

UNCORKING SOLUTIONS



38TH ANNUAL INSOLVENCY CONFERENCE • MAY 14-17, 2026 • HYATT REGENCY SONOMA, SANTA ROSA, CA



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CONFERENCE PROGRAM



GREENBERG GLUSKER PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE

California Bankruptcy Forum **38th Annual** ***Insolvency Conference***

The attorneys in Greenberg Glusker's Bankruptcy, Reorganization & Capital Recovery group shape business solutions specific to each client's concerns. Our counsel ranges from early stage evaluations, transactional advice, and pre-petition planning for Chapter 11 bankruptcy reorganizations, to out-of-court reorganizations and asset sales.

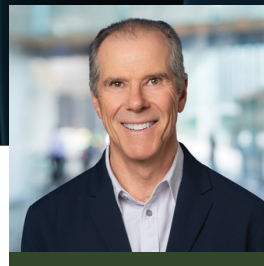
Our broad client base and years of experience litigating in the bankruptcy courts of Southern California make us well suited to efficiently advise on bankruptcy-related issues. By drawing on the skills of other disciplines within the firm, we can deliver cost-effective advice to address the many business legal issues that arise in connection with financially distressed enterprises.

OUR BANKRUPTCY, REORGANIZATION & CAPITAL RECOVERY GROUP



Keith Patrick Banner

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Welcome to the 38th Annual Insolvency Conference!



It is my distinct honor to serve as your President of the California Bankruptcy Forum.

Founded in 1988, CBF is the preeminent volunteer organization for insolvency professionals in California, with nearly 1,000 members in seven regional chapters, known as fora, throughout California. Our membership includes bankruptcy and insolvency attorneys as well as financial advisors, brokers, trustees, accountants, turnaround specialists and other professionals who work in the insolvency arena.

The California Bankruptcy Forum continues to be a vital platform where bankruptcy attorneys and judges come together to collaborate, share expertise, and uphold the highest standards of integrity and professionalism.

As we face ongoing economic challenges, our collective commitment to justice, education, and innovation remains essential. I encourage all members to engage actively in our upcoming events, seminars, and initiatives designed to enhance our practice and strengthen our community.

Together, we are shaping the future of bankruptcy law in California—advocating for fair, ethical, and effective resolutions for our clients and the courts we serve.

Thank you for your dedication and service to this important profession.

President,

Maggie Schroedter,
Robberson Schroedter LLP

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Schedule-at-a-Glance

Thursday, May 14, 2026

2:00 – 5:30 PM

Registration Open

3:00 – 5:00 PM

California Bankruptcy Forum Board Meeting

5:00 – 5:30 PM

California Bankruptcy Journal Board Meeting

5:30 – 7:00 PM

Welcome Reception for CBF/CBJ Board, Sponsors, Exhibitors, Judges and Conference Committee

Friday, May 15, 2026

8:00 – 9:00 AM

California Bankruptcy Journal Editorial Board Meeting

8:00 AM – 5:30 PM

Registration Open

8:00 AM - 9:30 AM

Breakfast

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

CLA/ILC Monthly Meeting

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Issues at the Intersection: Bankruptcy and Receiverships

Speakers: Amy Harrington, Gerard Keena, Joshua del Castillo, Len Shulman

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Uncorking Solutions in Tourism & Hospitality Bankruptcies

Speakers: Wesley Avery, Dennis Gemberling, Gregory Jones, Sara Chenetz

10:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Break

10:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Exhibits Open

10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

To Decant or Defer: Jurisdiction, Abstention, and the Art of Judicial Restraint

Speakers: Hon. Scott C. Clarkson, Yosina Lissebeck, Monique Jewett-Brewster, David Wood

11:45 AM - 12:45 PM

Lunch Buffet

12:45 PM - 1:45 PM

Keynote Presentation: Marriage Equality

Speaker: Jim Obergefell

1:45 PM - 2:00 PM

Break

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Uncorking Intelligence: Safely Tapping AI in Bankruptcy Practice

Speakers: Michael Colantuono, Joseph Dunn, Malhar Pagay, Hon. Vincent Zurzolo

3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Break

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Corks & Courts: A Judicial Roundtable on AI in Practice

Speakers: Judges in Attendance

4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Full Pour or Limited Tasting? Insurers, Standing, and the Right to Be Heard

Speakers: Ori Katz, Edwin Caldie, Hon. Bruce Harwood (Ret.), Miranda Turner

4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Squeezing the Grapes: Untangling Merchant Cash Advances in Bankruptcy

Speakers: Steven Mirsky, Paul Leeds, Roye Zur, Hon. William Lafferty

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

CLA/ILC Reception

9:00 PM - 11:00 PM

2026 TMA SoCal & IWIRC "The After Party" at CBF

Location: RailRoad Restaurant, Hyatt Regency

Saturday, May 16, 2026

7:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Registration Open

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM

Breakfast

7:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Exhibits Open

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

Uncorking Value in Commercial Real Estate: Priority, Leases, and Valuation in a Shifting Market

