# Faculty Biographies

**Thomas H. Allen** is co-founder of Allen Barnes & Jones, PLC in Phoenix, where he focuses on business and consumer debtor bankruptcy, trustee rights, corporate reorganization, creditors' rights and commercial litigation. He is Board Certified in Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification and is a Certified Specialist in Bankruptcy Law by the Arizona Board of Legal Specialization. Mr. Allen is a *Super Lawyers* honoree and for seven years has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*. He is a member of the American Bar Association's Bankruptcy Section, ABI, the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees' President's Circle, the State Bar of Arizona's Bankruptcy Section, the Oregon State Bar and the Maricopa County Bar Association. A frequent presenter, he is admitted to practice in the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona and in Arizona and Oregon. Mr. Allen received his B.A. in 1983 from the University of Arizona and his J.D. in 1986 from Northwestern University School of Law, where he was a member of the *Lewis & Clark Law Review*.

**T. Scott Avila** is the Chief Executive Officer of Armory Strategic Partners, LLC in Manhattan Beach, Calif. He has more than 25 years of management and consulting experience advising financially and operationally distressed companies through complex organizational change. He has led a wide range of restructuring projects and has assumed interim senior executive positions for companies in a wide variety of industries. Prior to joining Armory, Mr. Avila was a principal in Deloitte's Corporate Restructuring Group and a managing partner at CRG Partners Group prior to the sale of CRG to Deloitte in 2012. He received his B.B.A. from California State University at Hayward and his M.B.A. from the University of Southern California.

**Hon. Martin R. Barash** is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Central District of California in Woodland Hills, sworn in on March 26, 2015. He brings more than 20 years of legal experience to the bench. Prior to his appointment, Judge Barash had served as a partner at Klee, Tuchin, Bogdanoff & Stern LLP in Los Angeles since 2001, where he counseled parties in chapter 11 cases and litigated chapter 7 and chapter 11 bankruptcy cases. Following law school, he clerked for Judge Procter R. Hug, Jr. of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit from 1992-93. Judge Barash is a member of ABI's Board of Directors. He also serves as a director of the Judicial Leadership Development Council and is a member of the NCBJ Committee on Judicial Security. He previously was a member of the board of directors for the Los Angeles Bankruptcy Forum. Judge Barash is a frequent panelist on bankruptcy law issues and has been a guest lecturer at the UCLA School of Law. He has also been involved in the local legal community as a pro bono attorney with the Public Counsel Chapter 7 Reaffirmation Hearing Clinic, and has been a volunteer judge for a course on negotiating and confirming chapter 11 plans at the UCLA School of Law and with UCLA's Mock Trial Competition. He currently serves as a director and immediate past president of the Junior Statesmen Foundation, a national, non-partisan organization sponsoring civics education programs for high school students. Judge Barash received his A.B. *magna cum laude* in 1989 from Princeton University and his J.D. in 1992 from the UCLA School of Law, where he served as member, editor, business manager and symposium editor of the *UCLA Law Review*.

**Alane A. Becket** is a managing partner at Malvern, Pa.-based Becket & Lee LLP, a Women's Business Enterprise, as certified by the Women's Business Enterprise National Council, that provides comprehensive nationwide representation of creditors in bankruptcy matters. She is also ABI's Vice President-Publications. AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell, Ms. Becket specializes in litigation strategy, and has been lead or co-counsel in some of the most successful and influential decisions in consumer bankruptcy over

the last 10 years. She is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and has represented creditors and debt purchasers in commercial and bankruptcy matters and Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA) defense. She is a member of the National Association of Retail Collection Attorneys (NARCA), the National Association of Chapter Thirteen Trustees (NACTT) and the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees (NABT). Ms. Becket served on the editorial board of ABI's Consumer Bankruptcy website and is a past co-chair of ABI's Consumer Bankruptcy Committee. A frequent lecturer, she also co-authored *Consumer Bankruptcy: Fundamentals of Chapter 7 and Chapter 13, Third Edition* (ABI, 2011) and edited the 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2015 editions of the book series *Best of ABI: The Year in Consumer Bankruptcy*. Ms. Becket graduated from Pennsylvania State University and received her J.D. from Widener University School of Law.

**Stephen E. Berken** is an attorney with Berken and Associates in Denver, where he focuses on consumer bankruptcy law, debt workouts, asset protection, and mechanic's lien and trust fund statutes. He handles cases involving chapter 7 and 13 defense and prosecution of bankruptcy adversary matters, state court litigation involving the Colorado Mechanic's Lien statute, wills and estate planning, and foreclosure defense. Mr. Berken has lectured for various professional groups and is the Colorado state chair for the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys. He is also the founding member of the Colorado Consumer Bankruptcy Association and the founder of the Colorado Debtors' Counsel Listserv. Mr. Berken is board certified in Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification and is an advisory board co-chair of ABI's Rocky Mountain Bankruptcy Conference. He is also the state chair for the CARE financial literacy program and regularly lectures high school students about the responsible use of credit. Mr. Berken received his B.A. *cum laude* in political science from the University of California in 1981 and his J.D. from the University of California-Hastings College of Law in 1984.

**John R. Bollinger** is a shareholder with the Boleman Law Firm, P.C. in Hampton, Va., which focuses exclusively in the area of consumer bankruptcy law and is the largest consumer bankruptcy practice in Virginia. He is a frequent speaker at local, regional and national organizations and is past president of the board of the Tidewater Bankruptcy Bar Association. He is also an editor for ABI's VOLO project. Mr. Bollinger has been recognized by *Super Lawyers* as a "Virginia Rising Star" in the area of Consumer Bankruptcy Law. He received his J.D. from the University of Richmond T.C. Williams School of Law.

**Julie Minnick Bowden** is national bankruptcy manager with General Growth Properties, Inc. in Washington, D.C. She focuses on protecting landlords' interests in bankruptcy by managing and maintaining GGP's bankruptcy accounts and hiring local counsel in order to accurately administer the Bankruptcy Code as it pertains to bankrupt tenants. Ms. Bowden has represented GGP's interests as an unsecured creditor on tenant bankruptcy unsecured creditor committees and works to ensure all rights, title and interest of GGP as landlord, accurately maintain bankruptcy accounts, and recognize and expedite resolution of issues both legal and administrative. She also calculates and defend pre-petition administrative rents and rejection damage claims to ensure recovery. Ms. Bowden received her B.S. in legal administration in 1995 from Ball State University.

**Jason S. Brookner** is a partner with Gray Reed & McGraw, P.C. in Dallas, where he represents and advises companies, buyers, creditors, trustees, committees, lenders and other constituents in all

aspects of distressed, insolvency and restructuring scenarios. He has broad experience representing debtors, trustees, committees, individual creditors and sellers/purchasers of assets. Mr. Brookner has been profiled as one of the leading “Bankruptcy/Restructuring Lawyers in Texas” by *Chambers USA* (2005-15) and as a “Texas Super Lawyer” in *Texas Monthly* (2004, 2008-14), and has been named one of the “Best Business Lawyers in Dallas in Bankruptcy” by *D Magazine* (2009) and in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law (2013-15). Previously, Mr. Brookner was a law clerk to Hon. Charles N. Clevert, Jr., formerly the Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin. He chaired the Dallas Bar Association’s Bankruptcy and Commercial Law Section (2007), as well as co-chaired ABI’s Commercial Fraud Committee (2010-12). Most recently, he co-chaired ABI’s Technology and IP Committee. Mr. Brookner received his B.A. from the University of New York at Binghamton and his J.D. from Hofstra University School of Law, where he was the articles editor of the *Hofstra Property Law Journal*.

