



Session Date: Saturday, May 20, 2023

Session Time: 9:30am – 10:30am

Session Name: \$100,000 Pyramid of Debt Game Show with Honorable Sheri Bluebond

Total Minutes: 60

Total Credit Hours: 1

\$100,000 Pyramid of Debt Game Show Overview

Contestants compete to see how many key words related to topics on the game board their partners can guess within 60 seconds based on the clues they provide. Topics on the gameboard are inspired by recent Supreme Court or Ninth Circuit bankruptcy cases. Once all words related to a selected topic have been guessed or missed, a member of our panel of judges will explain the holding of the case to which the topic relates and audience members will be asked to weigh in with their opinions on issues raised by each case.

CITE LIST FOR JUDGES' PANEL 2023

1. Siegel v. Fitzgerald, 142 S. Ct. 1770 (2022);
2. Ad Hoc Comm. of Holders of Trade Claims v. PG&E (In re PG&E Corp.), 46 F.4th 1047 (9th Cir. 2022);
3. Barclay v. Boskoski, 52 F.4th 1172 (9th Cir. 2022);
4. United States v. Warfield (In re Tillman), 53 F.4th 1160 (9th Cir. 2022);
5. Kassas v. State Bar of Cal., 49 F.4th 1158 (9th Cir. 2022);
6. Baroni v. Seror (In re Baroni), 36 F.4th 958 (9th Cir. 2022);
7. Cty. of San Mateo v. Chevron Corp., 32 F.4th 733 (9th Cir. 2022);
8. Harrington v. Mayer (In re Mayer), 28 F.4th 67 (9th Cir. 2022);
9. NetJets Aviation, Inc. v. RS Air, LLC (In re RS Air, LLC), 638 B.R. 403 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2022);
10. Legal Serv. Bureau, Inc. v. Orange Cty. Bail Bonds, Inc. (In re Orange Cty. Bail Bonds, Inc.), 638 B.R. 137 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2022);
11. Masingale v. Munding, 644 B.R. 530 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2022);
12. Spark Factor Design, Inc. v. Hjelmset (In re Open Med. Inst.), 639 B.R. 169 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2022);
13. Guevarra v. Whatley (In re Guevarra), 638 B.R. 120 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2022);
14. Reed v. Reed (In re Reed), 640 B.R. 932 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2022);
15. TICO Constr. Co. v. Van Meter (In re Powell), 644 B.R. 181 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2022);
16. Censo, LLC v. Newrez, LLC (In re Censo, LLC), 638 B.R. 416 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2022);
17. Kurtin v. Ehrenberg (In re Elieff), 637 B.R. 612 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2022);
18. Smart Cap. Invs. I, LLC v. Hawkeye Ent., LLC (In re Hawkeye Ent., LLC), 49 F.4th 1232 (9th Cir. 2022).

Participating Judges:

Hon. Martin R. Barash, Central District of California (San Fernando Valley Division)

United States Bankruptcy Judge Martin R. Barash sits in Woodland Hills and Santa Barbara, California. Prior to his appointment, Judge Barash was a partner at Klee, Tuchin, Bogdanoff & Stern LLP (now called KTBS Law) in Los Angeles, from 2001 to 2015, representing debtors and other parties in chapter 11 cases and bankruptcy litigation. He first joined the firm as an associate in 1999. Earlier in his career, Judge Barash worked as an associate at Stutman, Treister & Glatt P.C. in Los Angeles. He also has served as an adjunct professor of law at California State University, Northridge. Born in Los Angeles, Judge Barash earned his A.B. in 1989 from Princeton University, where he graduated *magna cum laude* in Politics, and with a certificate with distinction in American Studies. He earned his J.D. in 1992 from the UCLA School of Law, where he served as editor, business manager, and symposium editor of the UCLA Law Review. Following law school, he clerked for Judge Procter R. Hug, Jr., of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, from 1992 to 1993. Judge Barash is a former member of the board of directors for the American Bankruptcy Institute and its Education Committee, and now serves on its Committee for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. He is a former member of the Board of Governors of the Financial Lawyers Conference and currently a Judicial Director of the Los Angeles Bankruptcy Forum. He is a frequent panelist and lecturer on bankruptcy law and is a co-author of the national edition of the Rutter Group Practice Guide: Bankruptcy.