Speakers: Sharon Weiss, Jeannie Kim, Hon. Julia Brand, Ivan Gold

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

Uncorking the Alternative Vintage: Out-of-Court Workouts and ABCs on Tap

Speakers: Keith Banner, Anthony Bisconti, Nicholas Wilson, Annie Stoops

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM

Judge Bluebond's Game Show: Wordle

Speakers: Hon. Sheri Bluebond, Hon. Neil Bason, Hon. Hannah Blumenstiel, Hon. Julia Brand, Hon. William Lafferty, Hon. Maureen Tighe, Hon. Jennifer Niemann

10:45 AM - 11:00 AM

Break

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Breweries and Wineries in Subchapter V

Speakers: Christopher Hawkins, Christopher Hart, Gina Klump, Hon. Ronald Clifford

12:30 PM - 2:30 PM

YIP Lunch & Judges Roundtable: First Day Motions - Perspectives from the Bench

Speakers: Judges in Attendance

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Optional Activities - Separate Pre-Registration Required

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| ■ Golf | 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM |
| ■ Safari West: Brews & Buffalos | 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM |
| ■ An Afternoon at the Winery | 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM |
| ■ Pickleball | 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM |

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Bankruptcy Litigation on a Budget: A Consumer Attorney's Tip Sheet

Speakers: Katie Diemer, Scott Bovitz, Joseph Boufadel, Hon. Barry Russell

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Sip Happens: When Small Businesses Are In Distress

Speakers: Jeffrey Kwong, Tamar Terzian, Jane Kim, Hon. Ronald Sargis (Ret.)

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

A Full-Bodied Estate: Distilling the Rights of Spouses and Creditors in Community Property Jurisdictions

Speakers: Christopher Celentino, Ed Hays, Cathleen Cooper Moran, Hon. Sheri Bluebond

3:30 PM - 3:40 PM

Break

3:40 PM - 4:40 PM

Practice Development and Networking

Speakers: Jennifer Hayes, Jamie Dreher, Hon. Ronald Clifford III, Zev Shechtman

3:40 PM - 4:40 PM

Small Batch Reorganizations - Significant Advantages for Small Business Owners

Speakers: Hon. Hannah Blumenstiel, Brent Meyer, Aaron Chambers, Gina Klump

4:45 PM - 6:15 PM

YIP Reception & Social Activity

5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Reception & Dinner

Sunday, May 17, 2026

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

California Receivers Forum Board Meeting

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

California Bankruptcy Forum Future Show Planning

Always Thinking Forward

Innovative legal solutions from California attorneys for corporate restructurings, bankruptcy litigation and other insolvency proceedings.

With you every step of the way, we make your challenges our own.

Solving problems is our top priority.



Nicholas A. Koffroth
38th Annual Insolvency Conference Co-Chair
Partner, Financial Restructuring & Bankruptcy
nkoffroth@foxrothschild.com



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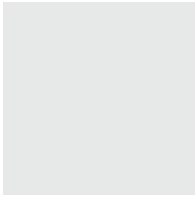
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OUR AREAS OF EXPERTISE

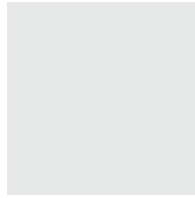
- Receivers, Assignees, Trustees
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- CRO, CEO, CFO, COO
- Financial Advisory
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- Operational Value Creation

Contact David Stapleton at david.stapleton@jsheld.com. Learn more at JSHELD.COM

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JAMIE DREHER



JORGE GAITAN

**MEET OUR
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AND
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TEAM**



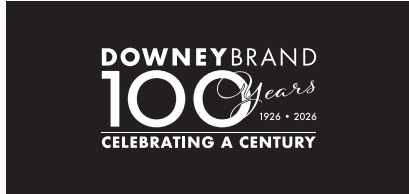
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Education Co-Chair

&

Matthew Olson

Dorsey & Whitney LLP

YIP Co-Chair

**and the entire CBF
Conference Leadership
Team!**

Education Sessions

Thursday, May 14

2:00 pm – 5:30 pm **Registration Open**

3:00 pm – 5:00 **California Bankruptcy Forum Board Meeting**

5:00 pm – 5:30 **California Bankruptcy Journal Board Meeting**

5:30 pm – 7:00 **Welcome Reception for CBF/CBJ Board, Sponsors, Exhibitors, Judges and Conference Committee**

Kick off the conference with our exclusive welcome reception, bringing together the Board of Directors, sponsors, exhibitors, judges, and the conference committee. It's a special opportunity to network in a more intimate setting, fostering key relationships and celebrating the collaboration that makes this event possible. Enjoy refreshments and conversation as we set the stage for a successful conference ahead!

Friday, May 15

8:00 am – 5:30 **Registration Open**

8:00 am – 9:00 am **California Bankruptcy Journal Editorial Board Meeting**

8:00 am – 9:30 am **Breakfast**

9:00 am – 10:00 am **CLA/ILC Monthly Meeting**

9:00 am - 10:00 am **Issues at the Intersection: Bankruptcy and Receiverships**

This guided Q&A brings together experienced practitioners to explore the legal and practical complexities that arise when bankruptcy and receiverships overlap.

SPEAKERS:



Amy Harrington
Court-Appointed Receiver
and Attorney, Harrington
Law, P.C.