**Louis M. Bubala, III** is an attorney with the Kaempfer Crowell law firm in Reno, Las Vegas and Carson City, Nev. He is a past president of the Northern Nevada Bankruptcy Bar Association and has presented for ABI, the Northern Nevada Bankruptcy Bar Association, the District of Nevada Annual Conference and the Southern Nevada Association of Bankruptcy Attorneys. Mr. Bubala received his B.A. in 2000 from Indiana University School of Journalism and his J.D. in 2004 from the University of Oregon School of Law.

**Eric R. Carlson** is managing director and manager of Imperial Capital, LLC’s San Francisco Investment Banking Group. Previously, he held managing director positions at Giuliani Capital Advisors LLC and Ernst & Young Corporate Finance. Mr. Carlson has 25 years of experience working with boards of directors, management teams and creditors facing financial challenges. He has been involved in middle-market restructuring transactions impacting more than \$30 billion of debt, has assisted clients in a wide variety of situations and has directed numerous assignments including the sale of distressed assets, debt and equity financing transactions, the development of strategic restructuring alternatives, preparation, critique and negotiation of business plans and plans of reorganization, crisis advisory and numerous capitalization issues. Mr. Carlson has also acted as an interim CFO and chief restructuring officer. His experience covers a wide variety of industries, including various manufacturing sectors, construction and engineering, telecommunications, leasing, biofuels, building materials and real estate. A member of the Turnaround Management Association and ABI, Mr. Carlson received his B.S. in accounting from Pace University in New York and is a frequent speaker and panelist on restructuring issues.

**Candace C. Carlyon** is a partner at Morris Polich & Purdy LLP in Henderson, Nev., and has been practicing law for more than 30 years, primarily representing financial institutions and other creditors in loan origination, workout, litigation and bankruptcy matters. She is a past president of the American Board of Certification and has been certified as a bankruptcy specialist for more than 20 years. Ms. Carlyon previously clerked for the Nevada Supreme Court and serves as a part-time short trial judge. She formerly served as a Nevada Supreme Court settlement judge and as a mediator in the Nevada Residential Foreclosure Mediation program. Ms. Carlyon received her J.D. *magna cum laude* from Pepperdine Law School in 1985.

**Dawn M. Cica** is a partner with Black & LoBello in Las Vegas and has more than 25 years of experience working on transactions of all types, including transactional aspects of bankruptcy and creditors' rights such as strategic resolutions, workouts, restructurings, settlements, debtor-in-possession financings and asset sales. Her transactional experience also extends to a variety of other industries, particularly the complex details surrounding the gaming and real estate fields. Notably, on behalf of the Nevada Department of Environmental Protection, Ms. Cica was part of a team that handled the negotiation of a settlement among various state and federal government agencies allowing for the confirmation of a reorganization plan in the *Tronox* bankruptcy that ultimately resulted in a recently approved litigation settlement of more than \$5 billion, with almost a quarter being distributed to the State of Nevada for environmental remediation. In addition to her transactional experience, Ms. Cica has built a renowned bankruptcy practice in the State of Nevada representing creditors, committees, affiliated parties and debtors. She has been involved in many influential Nevada bankruptcies in various industries, including the Aladdin Resort, Station Casinos, Riviera Hotel & Casino, Jerry's Nugget, Las Vegas Monorail, Lake Las Vegas, South Edge, Consolidated Resorts, Viansa Winery, Tower Homes, Village at Centennial Springs, CommPartners, Global Access, MEGO Financial, Integrated Financial Associates, USA Capital, Rodeo Creek Gold, Martifer Solar USA and the Nevada Cancer Institute. She has also participated in bankruptcies in other states where she is licensed, as well as in Delaware. Ms. Cica received her B.S. in finance from the University of Nevada, Reno and her J.D. from the University of California, Los Angeles School of Law, where she was a member of the *UCLA Law Review* and participated in a moot court.

**Hon. Scott C. Clarkson** is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Central District of California in Santa Ana, appointed on Jan. 20, 2011, and has also sat on the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel. Prior to his appointment, Judge Clarkson practiced bankruptcy law and bankruptcy litigation for more than 20 years in Los Angeles, and he served as chair of the Los Angeles County Bar Association's Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section from 2008-09. He has served on the board of directors of the Orange County Federal Bar Association and the Orange County Bar Association, and has lectured on ethics and civility for the annual Los Angeles Federal Bar Association Ethics Program. From 1977-82, Judge Clarkson was a legislative assistant to U.S. Congressman Harold L. Volkmer in Washington, D.C., and was assigned to the U.S. House of Representatives Judiciary Committee, where he was a direct observer of and participant in the creation of the 1978 Bankruptcy Code in the House. He later clerked for Hon. William L. Hungate, U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri. Judge Clarkson has also been an established documentary photographer in the U.S., Southeast and Central Asia, and South America for more than 20 years. He also traveled to Afghanistan, Pakistan and Kashmir in 2008-09, and Jordan and Syria in 2014, covering recent events in these regions of the world. Judge Clarkson received his undergraduate degree from Indiana University in Bloomington in 1979 and his J.D. from George Mason University School of Law in 1982.

**Scott B. Cohen** is a shareholder with Engelman Berger, PC in Phoenix and is a commercial bankruptcy attorney who represents banks, lenders, landlords, guarantors, committees and other creditors in bankruptcy, creditors' rights matters, loan workouts, business turnarounds, chapter 11 reorganizations, receiverships, bankruptcy litigation and commercial litigation. He regularly appears in U.S. bankruptcy court and state court proceedings involving liquidations, chapter 11 reorganizations, receiverships and commercial lawsuits. Mr. Cohen served as chair from 2011-12 of the State Bar of Arizona's Bankruptcy Section. He is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification and also serves as an expert witness in bankruptcy and anti-deficiency matters.

Mr. Cohen is AV-rated by Martindale Hubbell and was listed as one of 2015's "Top Attorneys in Arizona" and in *Southwest Super Lawyers*. He is admitted to practice before all state and federal courts in Arizona and California and before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Mr. Cohen received his B.A. in political science in 1989 and his J.D. with distinction in 1992 from the University of Iowa, where he was an articles editor with the *Iowa Law Review*.

**Hon. Daniel P. Collins** is Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Arizona in Phoenix, appointed as bankruptcy judge on Jan. 18, 2013. Previously, he was a shareholder with the law firm of Collins, May, Potenza, Baran & Gillespie, P.C., in downtown Phoenix, practicing primarily in the areas of bankruptcy, commercial litigation and commercial transactions. Judge Collins served on the State Bar of Arizona's Subcommittee on the Uniform Fraudulent Transfer Act. He also chaired the Bankruptcy Section of the State of Arizona from 1995-96 and was a lawyer representative to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Collins is a frequent speaker on such topics as professionalism and civility, fraudulent transfers, discharge litigation, trial practice, reaffirmation agreements, the intersection of bankruptcy and marital dissolution, receiverships, bankruptcy sales, bankruptcy claims classification, trustee representation, pensions in bankruptcy, bankruptcy appeals and debtor/ creditor law. He is a member of ABI, the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees, the State Bar of Arizona and the Maricopa County Bar Association, and he currently serves on the board of the Federal Bar Association's Phoenix Chapter. He is also member of the University of Arizona Law School Board of Visitors and was one of the founders of the Arizona Bankruptcy American Inns of Court, and he has served for more than 20 years on the American Arbitration Association's Commercial Panel. Judge Collins received both his B.S. in finance and accounting in 1980 and his J.D. in 1983 from the University of Arizona.