Hon. Neil W. Bason, Central District of California (Los Angeles Division)

Judge Bason was appointed to the bench in 2011, and sits in downtown Los Angeles. In private practice he represented a wide variety of interests in commercial bankruptcy and insolvency matters including secured and unsecured creditors, trustees, receivers, debtors/borrowers, guarantors, prospective asset purchasers, and other parties in interest. He practiced at Howard Rice Nemerovski Canady Falk & Rabkin, P.C. (subsequently combined with Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP) and at Duane Morris LLP. Before that he clerked for the Honorable

Dennis Montali, Bankruptcy Judge of the Northern District of California and Chief Judge of the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel of the Ninth Circuit. He graduated magna cum laude from the Boston University School of Law in 1988, where he was a Note Editor on the law review. He enjoys dining, and working off the resulting calories with biking, hiking, and travel.

Hon. Hannah L. Blumenstiel, Northern District of California (San Francisco Division)

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals appointed Judge Blumenstiel to the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of California (San Francisco) on February 11, 2013.

Prior to her appointment, Judge Blumenstiel was an associate (2003 - 2008) and then a partner (2008 - 2012) with Winston & Strawn LLP, where she focused her practice on creditors' rights litigation in state and federal court, including bankruptcy court. From 2001 to 2003, Judge Blumenstiel was an associate with Murphy Sheneman Julian & Rogers LLP, where she represented debtors, creditors and trustees in bankruptcy cases and adversary proceedings.

Judge Blumenstiel served as Law Clerk to the Honorable Charles M. Caldwell of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Ohio (Eastern Division) from 1998 to 2001. From 1997 to 1998, Judge Blumenstiel represented the State of Ohio's interests in bankruptcy cases as an Assistant Attorney General with the Revenue Recovery Section of the Ohio Attorney General's Office.

Judge Blumenstiel earned her Juris Doctorate from Capital University Law School in 1997. During her first two years of law school, she worked full-time for the Columbus Bar Association as Director of its pro bono initiative "Lawyers for Justice." Judge Blumenstiel received her B.A. from The Ohio State University in 1992.

Judge Blumenstiel was appointed to the Board of Directors of the American Bankruptcy Institute in April 2018 and serves as an Executive Editor of the ABI Journal.

Hon. M. Elaine Hammond, Northern District of California (San Jose Division)

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

Hon. Victoria S. Kaufman, Central District of California (San Fernando Valley Division)

Appointment(s):

- Appointed May 2, 2006 by the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- Reappointed May 2, 2020 by the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit (Current term expires May 1, 2034)

Education:

- Bryn Mawr College, B.A., 1986, magna cum laude
- Harvard Law School, J.D., 1989

Career Record:

- 2004-2006: Of Counsel, Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker LLP
- 1996-1997; 1999-2004: Of Counsel, Jeffer, Mangels, Butler & Marmaro LLP
- 1994-1996: Counsel, McCutchen, Doyle, Brown & Enersen LLP
- 1991-1994: Associate, Levene & Eisenberg P.C.
- 1989-1991: Associate, Latham & Watkins LLP
- Admitted to the California Bar, 1989

Professional Memberships:

- State Bar of California
- National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges

Hon. Margaret M. Mann, Southern District of California

Bankruptcy Judge Margaret M. Mann was appointed a U.S. bankruptcy judge for the Southern District of California on April 2, 2010. She is currently the chair of the Ninth Circuit Conference Executive Committee and the Ninth Circuit representative to the Bankruptcy Judges Advisory Committee of the United States Administrative Office. Since her appointment, she has served as a faculty member for Federal Judicial Center Education programs. Judge Mann is a fellow with the American College of Bankruptcy and a founding member of the San Diego Bankruptcy Forum. Before becoming a judge, she was listed in Best Lawyers in America, and served leadership roles in numerous bankruptcy and civic organizations, including the State Bar Debtor Creditor Committee, Lawyers Club, Athena and the California Bankruptcy Forum. Before her appointment, Judge Mann was a partner at Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP and from 2003 to 2008 she served as chair of the Restructuring and Insolvency Practice and national hiring chair for Heller Ehrman LLP. Judge Mann received her B.A. in finance, cum laude, from the University of Illinois in 1978 and attended the Tilburg School of Economics in The Netherlands in 1978. She received her J.D. from the University of Southern California, Gould School of Law, in 1981. Judge Mann has been active in public service throughout her legal career. She served as a Court Appointed Special Advocate for youths in the dependency system and has been awarded the Wiley M Manuel Pro Bono Service Award on five occasions. Judge Mann is on the board of directors for the national ABI Credit Abuse Resistance Education Foundation program and chairs the local organization in San Diego. She also serves on the Southern District of California Community Outreach Programs Committee

Hon. Jennifer E. Niemann, Eastern District of California (Fresno Division)

Judge Niemann was appointed to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of California on June 16, 2020. Prior to her appointment, Judge Niemann was in private practice and represented Chapter 11 debtors, Chapter 11 trustees and creditors in bankruptcy cases and out-of-court restructurings. Judge Niemann also served as a long-term judicial law clerk to three different bankruptcy judges of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of California. Judge Niemann received her bachelor's degree, summa cum laude, from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and her J.D. from Harvard Law School.

Hon. Magdalena Reyes Bordeaux, Central District of California (Riverside Division)

Appointment

- Appointed on January 18, 2022 by the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit (Current term expires on January 18, 2036)

Education

- U.C. Irvine, 1992, B.A. Political Science & Humanities
- U.C.L.A. School of Law, 1997, Managing Editor of the UCLA Journal of Law & Technology

Career Record

- 2009-2022, Public Counsel, Los Angeles, California
- 2008-2009, Winterbotham Parham Teeple, West Covina, California
- 2004-2008, Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California
- 2000-2004, Public Counsel, Los Angeles, California
- Admitted to the California Bar, 1998

Publications or Other Media

- "A Fresh Start," LOS ANGELES LAWYER, Vol. 43, Issue 9, December 2020.
- "Reaffirmation Agreements in Chapter 7 Proceedings," LOS ANGELES LAWYER, Vol. 35 Issue 1, March 2012.

- “New Bankruptcy Law Increases Burden on Financially Strapped,” LOS ANGELES DAILY JOURNAL, June 2, 2006.
- “Debtors in Pretension,” LOS ANGELES LAWYER, Vol., 27, Issue 6, September 2004.

Professional Associations

- California Lawyers Association
- Los Angeles Bankruptcy Forum
- Latina Lawyers Bar Association

Awards

- Thomas B. Donovan Public Excellence Award
- President Emeritus Henry J. Sommer National Scholar
- Hon. Cornelius Blackshear Presidential Fellowship

Hon. Deborah J. Saltzman, Central District of California, Los Angeles Division

Deborah Saltzman was sworn in as a judge of the United States Bankruptcy Court for Central District of California on March 18, 2010. Judge Saltzman is based in Los Angeles, where she hears Los Angeles Division, San Fernando Valley Division, and Northern Division (Santa Barbara) cases.

As a member of the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Education Committee, Judge Saltzman welcomes the opportunity to participate in bankruptcy education programs. Judge Saltzman also currently serves on the Ninth Circuit Wellness Committee.

Prior to her appointment to the bench, Judge Saltzman practiced bankruptcy law in Los Angeles, representing debtors, secured and unsecured creditors, asset purchasers, creditors’ committees, and landlords in chapter 11 and out-of-court restructurings as well as related financing transactions and litigation.

A native of Buffalo, New York, Judge Saltzman received her B.A. in history from Amherst College and her J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law.