Gerard Keena
Founder & President,
Bay Area Receivers Group



Joshua del Castillo
Partner, Allen Matkins Leck
Gamble Mallory & Natsis LLP



Len Shulman
Managing Partner,
Shulman Bastian Friedman
Bui & O'Dea LLP

PRODUCERS:



Jake Diiorio
Senior Managing Director,
J.S. Held, LLC



Victoria Phan
Associate, Lubin Olson &
Niewiadomski LLP

9:00 am – 10:00 am **Uncorking Solutions in Tourism & Hospitality Bankruptcies***

When financial distress hits hotels, resorts, and other hospitality businesses, stakeholders must carefully uncork a complex blend of legal and operational issues. This panel will explore recent California bankruptcy cases in the tourism and hospitality sector while examining key challenges such as single asset real estate issues, cash collateral disputes, perfection of interests in hotel revenues, and the treatment of hotel management agreements. Panelists will also discuss workforce and customer-facing concerns, including collective bargaining agreements, WARN Act claims, gift cards, and loyalty programs, offering practical insights for navigating restructurings in this uniquely service-driven industry.

SPEAKERS:



Wesley Avery
Chapter 7 and 12 Trustee, The
Bankruptcy Law Center



Gregory Jones
Partner, Stradling Yocca
Carlson & Rauth LLP



Ian Quinn
Attorney, Wanger Jones
Helsley



Dennis Gemberling
Receiver/Property Manager,
Perry Group International



Sara Chenetz
Partner, Perkins Coie LLP



Allison Rego
Partner, Mojdehi Galvin
Rego LLP

PRODUCERS:

10:00 am – 10:30 am **Break**

10:00 am – 3:30 pm **Exhibits Open**

10:30 am – 11:45 am **To Decant or Defer: Jurisdiction, Abstention, and the Art of Judicial Restraint**

Bankruptcy courts hold a full-bodied mandate to advance reorganization — yet sometimes the most disciplined move is not to pour. This panel will uncork the constitutional, statutory, and prudential doctrines that require courts to step back, from Article III limits and subject-matter jurisdiction to mandatory and permissive abstention, comity, and equitable remand. Through practical analysis and procedural guidance, our speakers will explore how and when a bankruptcy court declines to decide — illuminating the careful balance between efficiency and restraint, and the enduring question of when to press forward and when to let the matter breathe.

SPEAKERS:



Hon. Scott C. Clarkson
U.S. Bankruptcy Court,
Central District of California



Monique Jewett-Brewster
Partner, Lathrop GPM LLP



Anna Gumport
Senior Managing Associate,
Sidley Austin



Yosina Lissebeck
Partner, Dinsmore &
Shohl LLP



David Wood
Partner, Marshack Hays
Wood LLP



Mikayla Kutsuris
Attorney, Felderstein
Fitzgerald Willoughby
Pascuzzi & Rios LLP

PRODUCERS:

11:45 am – 12:45 pm **Lunch Buffet**



12:45 pm – 1:45 pm — Keynote: Marriage Equality

Jim Obergefell is the named plaintiff from the landmark U.S. Supreme Court marriage equality case *Obergefell v. Hodges*. Following the decision on June 26, 2015, he embraced a new career as an LGBTQ+ activist and was most recently the Director of Individual Giving at FamilyEquality.org.

Jim is a speaker on LGBTQ+ equality represented by Keppler Speakers and has recently joined The JustMarried Project as a Producer for the docuseries focused on a collection of the love stories that brought about Marriage Equality in the U.S.

Jim sits on the Board of Directors at Family Equality, The Board of Advisors of the Mattachine Society of Washington, DC, the National Advisory Council of the GLBT Historical Society and served on the Board of Directors of SAGE, the oldest and largest cause-based national organization, advocating for and providing services for LGBTQ+ older Americans.

Merging a love of wine with the fight for equality, he co-founded Equality Vines, the world's first cause-based wine label, to support organizations devoted to civil rights and equality for all.

With Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative journalist Debbie Cenziper, Obergefell co-authored the book *Love Wins* published by William Morrow/Harper Collins.

1:45 pm – 2:00 pm **Break**

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm **Uncorking Intelligence: Safely Tapping AI in Bankruptcy Practice**

Artificial intelligence is fermenting rapidly in the legal world — but like any new vintage, it must be handled with care. This panel will demystify how AI works and explore the evolving landscape of generative and agentic tools. Our speakers will provide insight into various AI products and uncork practical guidance on using AI ethically, effectively, and transparently in courts, firms, and client relationships.

SPEAKERS:



Michael Colantuono
Shareholder, Colantuono,
Highsmith & Whatley, PC



Joseph Dunn
Partner, Covington &
Burling LLP



Malhar Pagay
Partner, Pachulski Stang
Ziehl & Jones LLP



Hon. Vincent Zurzolo
U.S. Bankruptcy Court,
Central District of California

PRODUCERS:



Garrett Leatham
Attorney, McCormick
Barstow LLP



Shelby Poteet
Associate, Franklin Soto
Leeds LLP

3:00 pm – 3:30 pm **Break**

3:30 pm – 4:30 pm **Corks & Courts: A Judicial Roundtable on AI in Practice**

After exploring the mechanics and risks of AI, this interactive roundtable invites attendees to pull up a chair and uncork candid conversation with members of the bench. Building on the earlier discussion of tools like ChatGPT and other emerging platforms, participants will discuss the evolving boundaries of responsible AI advocacy. Like a guided tasting, each table offers a distinct perspective — giving practitioners practical insight into how courts are evaluating and adapting to artificial intelligence in real time.