**Tracy Hope Davis** is the U.S. Trustee for northern and eastern California and Nevada (Region 17), based in San Francisco. Prior to her appointment, she served as U.S. Trustee for Region 2 in New York, Connecticut and Vermont. Ms. Davis joined the U.S. Trustee Program in 1997 as a trial attorney before being named as the Assistant U.S. Trustee in the Southern District of New York. She has also served as the Acting Assistant U.S. Trustee in the Eastern District of New York (Brooklyn) and the Acting U.S. Trustee for Region 2. During her tenure as a U.S. Trustee, Ms. Davis has been closely involved in a wide range of bankruptcy issues in some of the largest and most complex bankruptcy cases, including *Bethlehem Steel*, *Adelphia Communications*, *Lehman Brothers*, *Chrysler Corporation*, *General Motors*, *Lyondell*, *General Growth Properties*, *Kodak*, *Dynegy*, *MF Global*, *ResCap*, *American Airlines*, *Hostess*, *Hawker Beechcraft* and *Dewey LLP*, among others. Previously, she practiced bankruptcy law in New York City and clerked for Hon. Cornelius Blackshear (ret.). Ms. Davis received her J.D. from Rutgers Law School and her B.A. from Wells College.

**Hon. Dennis R. Dow** is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Missouri in Kansas City, appointed on Nov. 10, 2003, by the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals. Prior to taking the bench, he was a partner with the firm of Shook, Hardy & Bacon LLP, where he represented trustees in chapter 7 cases involving significant assets, individual and corporate debtors in proceedings under chapters 7 and 11, and secured, unsecured and priority creditors and lessors in chapter 7, 11, 12 and 13 cases, and had been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* in the area of bankruptcy law every year since 1995. He also tried numerous adversary proceedings and contested matters, including preference actions, objections to discharge, dischargeability complaints and objections to confirmation of chapter 11 plans.

Judge Dow is a *pro tem* member of the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel. He also serves on the Judicial Conference Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules and chairs its subcommittee on forms. Judge Dow is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, inducted in March 2013, and was selected in November 2014 to become a conferee of the National Bankruptcy Conference. He is a member of the Board of Governors of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges and serves as a member of the faculty of the Advanced Consumer Bankruptcy Practice Institute. Judge Dow is a member of the Missouri and Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Associations, and serves as ABI's Secretary. He received his B.A. with honors from the University of Wyoming and his J.D. from Washburn University School of Law, where he was notes editor of the *Washburn Law Journal*.

**Hon. Randall L. Dunn** is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Oregon in Portland, appointed in 1998. Previously, Judge Dunn was the managing partner of the Portland office of the law firm of Copeland, Landye, Bennett and Wolf, LLP, where his practice focused on corporate/business, securities and bankruptcy law. In the bankruptcy area, he represented a number of creditors' committees in chapter 11 cases, but his work also encompassed representation of creditors and debtors in matters ranging from preference defenses to representing individual debtors in chapter 7. In addition, he did substantial loan documentation work and worked extensively in business-entity formation and on mergers and acquisitions. Judge Dunn is a past president of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, having served previously as NCBJ Treasurer and Secretary, as well as on its Board of Governors. He has chaired the Federal Bar Association's Bankruptcy Section and spent five years as editor-in-chief of its newsletter publication, *Bankruptcy Briefs*. In addition, he has been very active in the Oregon State Bar Debtor-Creditor Section, serving four terms on its Executive Committee, one term as Treasurer and two years as editor-in-chief of the *Oregon Debtor-Creditor Newsletter*. He also has worked on several of the Section's subcommittees. Judge Dunn has chaired the Ninth Circuit's Bankruptcy Education Committee and served as the representative of Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Judges on the Ninth Circuit Executive Committee, the planning body for the Ninth Circuit Conference. In 2006, Judge Dunn was appointed to the Ninth Circuit's Bankruptcy Appellate Panel (BAP) and has served as its Chief Judge. He received his undergraduate degree with honors from Northwestern University and his J.D. in 1975 from Stanford University Law School, where he was an articles editor of its law review.

**Holly E. Estes** is an attorney with Walter Wilhelm Bauer in Fresno, Calif., where she focuses her practice on bankruptcy, insolvency and reorganization. She practices primarily in chapter 7 and 11 bankruptcy representing small and large businesses, individual and corporate debtors, and chapter 11 trustees. Among her recent accomplishments is a victory decision from the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel in *Village at Lakeridge LLC v. U.S. Bank N.A. (In re the Village at Lakeridge LLC)*, 2013 Bankr. LEXIS 2329, 2013 WL 13977447 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. Apr. 5, 2013), which was affirmed by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Previously, Ms. Estes was a judicial law clerk in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nevada in Reno to Judges Bruce Beesley and Gregg Zive and externed for Chief Bankruptcy Judge Mike K. Nakagawa. She received her J.D. from the William S. Boyd School of Law at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

**Thomas H. Fell** is a director with Fennemore Craig, P.C. in Las Vegas, where he focuses his practice on business restructuring and bankruptcy, creditors' rights, commercial litigation and landlord/tenant law. He is involved in all aspects of the firm's complex insolvency practice, including representation

of several major hotel and casino companies. His representation of debtors and creditors in non-gaming companies ranges from large multijurisdictional companies to single-asset real estate developments, including retail power centers and office complexes. A former professional photographer, Mr. Fell has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights, Insolvency and Reorganization Law from 2013-16 and for Bet-the-Company Litigation - Bankruptcy from 2014-15, and in *Mountain States Super Lawyers* from 2007-16, and he was named Clark County Pro Bono Attorney of the Year in 2006. He received his B.A. from Drake University and his J.D. with honors from Drake University Law School.

**Scott D. Fleming** is Of Counsel with Armstrong Teasdale LLP in Las Vegas and a member of its Financial and Real Estate Services practice group. He guides clients through bankruptcy matters, distressed loans and loan transactions, and represents creditors seeking to maximize their return through bankruptcy, preference litigation and other litigation relating to the debtor/creditor relationship. In bankruptcy settings, Mr. Fleming represents clients' interests with respect to chapter 11 reorganizations, chapter 7 liquidations and preference litigation. He also assists secured lenders with enforcement of their state law collection rights, including suing over and collecting on distressed loans, real estate foreclosures, Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) foreclosures on personal property and all aspects of post-judgment collection efforts. Previously, Mr. Fleming was in private practice at another Las Vegas area firm. Before that, he spent four years serving as assistant general counsel for the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, where he was the lead attorney in all litigation involving the school, including multimillion-dollar construction cases, employment matters, civil rights cases and contract disputes. Mr. Fleming is admitted to practice in Nevada and is a member of the State Bar of Nevada's Bankruptcy Law Section (for which he serves as vice chair), the Risk Management Association's Las Vegas Chapter (for which he is a member of its board of directors and Continuing Education Committee), and ABI. He received his B.A. from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in 1990 and his J.D. from Loyola Law School Los Angeles in 1995, where he was a member of the St. Thomas More Honor Society, received American Jurisprudence Awards for evidence and trial advocacy, and was a Faculty Academic Honors Scholarship recipient.

**Jonathan Frutkin** is the principal of The Frutkin Law Firm, PLC in Phoenix, where he specializes in corporate and business law, corporate bankruptcy and commercial litigation. He is also the CEO of Cricca Funding, LLC, a crowdfunding consultancy. Mr. Frutkin is the author of *Equity Crowdfunding: Transforming Customers into Loyal Owners* and has appeared frequently in the media, including in international publications like *The Economist*, *Kiplinger Personal Finance* and *The Washington Post*. He is also a frequent media commentator on legal matters on television, on the radio and in print in Phoenix. Prior to founding The Frutkin Law Firm in 2007, Mr. Frutkin served as general counsel for Doceus Inc., a provider of Internet software for associations and nonprofits, and was responsible for all the legal issues that faced the company. He jointly developed a comprehensive employee training program with its Human Resources Department, created contract templates for client engagements including guidelines for the sales team to streamline contract negotiations, negotiated debt and equity financings, and completed the eventual sale of the company. He also served as COO during the period when Doceus was recognized as the 18th fastest growing company in the Mid-Atlantic region by *Techway* magazine. Mr. Frutkin also served as the managing partner of an area development company for a national franchise chain. In this capacity, he was responsible for raising capital and negotiating an agreement with the chain. In addition, he was an associate at the Cleveland law firm of Kahn, Kleinman, Yanowitz and Arnson, where he was responsible for completing the acquisition of a

major regional competitor for his public company client, as well as the completion of a large private placement for an Internet startup. He was also one of the founding members of the firm's Cyberlaw specialty group. Mr. Frutkin is an Arizona Advocate Leader for the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys (NACBA), served on the President's Council of the Higher Achievement Program and on the Public Affairs Committee for the DC Board of Trade, and served as a campaign manager for several state and federal campaigns. He was the first Arizona recipient of the (NACBA) National Distinguished Service Award and was named a "Rising Star" in the 2012 and 2013 *Arizona Super Lawyers*.

**Daniel J. Garfield** is senior counsel in the Denver office of McAllister Law Office P.C. He has represented individuals and businesses in the marijuana industry since 2013 in all types of matters and transactions from the start-up stage to exit. He also represents owners of dispensaries and cultivation facilities, investors, landlords, lenders, trimmers, oil extractors, edibles manufacturers and testing laboratories, along with ancillary businesses such as social media companies, consultants and suppliers. His experience includes entity formation and restructuring, mergers and acquisitions, debt and equity financing, licensing, contract negotiation and drafting, and corporate governance and joint ventures. Mr. Garfield also assists corporate debtors, lenders, trustees, creditor committees and investors, both in and out of bankruptcy court. He litigates marijuana cases and was counsel for the debtors in *In re Arenas* in front of the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel of the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals. Mr. Garfield was named a "Top Lawyer" for marijuana law in 2016 by *5280 Magazine*. He is a former board member and past president of the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Turnaround Management Association (TMA) and was a member of TMA Global's Executive Board and Board of Trustees in 2015. Mr. Garfield received his B.A. from Swarthmore College in 1989 his J.D. from Northwestern University School of Law in 1995.

**Gregory E. Garman** is a founding member of Garman Turner Gordon LLP in Las Vegas and has been consistently rated one of the top bankruptcy and business restructuring attorneys in the country. His practice is concentrated in commercial and corporate bankruptcy and restructuring, and he regularly represents debtors, trustees, official committees, secured creditors and other parties in matters involving hospitality, lending, high tech, gaming, airlines and real estate, among others. Mr. Garman has an active legal practice that is focused on assisting companies with financial restructuring and business reorganization. He was named *The Best Lawyers in America's* "Lawyer of the Year" in 2015 for bankruptcy restructuring and was separately named "Lawyer of the Year" in 2013 for bankruptcy litigation. Mr. Garman recently finished assisting a prominent regional development company in the restructuring of more than \$250 million in long-term debt. He also represents more than \$350 million in statutory lienholders in the ongoing *Fontainebleau* bankruptcy cases pending before a Florida Bankruptcy Court, the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals and the Nevada Supreme Court. Mr. Garman previously represented Black Gaming LLC in its successful prepackaged bankruptcy, which resulted in the reduction of its long-term debt from \$225 million to \$67 million. He currently represents a who's who of developers, hedge funds and distressed companies. Prior to founding Garman Turner Gordon, Mr. Garman served as managing partner for Gordon Silver, a position he had held since 2008. He is a member of the Clark County Bar Association and the State Bar of Nevada, as well as ABI and the Turnaround Management Association, and holds a BV rating by Martindale-Hubbell. Mr. Garman received his B.A. in 1994 from Loyola Marymount University and his J.D. in 1997 from Loyola Law School.

**Brian S. Gillman** is executive vice president, general counsel and secretary of Mesa Airlines in Phoenix, where he oversees its Legal, Contracts, Risk Management and Properties/Facilities departments. He also has responsibility for the company's Human Resources department, which includes the benefits, staffing, HRIS and employee relations functions. From February 2011 to September 2013, he served as executive vice president and general counsel at Global Aviation Holdings Inc., and from 2001 to February 2011 was a key member of Mesa's executive team, serving as executive vice president and general counsel. From 1996-2001, Mr. Gillman was vice president, general counsel and secretary at Vanguard Airlines Inc. in Kansas City, Mo. Prior to that, from 1994-96 he served as a corporate and securities law associate in the law firm of Stinson, Mag & Fizzell, P.C. (now known as Stinson Morrison Hecker LLP) in Kansas City, Mo. Mr. Gillman received his B.B.A. in accounting with distinction from the University of Iowa in 1991 and his J.D. with high distinction in 1994 from the University of Iowa College of Law.

**Oren B. Haker** is a partner in the Corporate group of Stoel Rives LLP in Portland, Ore., where he focuses on financial restructuring and business reorganizations, as well as complex commercial disputes. He represents secured lenders, bondholders and trade creditors in both in-court and out-of-court restructurings, strategic investors in distressed companies, chapter 11 debtors, unsecured creditors' committees, acquirers of assets in chapter 11 proceedings and liquidating trustees. Mr. Haker's experience includes all aspects of the bankruptcy process, including cash collateral disputes, intercreditor disputes, § 363 asset sales, reclamation and § 503(b)(9) issues, § 524(g) asbestos trusts, chapter 11 plan and post-effective date trust formulation, contested plan confirmation, claims resolution, and fraudulent conveyance and preference litigation. He has also advised officers and directors on fiduciary duties and zone of insolvency issues. Mr. Haker has represented clients in the agricultural, automotive, airline, health care, energy, gaming, telecommunications, media, banking, financial services and real estate industries. Prior to joining the firm, he practiced law in the financial restructuring departments at Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP and Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP, and with the corporate insolvency group at Milberg LLP. Mr. Haker is listed in *Oregon Super Lawyers* for 2014 and is an adjunct professor of law in bankruptcy at the University of Washington School of Law Columbia Law School. He is admitted to practice in Oregon, New York and Washington. Mr. Haker received his B.A. in history in 1996 from Rice University and his J.D. in 2003 from Columbia Law School in 2003, where he was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar and served on the *Columbia Law Review*.