SPEAKERS:

Judges in Attendance

PRODUCER:



Kristin Mihelic
Counsel, Fennemore



Nathan Smith
Partner, Malcolm & Cisneros,
A Law Corporation

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm Full Pour or Limited Tasting? Insurers, Standing, and the Right to Be Heard

When insurers help fund the vintage, do they also get a seat at the table? In *Truck Insurance Exchange v. Kaiser Gypsum Co. Inc.*, the Supreme Court of the United States unanimously held that insurers with financial responsibility for bankruptcy claims qualify as “parties in interest” with the right to appear and be heard in Chapter 11 cases. This panel will uncork the implications of that ruling, explore the expanding contours of Section 1109 standing, and examine how practitioners should navigate insurer participation as courts continue to refine the outer limits of who gets to join the tasting.

SPEAKERS:



Ori Katz
Partner, Sheppard, Mullin,
Richter & Hampton LLP



Hon. Bruce Harwood (Ret.)
U.S. Bankruptcy Court,
New Hampshire



Edwin Caldie
Partner, Stinson



Miranda Turner
Partner, Plevin & Turner

PRODUCERS:



Carlos Nevarez
Associate, Hunton
Andrews Kurth



Jordyn Paperny
Attorney, Winthrop Golubow
Hollander, LLP

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm Squeezing the Grapes: Untangling Merchant Cash Advances in Bankruptcy

Merchant Cash Advances can look smooth on the surface — until the pressure is on. This panel will uncork the complex interplay of conflict-of-law and choice-of-law issues unique to MCAs, along with critical UCC and cash collateral challenges that often determine who controls the vineyard. Through practical hypotheticals, a structured roadmap for analysis, and insights from the Court, attendees will gain clarity on how courts are approaching these disputes and how practitioners can navigate them with precision and balance.

SPEAKERS:



Steven Mirsky
Founder, Mirsky
Corporate Advisors



Roye Zur
Partner, Elkins Kalt Weintraub
Reuben Gartside LLP



Paul Leeds
Partner, Franklin Soto
Leeds LLP



Hon. William Lafferty
U.S. Bankruptcy Court,
Northern District of California

PRODUCERS:



Matthew Pham
Senior Counsel,
Allen Matkins



Brooke Thompson
Associate, Shulman Bastian
Friedman Bui & O’Dea LLP

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm CLA/ILC Reception

All attendees are welcome to join us for a lively networking reception. This is the perfect chance to mingle, exchange ideas, and unwind after the day’s sessions. Enjoy a relaxed atmosphere and great conversations as we foster connections across the entire conference community.

9:00 pm – 11:00 pm 2026 TMA SoCal & IWIRC “The After Party”

Turnaround Management Association SoCal Chapter and International Women’s Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation (IWIRC) after party at the Railroad Restaurant at the Hyatt Regency.

Saturday, May 16

7:30 am - 5:30 pm Registration Open

7:30 am - 9:00 am Breakfast

7:30 am - 12:30 pm Exhibits Open

8:30 am - 9:30 am **Uncorking Value in Commercial Real Estate: Priority, Leases, and Valuation in a Shifting Market**

In today's volatile market, commercial real estate bankruptcies require stakeholders to carefully uncork competing claims and strategic options. This panel will explore priority fights among secured creditors, the contrasts between large Chapter 11 cases and Subchapter V filings, and critical issues involving lease assumption and rejection, adequate protection, cash collateral, cramdown, and valuation battles. From high-profile developments to small landlord cases, attendees will gain practical insights, judicial perspective, and real-world strategies to navigate complex real estate restructurings with confidence.

SPEAKERS:



Sharon Weiss
Partner, Bryan Cave
Leighton Paisner



Hon. Julia Brand
U.S. Bankruptcy Court,
Central District of California



Stephen Mott
Associate, Raines Feldman
Littrell LLP



Jeannie Kim
Partner, Golden Goodrich LLP



Ivan Gold
Counsel, Allen Matkins Leck
Gamble Mallory & Natsis LLP



Connor Wohl
Director, Braun International

PRODUCERS:

8:30 am - 9:30 am **Uncorking the Alternative Vintage: Out-of-Court Workouts and ABCs on Tap**

Before turning to bankruptcy, companies may find a better blend in out-of-court workouts. This panel will compare workouts with formal proceedings and explore when they are especially advantageous—particularly in industries such as cannabis, venture-backed companies, and crypto—before diving into the structure and strategy of Assignments for the Benefit of Creditors (ABCs), including stakeholder perspectives and asset sales mechanics. The discussion will also address director liability, choice-of-law considerations between California and Delaware, and recent statutory developments, equipping attendees to uncork practical solutions outside the courtroom.