**Hon. M. Elaine Hammond** is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of California in San Jose. Prior to taking the bench in 2012, her practice focused on representing debtors and creditors in commercial bankruptcy cases and out-of-court restructurings. Judge Hammond was a partner with the San Francisco firm of Friedman Dumas and Springwater LLP, and before that she was an associate with Murphy, Sheneman, Julian & Rogers. Judge Hammond began her legal career as a law clerk for Hon. Edward D. Jellen, now retired, also of the Northern District of California. She received her undergraduate degree from Duke University and her J.D. with honors from the University of North Carolina School of Law.

**Andrew J. Hinkelman** is a senior managing director at FTI Consulting, Inc. and is based in San Francisco. He has extensive experience representing debtors and creditors in formal bankruptcy and out-of-court restructurings, providing pre-lending due diligence on behalf of parties in interest, negotiating new and existing financing agreements, and performing estate wind-down and trustee-related

services. His expertise also includes serving in interim management positions as CFO, CEO and CRO. Mr. Hinkelman's clients have included both public and private companies ranging in size from \$100 million to more than \$10 billion in assets and liabilities. He has experience in various industries, including retail, real estate, construction, general manufacturing, hospitality, health care, high technology, distribution and professional services, among others. Mr. Hinkelman has participated in multiple bankruptcies, out-of-court restructurings and trustee engagements. His specific responsibilities have included the development and implementation of bankruptcy plans and liquidating plans of reorganization; lender forbearance arrangements and out-of-court debt and equity restructurings through analysis and review of cash flows and comprehensive business plans; development and implementation of bankruptcy strategies including the preparation of petitions, first-day orders, motions, liquidation analyses, plans of reorganization and related disclosure statements; and other case-specific documents, creditor negotiations and settlement of claims and management of controlled wind-down of operations. Mr. Hinkelman served as the CRO and is currently serving as plan administrator of Fairfield Residential LLC, one of the nation's largest and most successful multifamily developers and managers in the country. He also served as the CRO and CEO and is now the plan administrator of Trident Microsystems, Inc., a manufacturer of semiconductor solutions for digital televisions and set-top boxes. His responsibilities in these roles have included creditor and project lender negotiations, day-to-day supervision of accounting and finance departments and management of all lender and bankruptcy reporting requirements. In addition, he has developed operating metric report packages and administration of all back-office functions, including leading debtors through chapter 11 reorganization. Prior to joining FTI Consulting, Mr. Hinkelman was a managing director in the U.S. division of PricewaterhouseCoopers' (PwC) Business Recovery Services practice, where he served as a financial advisor to companies, secured and unsecured creditors and equity-holders, and advised on bankruptcies, out-of-court restructurings and financing alternatives. Prior to that, he spent three years working as a senior audit and tax consultant for Pannell Kerr Forrester and Sieler Co.

**Ariane R. Holtschlag** is an associate attorney with the Law Office of William J. Factor in Chicago, where she represents debtors and creditors and trustees, individuals and small businesses in chapters 7, 11 and 13. Ms. Holtschlag has spoken at several bankruptcy education programs and also volunteered for CARE, speaking to high school students about credit and bankruptcy. She received her undergraduate degree in 2004 from Illinois Wesleyan University and her J.D. from the University of Iowa in 2007.

**Paul S. Jasper** is a partner in Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP's San Francisco office, where he represents secured and unsecured creditors, trustees, assignees for benefit of creditors and receivers, with a particular emphasis on aviation, energy, insurance and structured finance transactions. He recently represented former partners of Dewey & LeBoeuf in litigation with Dewey's liquidating trustee over whether LLP partners in New York are strictly liable to repay distributions made during the firm's insolvency. He represents commercial banks, monoline insurers and indenture trustees in workouts related to CDOs, CBOs, CLOs and trust-preferred securities. He also counsels airports on a wide range of aviation issues, including federal grant assurance compliance and dispute resolution, labor demonstrations, leases, customer facility charges, fixed-based operator agreements and bankruptcy. Mr. Jasper has represented airports in litigation with airlines, fixed-base operators, concessionaires and taxicab drivers. He is a graduate of the University of California at San Diego and received his J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley School of Law.

**Jordan A. Kroop** is a partner in the Bankruptcy & Restructuring group of Perkins Coie LLP's Corporate practice in Phoenix. He represents debtors, official committees, acquirers and significant creditors in chapter 11 matters involving publicly traded and privately held companies throughout the nation. He has also represented secured lenders, committees, lessors and institutional lenders. Since 1998, Mr. Kroop has coauthored and regularly updated the two-volume treatise *Bankruptcy Litigation and Practice: A Practitioner's Guide*, now in its fourth edition. He also co-authored a chapter on chapter 11 and sports franchises in the *Collier Guide to Chapter 11* (LexisNexis 2011, rev'd 2012, 2013) and co-authored *The Executive Guide to Corporate Bankruptcy* (Beard Books). Among the prominent chapter 11 matters he has handled is representing the NHL's Phoenix Coyotes as debtor's counsel and leading the team to its eventual sale. He has also represented the Boston Celtics and Milwaukee Bucks in reorganization matters. In addition to his background counseling sports franchises, Mr. Kroop provides chapter 11 representation to reorganizing clients in manufacturing, real estate development, construction, hospitality gaming and technology. He has represented a large REIT, a consumer electronics manufacturer, makers of construction materials, and an iconic Manhattan restaurant in its chapter 11 filing. Mr. Kroop serves as an adjunct professor of law at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University. He also instructs at ABI's Litigation Skills Symposium and has taught at the University of the Pacific's McGeorge School of Law in Salzburg, Austria. Mr. Kroop is recognized in *Southwest Super Lawyers* and *The Best Lawyers in America*, and was one of a handful of lawyers named among the "Outstanding Young Bankruptcy Lawyers" in the U.S. by *Turnarounds & Workouts*. He received his A.B. *magna cum laude* from Brown University and his J.D. from the University of Virginia.

**Hon. August B. Landis** is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Nevada in Las Vegas, appointed on Nov. 27, 2013. Previously, he was the Acting U.S. Trustee for Region 17 in Las Vegas. He also served as the U.S. Trustee Program's first Acting Associate General Counsel for Chapter 11 Practice, and as an Assistant U.S. Trustee for the District of Nevada. Judge Landis is a member of the Iowa State Bar Association and is also admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court, the Eighth and Ninth Circuit Courts of Appeals, and the U.S. District Courts for the Northern and Southern Districts of Iowa. From 1987-90, he was an associate with the Des Moines, Iowa, firm of Neiman, Neiman, Stone & Spellman, and he also served as a chapter 7 panel trustee for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Iowa. From 1990 until taking the Assistant U.S. Trustee position in Las Vegas in 2005, Judge Landis practiced with Whitfield & Eddy, P.L.C. in Des Moines, where the bulk of his work involved creditors' rights in commercial litigation, secured transactions and bankruptcy cases. Judge Landis received his J.D. from Drake Law School in Des Moines.

**John W. Lucas** is a partner in Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP's San Francisco office, where he represents debtors and creditors in chapter 11 cases and companies in out-of-court restructurings with an emphasis on transportation, financial products, automotive, retail and technology. His recent debtor representations include Blue Earth, Inc., Response Genetics, Inc., NewZoom, Inc., Z'Tejas Restaurants, Elephant Bar Restaurants, Highway Technologies, American Suzuki Motor Corp. and Mesa Airlines. Mr. Lucas is a co-author of *Debtor-in-Possession Financing: Funding a Chapter 11 Case* (ABI 2012), *First Day Motions: A Guide to the Critical First Days of a Bankruptcy Case, Third Edition* (ABI 2012) and "The Role and Retention of the Chief Restructuring Officer" in *The Americas Restructuring and Insolvency Guide* (Globe White Page 2008-09). He is a graduate of the University of California at Los Angeles and received his J.D. from the University of Oregon School of Law, where he was a member of the *Oregon Law Review*.

**David J. Mack** is a managing director with Perry Capital LLC in New York, where he works on the legal aspect of many investments, distressed or otherwise. He also assesses legal risks and strategies on investments, and coordinates and manages outside counsel, as well as litigation associated with investments. Previously, Mr. Mack was counsel with Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP in New York and was a solicitor with Linklaters in London and King & Wood Mallesons in Sydney. He received his B.A. and LL.B. with honors from the University of Sydney.

**Robert John Miller, CPA** is a partner in the Phoenix office of Bryan Cave LLP, where his practice focuses on distressed business situations of all kinds, including chapter 11 restructurings, nonbankruptcy workouts, turnarounds, and distressed company mergers and acquisitions. He regularly represents institutional lenders, companies in distress, fiduciaries (trustees and examiners), other key constituencies in chapter 11 cases, as well as buyers and sellers of distressed debt. Mr. Miller has served as lead counsel on behalf of secured lenders in a number of high-profile cases. Since 2007 alone, he has served as legal advisor for lenders on debt obligations of \$3.0+ billion secured by various kinds of commercial real estate. He has also served as lead counsel for various chapter 11 debtors, including a number of public reporting companies. Mr. Miller regularly advises corporate boards on their fiduciary obligations in the zone of insolvency and in restructurings. He also serves as trial and appellate counsel with regard to nearly all forms of litigation related to insolvent companies, including plan confirmation and stay-relief litigation, fraudulent transfer and preference litigation, lender-liability disputes, and other kinds of litigation related to debtor/creditor relations. Mr. Miller is admitted to practice in Arizona and before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona. He received his B.S. in 1982 from Central Michigan University, his M.B.A. in 1986 from the University of Oklahoma, and his J.D. in 1990 with highest honors from the University of Oklahoma College of Law.

**Allan D. NewDelman** is a sole practitioner with Allan D. NewDelman, P.C. in Phoenix, where his practice focuses on debtor representation under chapters 7, 11 and 13. His chapter 13 practice includes complex, unusual or “troubleshooting”-type cases. Since BAPCPA, he has continued to represent debtors in complex chapter 13 cases, as well as utilize the new provisions for individuals under chapter 11. His chapter 11 representation focuses on wage-earners and small business cases. Previously, he was a partner with Sternberg, Sternberg & Rubin in Phoenix before opening his own practice in 1983. Mr. NewDelman has lectured at numerous seminars for the State Bar of Arizona, Arizona State University College of Law Alumni Association and ABI, among other organizations. He is a member of the Bankruptcy Section of the State Bar of Arizona, the Maricopa County Bar Association and the Illinois Bar Association, and he is admitted to the Illinois and Arizona Bars. Mr. NewDelman received his undergraduate degree from the University of Illinois in 1969 and his J.D. from DePaul University in 1974.

**Randy Nussbaum** is a founding shareholder of Nussbaum Gillis & Dinner, P.C. in Scottsdale, Ariz., specializing in complex and unusual bankruptcies, commercial litigation, construction, corporate and transactional law, real estate, estate planning and tax law. He has been practicing law for more than 35 years. Mr. Nussbaum is admitted to practice before the Arizona Supreme Court, the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Mr. Nussbaum’s practice concentrates in the areas of bankruptcy, real estate, construction and contracting law. He is rated AV-Preeminent and is a certified specialist in bankruptcy law by the Arizona Board of Legal

Specialization, as well as Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification. Mr. Nussbaum has served on numerous boards in Scottsdale and is a board member of the Maricopa County Bar Foundation. In 2012, Scottsdale Leadership chose to award him with that year's Frank W. Hodges Alumni Achievement Award for leadership and consistency of community service and involvement. Mr. Nussbaum has been listed in *Southwest Super Lawyers* since 2007 and in *U.S. News and World Report's* "Best Lawyers in America" since 2009, and he has also been featured in *Arizona's Finest Lawyers* since 2009, *Arizona's Super Lawyers* since 2007, *Top Attorneys in Arizona* since 2013 and *Arizona Business Magazine's* "Top Lawyers" since 2011. He received his B.A. *cum laude* and his J.D. from Arizona State University, where he graduated in the top 25 percent of his class.

**Robert J. Pfister** is a partner at Klee, Tuchin, Bogdanoff & Stern LLP in Los Angeles, where he specializes in bankruptcy litigation and complex commercial disputes. He has tried cases to verdict before arbitrators, bankruptcy judges and federal district judges in both bench and jury trials; prosecuted and defended appeals and requests for extraordinary *writ* relief (including a successful *certiorari* petition and merits briefing before the U.S. Supreme Court and a successful *mandamus* petition before the California Court of Appeals); and provided strategic litigation advice to clients that have included major financial institutions, private investment firms, property/casualty insurers, bankruptcy examiners and trustees, emerging market businesses, municipalities and individuals. Previously, Mr. Pfister maintained a general litigation practice at a major international law firm, first in New York and then in Los Angeles, as an associate attorney and then as counsel. He joined KTB&S in 2010 and has been a partner since Jan. 1, 2011. Mr. Pfister was named a "Rising Star" by *Southern California Super Lawyers* from 2009-14 and was named a *Super Lawyer* in 2015 and 2016. He also holds an AV-Preeminent peer-review rating from Martindale-Hubbell and authored "Marriage Equality in Bankruptcy Court: Joint Petitions for Same-Sex Couples," 32 *Cal. Bankr. J.* 109 (2012). He is a member of ABI, the Financial Lawyers Conference, the Los Angeles Bankruptcy Forum, the Ninth Judicial Circuit Historical Society, the American Judicature Society, the California Supreme Court Historical Society and the U.S. Supreme Court Historical Society. Mr. Pfister received his undergraduate degree from Indiana University and his J.D. from NYU, after which he clerked for a U.S. District Judge in Connecticut.