SPEAKERS:



Keith Banner
Partner, Greenberg Glusker



Nicholas Wilson
Chief Operating Officer,
Douglas Wilson Companies



Samuel Boyamian
Associate, Margulies
Faith LLP



Anthony Bisconti
Partner, Bienert Katzman
Littrell Williams LLP



Annie Stoops
Counsel, ArentFox Schiff, LLP



Lane Hilton
Attorney, Robberson
Schroedter LLP

PRODUCERS:

9:30 am – 10:45 am Judge Bluebond’s Game Show: Wordle

Put your word skills to the test in this interactive game show inspired by Wordle! Contestants will take turns guessing five-letter words related to recent bankruptcy cases, with clues provided after each attempt. Judges will then break down the legal significance of each case. Audience participation is encouraged - text your suggestions to help contestants crack the code! The contestant with the highest score wins, but, in the end, everyone walks away a winner.

SPEAKERS:



Hon. Sheri Bluebond
U.S. Bankruptcy Court,
Central District of California



Hon. Julia Brand
U.S. Bankruptcy Court,
Central District of California



Hon. Jennifer Niemann
U.S. Bankruptcy Court,
Eastern District of California



Hon. Neil Bason
U.S. Bankruptcy Court,
Central District of California



Hon. William Lafferty
U.S. Bankruptcy Court,
Northern District of California



Hon. Hannah Blumenstiel
U.S. Bankruptcy Court,
Northern District of California



Hon. Maureen Tighe
U.S. Bankruptcy Court,
Central District of California

10:45 am – 11:00 am Break

11:00 am – 12:00 pm Breweries and Wineries in Subchapter V

This panel will explore a variety of topics relevant to practitioners who are or may become involved in Subchapter V cases involving breweries and wineries, including current industry trends, pre-filing and post-filing legal and practical considerations, agriculture’s impact on winery cases, and professional compensation and Chapter 11 budgeting. The floor will also be open to discuss audience members’ experiences and lessons learned so that attendees leave better able to plan for efficient and effective representations in brewery and winery Subchapter V cases.

SPEAKERS:



Christopher Hawkins
Director, Fennemore



Gina Klump
Attorney, Gina Rae Klump
Law Offices



Chris Hart
Principal, Nuti Hart



Hon. Ronald Clifford III
U.S. Bankruptcy Court,
Central District of California

PRODUCERS:



Dora Duru
Associate, Bryan Cave
Leighton Paisner LLP



Diego Flores
Counsel, Shartsis Friese LLP

12:30 pm – 2:30 pm YIP Lunch & Judges Roundtable: First Day Motions - Perspectives from the Bench

This session demystifies the crucial early phase of bankruptcy practice. From drafting the first motions to anticipating expectations of judges, clients, and partners, attendees will gain a practical roadmap to confidently handle foundational filings and communications.

SPEAKERS:

Judges in Attendance

PRODUCERS:



Alphamorlai “Mo” Kebeh
Associate, Allen Matkins



Taylor Duncan
Associate, Dinsmore &
Shohl LLP

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Optional Activities

(Separate Pre-Registration Required)

- Golf at Foxtail
- Safari West: Brews & Buffalos
- An Afternoon at the Winery
- Pickleball



1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

Bankruptcy Litigation on a Budget: A Consumer Attorney’s Tip Sheet

This session equips consumer bankruptcy practitioners to navigate contested matters and adversary proceedings with confidence. From gathering evidence and managing discovery to preparing for trial, attendees will gain practical strategies to advocate effectively for their clients in complex disputes.

SPEAKERS:



Katie Diemer
Partner, Diemer & Wei, LLP



Joseph Boufadel
Partner, Salvato Boufadel LLP



Scott Bovitz
Senior Partner,
Bovitz & Spitzer



Hon. Barry Russell
U.S. Bankruptcy Court,
Central District of California

PRODUCER:



Douglas Harris
Senior Associate,
Alston & Bird

2:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Sip Happens: When Small Businesses Are in Distress

This session dives into specialized pathways within small business bankruptcy, beyond the familiar Subchapter V. We’ll explore the unique considerations of Chapter 12 for family farmers and fishermen, the nuances of Chapter 13, and how PACA and class action claims may come into play. Additionally, we’ll tackle tax complexities, giving attendees a full spectrum of strategic options for their small business clients.

SPEAKERS:



Jeffrey Kwong
Partner, Levene Neale Bender
Yoo & Golubchik, LLP



Jane Kim
Managing Partner, Keller
Benvenuti Kim LLP



Tamar Terzian
Counsel and Client
Relationship Manager, Terzian
Law Group APC



Hon. Ronald Sargis (Ret.)
U.S. Bankruptcy Court,
Eastern District of California

PRODUCERS:



Talvinder Bambhra
Associate, Desmond, Nolan,
Livaich & Cunningham



Kyle Lewis
Accounting Supervisor, Tiger
Capital Group, LLC

2:30 pm – 3:30 pm A Full-Bodied Estate: Distilling the Rights of Spouses and Creditors in Community Property Jurisdictions

In this session, we'll untangle the complexities of community property jurisdictions, focusing on the rights and obligations of spouses and creditors. Attendees will explore how shared assets and liabilities are handled, the nuances of creditor claims, and how legal distinctions impact bankruptcy proceedings. By the end, participants will have a clearer roadmap to protect and advocate for clients within these unique property frameworks.