**Jeffrey N. Pomerantz** is a partner with Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP in Los Angeles, where his practice includes representing companies, creditors' committees and private-equity funds in complex in- and out-of-court financial restructurings and merger-and-acquisition transactions. He has particular expertise in restructurings in the restaurant and retail sectors, and is generally focused on middle-market companies with annual revenues ranging from \$50 million to \$300 million. Mr. Pomerantz also has an active creditors' committee practice, having represented more than 20 creditors' committees over the past several years. He is ABI's President and authored "The Bare Necessities of Critical Vendor Motions—It's a Jungle Out There," 13 *Journal of Bankruptcy Law & Practice* (2004), and he has lectured or been a panelist for ABI, the Los Angeles Bankruptcy Forum, the Financial Lawyers Conference and the Credit Managers Association. He is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell and was named a "Super Lawyer" in the field of Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights from 2009-12 in *Los Angeles* magazine. Mr. Pomerantz received both his undergraduate degree Phi Beta Kappa and his J.D. from New York University, where he was a member of the Order of the Coif.

**Kimberly A. Posin** is a partner in Latham & Watkins LLP's Restructuring, Insolvency & Workouts practice group in Los Angeles, where she represents corporations and secured lenders in all aspects of bankruptcy proceedings and out-of-court restructurings. She also represents private-equity funds, buyers and hedge funds in distressed asset sales. Her debtor representations include such diverse companies as BIND Therapeutics, Consolidated Freightways, Spansion and Boston Generating LLC. In 2013, Ms. Posin co-authored "Intellectually Bankrupt?: The Comprehensive Guide to Navigating IP Issues in Chapter 11," published in the Summer 2013 issue of the *ABI Law Review*, and in 2016, she co-authored an *ABI Law Review* article titled "Bankruptcy Without Borders: A Comprehensive Guide to the First Decade of Chapter 15." A member of the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation, she received her undergraduate degree from the University of Southern California and her J.D. from Boalt Hall School of Law.

**Jeffrey M. Reisner** is a partner and former member of the Executive Committee of Irell & Manella LLP in Newport Beach, Calif., and is the head of its Bankruptcy, Reorganization and Creditors' Rights practice group. He specializes in representing companies and high-net-worth individuals in connection with the reorganization of their financial affairs, and as creditors of others in financial distress. He also represents creditors' committees, acquirers of assets, investors and creditors in bankruptcy cases and out of court restructurings throughout the U.S. Mr. Reisner is consistently recognized in *Chambers USA*, *The Best Lawyers in America* and *Super Lawyers*. He is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy Lawyers and was appointed to the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants' Bankruptcy Task Force. Mr. Reisner received *M&A Advisor's* 2014 "Restructuring Deal of the Year Award" for his successful representation of the Official Creditors' Committee in the American Suzuki chapter 11 bankruptcy case. In 2013, he was named *Best Lawyers'* Orange County Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law "Lawyer of the Year," an honor bestowed upon only a single lawyer in each practice area in each community. Mr. Reisner was recognized for his successful representation of William Lyon Homes in a special report by *Turnarounds & Workouts* highlighting "2012 Successful Restructurings" and was selected as one of *Corporate Counsel's* 2010 Top Lawyers for Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights Law. Mr. Reisner earned his B.S. in industrial and labor relations from Cornell University and his M.B.A./J.D. from New York University.

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

**Robert K. Sahyan** is a senior associate in the Finance & Insolvency Practice Group of Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP in San Francisco, where he focuses his practice on business bankruptcies, out-of-court restructurings and other insolvency matters. He counsels various parties in such matters in a wide range of industries, including real estate, retail, tech, manufacturing, media, hospitality, and food and beverage. Mr. Sahyan's representations include debtors-in-possession, creditors' and equity-holders' committees, trustees, lenders and other creditors, and purchasers of assets out of bankruptcy. He also has significant experience representing lenders in commercial lending transactions. Mr. Sahyan is a graduate of the California State University at Fullerton and received his J.D. from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law, where he was a member of the *Hastings Business Law Journal*. He also holds a Licentiate in Law degree from the University of Damascus (Syria).

**Hon. Paul Sala** is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Arizona in Phoenix, appointed on July 1, 2014. Previously, he practiced bankruptcy law in Phoenix for 26 years, the last 15 of which with Allen, Sala & Bayne, PLC, which he co-founded in 1999. Judge Sala's legal practice focused on representing individuals and companies in nonbankruptcy workouts and bankruptcy reorganizations. He also represented unsecured creditors' committees in many high-profile Arizona cases, including Dewey Ranch Hockey (Phoenix Coyotes), the Baptist Foundation of Arizona, Popular Stores and Sun Valley Waterbeds. In addition, he represented trustees in chapter 7 and 11 cases and was appointed in numerous cases to serve as a chapter 11 trustee and as a post-confirmation plan administrator. Judge Sala is a member of the State Bar of Arizona and was active in bar association activities. He was also a member of the President's Circle of the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees, was selected as a master in the Arizona Bankruptcy American Inn of Court, and was listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*, *Southwest Super Lawyers* and *Arizona's Finest Lawyers*. Judge Sala received his B.S. in 1984 and his J.D. in 1987 from the University of Utah.

**Samuel A. Schwartz** is founder and principal of the Schwartz Flansburg PLLC in Las Vegas, where he is an attorney at law and a real estate broker, concentrating his practice in all aspects of bankruptcy and restructuring workouts, as well as real estate short sales, acquisitions and general corporate representation. Prior to starting his own firm, he practiced commercial bankruptcy law, representing debtors and creditors on a broad range of business reorganization and restructuring matters involving a variety of industries. Specifically, Mr. Schwartz represented numerous clients in chapter 11-related matters and now represents both consumers and businesses in all forms of restructuring, bankruptcy and workouts. In addition to handling all aspects of bankruptcy and restructuring workouts, he worked on corporate matters, specifically acquisitions, mergers and general corporate representation. Mr. Schwartz handles all aspects of real estate short sales and has helped manage the sale of underwater properties in Nevada, California, Arizona, Florida and Illinois. He is admitted to practice before the Arizona, Florida, Illinois and Nevada Supreme Courts, the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the U.S. District Courts for the District of Arizona, the Southern District of Florida, the Northern District of Illinois and the District of Nevada. Mr. Schwartz received his B.A. from the University of Michigan in 1994 with honors and his J.D. in 1997 from Loyola University School of Law, where he was a member of the Dean's List and the *Law Journal*.

**Bradley D. Sharp** is a senior managing director with the Los Angeles office of Development Specialists, Inc. and has more than 20 years of experience providing crisis-management, financial advisory and third-party fiduciary services. He has advised and operated companies in numerous industries, including consumer finance, real estate development, high tech, manufacturing, food and agriculture. Mr. Sharp has served as chief restructuring officer as well as trustee under chapters 7 and 11, and post-confirmation. He is also an expert witness with respect to fiduciary duties, banking, finance and securitizations. Mr. Sharp has co-chaired ABI's Business Reorganization Committee. Prior to joining DSI, he was a vice president and senior commercial loan collection officer with Bank of America, NT&SA. Mr. Sharp received his B.S. in accounting with an emphasis in business computer information systems from Mesa College in Grand Junction, Colo.