SPEAKERS:



Christopher Celentino
Partner, Dinsmore & Shohl LLP



Cathleen Cooper Moran
Attorney, Moran Law Group



Ed Hays
Partner, Marshack Hays
Wood LLP



Hon. Sheri Bluebond
U.S. Bankruptcy Court,
Central District of California

PRODUCER:



Trent Douglas
Law Clerk to the
Hon. Magdalena Reyes
Bordeaux

3:30 pm – 3:40 pm Break

3:40 pm – 4:40 pm Practice Development and Networking

This session guides you through building a successful career in bankruptcy and restructuring. We'll outline key milestones in your professional journey, offering practical recommendations to grow and thrive. Additionally, we'll delve into strategies for networking within the restructuring world, ensuring you build lasting relationships that support your long-term success.

SPEAKERS:



Jennifer Hayes
Partner, Finestone Hayes LLP



Hon. Ronald Clifford III
U.S. Bankruptcy Court,
Central District of California



Jamie Dreher
Partner, Downey Brand



Zev Shechtman
Partner, Saul Ewing LLP

PRODUCERS:



Fernando Almaraz
Attorney, Baker Manock &
Jensen, PC



John Livingston
Judicial Law Clerk, U.S.
Bankruptcy Court, C.D. Cal. -
Chambers of Hon. Martin R.
Barash

3:40 pm – 4:40 pm Small Batch Reorganizations - Significant Advantages for Small Business Owners

This session focuses on when an individual debtor, particularly a sole proprietor, should consider small business bankruptcy, including Subchapter V. We'll explore the intersection of personal and business financial challenges, highlighting key triggers and benefits of shifting from a consumer bankruptcy mindset to small business protections. Attendees will walk away with a clearer understanding of when and how to pivot.

SPEAKERS:



Hon. Hannah Blumenstiel
U.S. Bankruptcy Court,
Northern District of California



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Managing Director,
Turnaround & Restructuring
Boos & Associates, P.C.



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Gina Klump
Attorney, Gina Rae Klump
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Education Sessions

4:45 pm - 6:15 pm **YIP Reception & Social Activity**

Young insolvency professionals are invited to unwind and connect at our special charcuterie workshop! This interactive reception offers a fun, hands-on experience—learn how to craft a beautiful platter while mingling with peers and building relationships. Come for the skills, stay for the camaraderie—and, of course, enjoy the delicious results!

5:30 pm - 8:00 pm **Reception & Dinner**

Join us for the closing reception and dinner, where we'll cap off the conference with an evening of connection, celebration, and great food. This is your final opportunity to network with fellow attendees, share insights, and reflect on the highlights. Relax, enjoy the atmosphere, and toast to the connections that will last well beyond the event!

Sunday, May 17

9:00 am - 10:30 am **California Receivers Forum Board Meeting**

9:00 am - 10:00 am **California Bankruptcy Forum Future Conference Planning**





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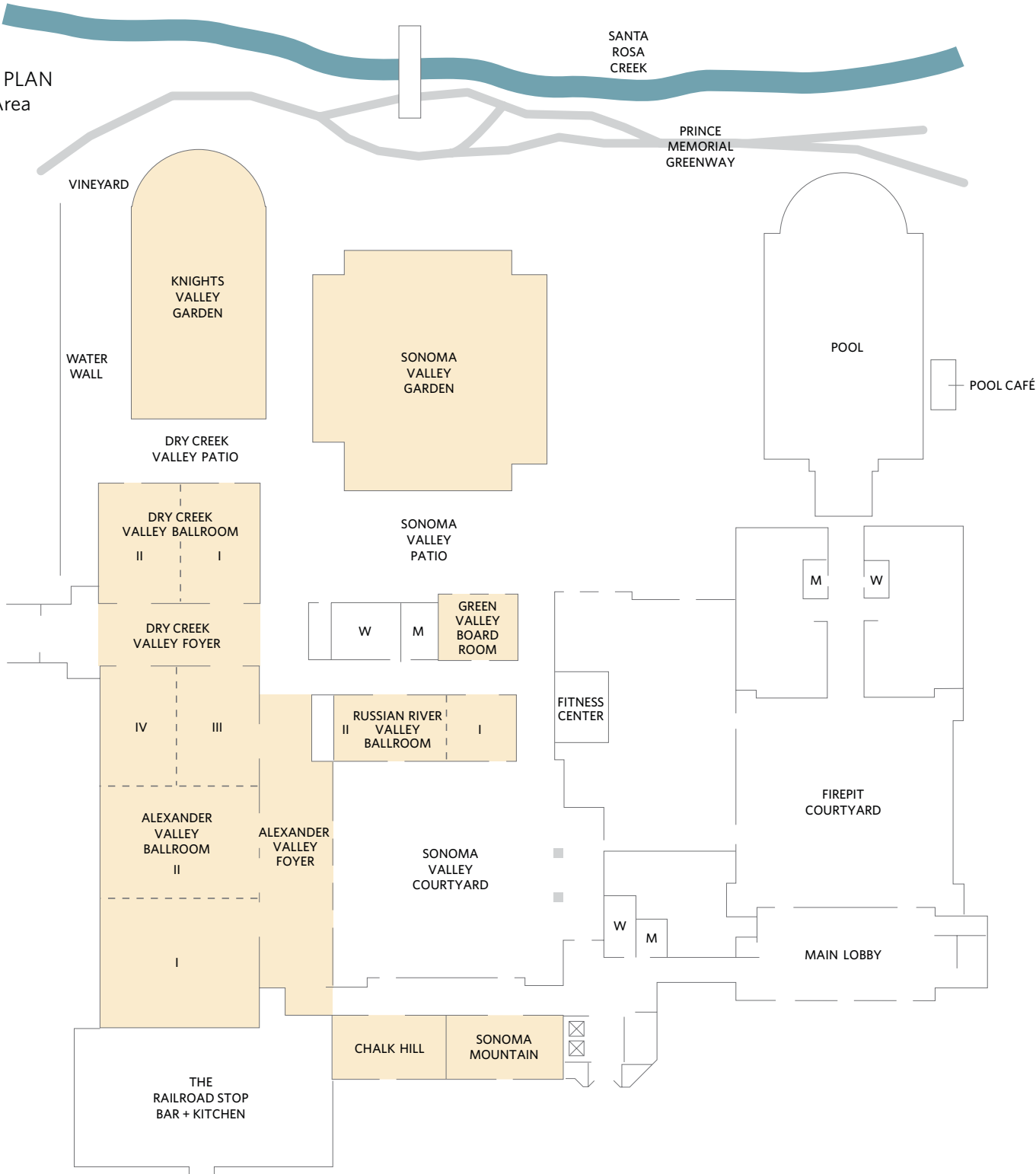
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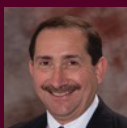
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Conference Co-Chairs' Message