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

**Christopher C. Simpson** is a partner with Stinson Leonard Street LLP in Phoenix and has more than 18 years of experience in financial restructuring and business matters. His practice includes representing debtors, creditors, committees and buyers in business bankruptcy proceedings and out-of-court restructuring matters. Mr. Simpson has particular expertise in the health care industry and has represented physician groups, hospitals, assisted living and skilled nursing facilities, and buyers and sellers of distressed health care facilities and operations. He also has considerable experience with the unique aspects of reorganizing physician practices. Mr. Simpson has restructuring experience in a wide range of industries, including, manufacturing, retail, construction, telecommunications and financial services. His practice also includes representation of Native American and tribal entities in transactional, infrastructure, corporate and governance matters. He maintains an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell. Mr. Simpson is a member of the American Inns of Court - Arizona Bankruptcy, ABI and the State Bar of Arizona's Bankruptcy Section, and he is admitted to practice in Arizona, the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Mr. Simpson received his B.S. in 1991 from Northern Arizona University, where he received the Top Scholarship Award from the National Journalism Society; his M.B.A. in 1997 from the University of Arizona; and his J.D. summa cum laude in 1997 from the University of Arizona James E. Rogers

College of Law, where he was a member of the Order of the Coif, was executive note editor of the *Arizona Law Review*, and received the First-Year Law Student Award for highest class ranking.

**Autumn D. Spaeth** is a partner with Smiley Wang-Ekvall, LLP in Costa Mesa, Calif., and concentrates her practice on business litigation and insolvency matters. She specializes in bankruptcy-related litigation, including the prosecution and defense of fraudulent conveyance, preference and nondischargeability actions. She is also experienced in receiverships and assignments for the benefit of creditors. Ms. Spaeth's practice includes a broad range of business-litigation matters in state and federal court, including partnership disputes, prosecution and defense of claims for breach of guaranty, breach of fiduciary duty and unfair business practices, as well as intellectual property infringement litigation. Her clients include businesses and their principals, chapter 11 debtors, chapter 7 and 11 trustees, creditors, assignees for the benefit of creditors and receivers. Previously, Ms. Spaeth was an associate in the Trial Department of McDermott, Will & Emery and a partner at Weiland, Golden, Smiley, Wang Ekvall & Strok, LLP before joining Smiley Wang-Ekvall, LLP when it formed in 2014. She holds an AV peer-review rating by Martindale-Hubbell and has twice been named one of the Five Top Bankruptcy Attorneys by *O.C. Metro Magazine*. She co-authored "Who Is the True Borrower? An Analysis of the Sham Guaranty Defense Reveals a Broad, Fact Intensive, and Total Defense to Deficiency Actions," published in the *California Bankruptcy Journal* for the 2012 California Bankruptcy Forum. Ms. Spaeth received her undergraduate degree in political science from the University of California Los Angeles, her M.A. in communication management from the University of Southern California Annenberg School, and her J.D. from the University of Southern California Law School, where she was notes editor of the *Southern California Law Review* and served as a research and teaching assistant to Prof. Erwin Chemerinsky.

**Michael F. Thomson** is a partner at the law firm of Dorsey & Whitney LLP in Salt Lake City and has significant experience helping clients protect their interests in bankruptcy cases in Nevada, Utah and Wyoming. In addition to serving as a chapter 7 panel trustee for the District of Utah, he represents creditors, distressed companies, chapter 7 and 11 trustees, and receivers in all aspects of the workout, restructuring and liquidation process, including litigation and appeals. Mr. Thomson has been named in *The Best Lawyers in America* annually since 2011 and in *Super Lawyers* since 2008, and he maintains an AV rating with Martindale-Hubbell. He received his J.D. from the University of Utah College of Law, where he was an articles editor of the *Utah Law Review* and a William H. Leary Scholar.

**Hon. Deborah L. Thorne** is a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Illinois in Chicago, appointed on Oct. 22, 2015. She is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and is also ABI's Vice President-Communication and Information Technology. Previously, Judge Thorne was a partner with Barnes & Thornburg LLP in Chicago. She has represented middle-market debtors, as well as vendors in bankruptcy proceedings throughout the country. She also served as a federal equity receiver in cases involving commodity fraud in the Northern District of Illinois. Judge Thorne is a past chair of the Chicago Bar Association's Bankruptcy Committee and the Seventh Circuit Bar Association's Bankruptcy Committee. She authored ABI's *Preference Defense Handbook*, *The Circuits Compared* and is one of the authors of ABI's *Interrupted! Understanding Bankruptcy's Effects on Manufacturing Supply Chains*. In addition, she has been included in *The Best Lawyers in America* in the area of bankruptcy and creditor-debtor rights law, was recognized as a *Leading Lawyer in Illinois* and has been recognized by *Illinois Super Lawyers* every year since 2003. Judge Thorne received her

B.A. from Macalester College, her M.A.T. from Duke University and her J.D. with honors from Illinois Institute of Technology Chicago-Kent College of Law.

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

**Andrea Wimmer** is a managing attorney at Marco|Wimmer PLLC in Mesa, Ariz., a boutique firm specializing in consumer bankruptcy and personal-injury matters. She practices exclusively as a consumer debtors' attorney and represents debtors in chapter 7 and 13 cases. In addition to her full practice, Ms. Wimmer is co-chair and treasurer of the Arizona Consumer Bankruptcy Counsel, vice president of the Arizona Bankruptcy American Inn of Court, and a member of the Arizona State Bar Bankruptcy Law Advisory Committee, the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys and ABI. She currently serves on the District of Arizona Local Rules Committee as a member of its Uniformity Subcommittee and Chapter 13 Subcommittee. Ms. Wimmer has been published in the Quinnipiac University School of Law *Probate Law Journal*, the *Bankruptcy Journal* of the State Bar of Arizona's Bankruptcy Section and the *Consumer Bankruptcy Journal*, and has presented on a variety of consumer bankruptcy issues. Ms. Wimmer is originally from Austria and came to the U.S. to attend college and law school. She received her J.D. *cum laude* from Quinnipiac University School of Law.

**Hon. Gregg W. Zive** was sworn in as a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Nevada in Reno on Jan. 23, 1995, and was reappointed in 2009. He served as Chief Judge from 1999-2008 and chaired the Ninth Circuit Conference of Chief Bankruptcy Judges from 2005-06. He retired in 2010 and has been recalled on a full-time basis since 2011. Previously, Judge Zive practiced as a general civil litigator, concentrating in the areas of commercial, contract, real property and employment-relations law. He is admitted to the Bars of California (1973) and Nevada (1976) and to the Bar of the U.S. Supreme Court. Judge Zive is a past president of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy (inducted in 2005) and Master Emeritus of the Bruce R. Thompson Chapter of the American Inns of Court. He is also a member of the Washoe County Bar Association (for which he served as president from 1992-93), the Nevada State-Federal Judicial Council and the State Bar of Nevada Advisory Commission on Law Related Education. He has also been a member of the Ninth Circuit Public Information and Community Outreach Committee and the Ninth Circuit Standing Committee on ADR. A former ABI Board member, he is an adjunct profes-

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sor at the University of Nevada Las Vegas Boyd School of Law, and has been a presenter at numerous seminars regarding various bankruptcy-related topics as well as civil procedure, evidence, real property, employment law and trial techniques. Judge Zive received his B.A. in journalism from the University of Nevada in 1967 and his J.D. *magna cum laude* from the University of Notre Dame Law School in 1973, where he was a member and editor of its law review.