Welcome to Santa Rosa! We are excited to have you at the California Bankruptcy Forum's 38th Annual Insolvency Conference.

This year's Sponsorship, Education, Consumer, and YIP Co-Chairs, along with each of the producers, speakers, and judges have worked incredibly hard to showcase an impressive and broad variety of insightful educational content. Our conference offers a collection of panels covering a wide range of issues and industries, including recent bankruptcy cases in the tourism and hospitality sector, when a bankruptcy court declines to decide, when insurers have the right to appear and be heard in Chapter 11 cases, navigating issues related to Merchant Cash Advances, updates on the commercial real estate market, out-of court workout options, SubV issues, and artificial intelligence. We are also excited to welcome back the California Receivers Forum and its members this year.

Our annual conference would not be complete without Judge Sheri Bluebond's beloved game show, so don't miss it on Saturday morning. Similarly, we are grateful to all of our California bankruptcy judges who will present on panels and engage attendees in lively roundtable discussions. Continuing the Forum's efforts to expand the reach of its programs, the Conference will include programs specially tailored for Consumer and Young Insolvency Professionals.

We are so excited to welcome our keynote speaker, Jim Obergefell, plaintiff in the landmark Supreme Court case, *Obergefell v. Hodges*. We look forward to hearing from Jim as he draws on his unique experience at the heart of the Supreme Court marriage equality ruling and his dedication to the fight for equality and civil rights for all. You'll also have a chance to meet with Jim at the Saturday evening reception for a pouring of Equality Wines.

In addition to our engaging educational sessions, we have curated exciting offsite events designed to recharge and connect you with your colleagues in a fun, informal setting. Whether you are honing your skills on the pickleball court, spending an afternoon at a winery, enjoying a round of golf in stunning surroundings, or going on a craft-brew safari, there is something for everyone to enjoy. Please also consider supporting our annual pro bono program as we raise money for Tina's Wish and Cory Fights Back, two great nonprofit organizations dedicated to funding ovarian cancer research. Finally, don't miss our signature Saturday evening dinner and reception.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our wonderful community – thank you to each sponsor, exhibitor and advertiser, every attendee, all of our esteemed judges, and our knowledgeable speakers for your support of the California Bankruptcy Forum and its annual conference. Your active participation and engagement, year after year, are what make CBF the great organization that it is.

Please don't be shy this weekend! Say hello and share with us your thoughts on the programs and conference. Be sure to use the CBF app to link up with other attendees before, during, and after the conference. We have sincerely looked forward to connecting with you all as we planned this conference over the last year.

Evan, Nick, and Rika
2026 Conference Co-Chairs

The Bay Area Bankruptcy Forum wishes to recognize the following Northern District Judges on their retirements



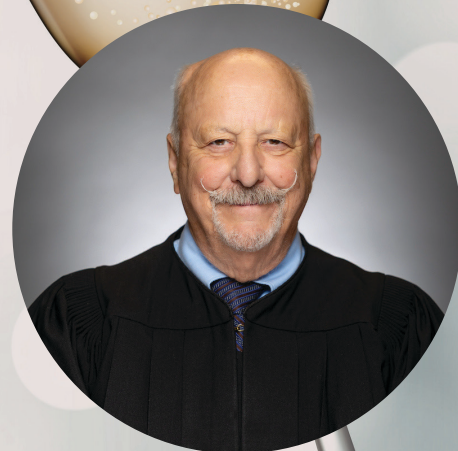
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HONORABLE DENNIS MONTALI
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Thank you for all you have done for our organization!
We congratulate you on your well-deserved retirement and wish you good health and all the best in your next chapter

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Brews & Buffalos at Safari West

12:30 pm – 4 pm

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On this private safari, you'll enjoy the undivided attention of your very own guide as you explore. Upon arrival at Flamingo Landing, you'll enjoy delicious snacks and a sampling of a rotating selection of brews from several Sonoma County and California breweries. safariwest.com



An Afternoon at Paradise Ridge Winery

1 pm – 4 pm

\$130/person, including transportation

Join us for an afternoon at Paradise Ridge Winery! We'll shuttle the group to the estate for a guided wine tasting—complete with charcuterie and insights from the winery expert. After savoring the flavors, you'll have time to stroll the scenic grounds and discover captivating metal sculptures—perfect for a photo opp—before we whisk you back to the hotel. www.prwinery.com



Pickleball Tournament

1:30 pm – 4 pm

\$100/person, includes transportation, balls, paddles, light refreshments & towels courtside.

This two-hour program at the nearby DoubleTree combines a round robin tournament and instruction. Spend the first part learning new skills or developing your existing ones with our pickleball professionals. The second portion is a fun round robin format. This ensures that all players play matches against different opponents and with different partners. Want to play with your own partner? No problem! The tournament director ensures even play and that all guests have a fantastic time.



Golf Tournament

12:30 pm – 4:30 pm

\$130 per person, includes transportation and lunch. Club rental not included.

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Education Co-Chairs' Message

Welcome to the California Bankruptcy Forum's 2026 Annual Insolvency Conference!

As we gather in beautiful **Santa Rosa**, nestled in the heart of California's renowned wine country, we are delighted to welcome you to this year's conference. Whether you are a longtime member of the CBF community or first-time attendee, we hope you will take this opportunity to reconnect with colleagues, build new relationships, and deepen your knowledge while enjoying all that Sonoma County has to offer. This year's theme - "Uncorking Solutions" - captures the spirit of thoughtful problem-solving and collaboration that defines our insolvency community.

Full Bodied Learning:

This year's educational programming offers a rich blend of timely topics and practical insights for practitioners across the insolvency landscape. Our panels will explore developments in areas such as out-of-court restructurings, the intersection of bankruptcy and receiverships, jurisdiction and abstention, safely using Artificial Intelligence in your legal practice, Merchant Cash Advances, and bankruptcy issues affecting the commercial real estate, tourism, hospitality, brewery and winery industries. With perspectives from judges, practitioners, and industry professionals, attendees will gain practical tools and fresh ideas to help address the evolving challenges facing our clients and our practice.

Connection and Community:

Beyond the panels, the conference offers countless opportunities to reconnect with colleagues and expand your professional network. From receptions and social gatherings to outdoor activities throughout the weekend, we encourage you to take full advantage of the chance to engage with fellow members of the CBF community. Be sure to use the conference app to connect with other attendees before, during, and after the conference.

A River Runs Through It; Enjoy the Setting:

Santa Rosa and the surrounding Sonoma County region provide the perfect setting to combine learning with relaxation. Between educational sessions, we hope you will take time to enjoy the remarkable food, scenery, and hospitality that make this region so special. Like a well-crafted vintage, the best conferences bring together the right blend of ideas, conversation, and camaraderie - and we hope this year's gathering will do exactly that.

Cheers!

We extend our sincere thanks to our judges, speakers, sponsors, exhibitors, panel producers, and the many volunteers who make this conference possible. We are especially grateful to the Consumer and YIP leadership for organizing outstanding programming tailored to their communities.

We hope you enjoy the conference and leave Santa Rosa with new insights, renewed connections, and perhaps a few uncorked solutions of your own.

Warm regards,

Mia S. Blackler, Roxsana D. Moradi-Brovia, Kelly Ann Tran
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Allen Matkins is a full-service law firm with deep California roots. For nearly 50 years, clients have relied on the firm's practical, high-quality, and market-leading solutions, along with its strong relationships in business and government. We advise clients across the financial distress spectrum, including debt restructurings and workouts, all aspects of bankruptcy proceedings, strategic acquisitions and dispositions, state and federal receiverships, and foreclosure proceedings. Known for anticipating risks and identifying opportunities, Allen Matkins delivers efficient, effective results. The firm acts as a strategic partner, investing in understanding each client's priorities to craft forward-looking, business-aligned legal strategies that support long-term success.

Founded in 1893, **Alston & Bird** is a leading international law firm with 13 offices across the United States and Europe. The firm advises domestic and international clients on complex legal, regulatory, and business matters in a global economic environment, combining deep legal experience with industry insight, innovation, and advanced technology. Alston & Bird offers a full range of services across its core practices, including intellectual property, complex litigation, corporate and finance, and tax. We serve clients in financial services, technology, health care, manufacturing, and life sciences. The firm is widely recognized for client service, legal talent, culture, and diversity.

Arch + Beam is a restructuring and advisory firm with experience advising public and private companies across many industries from start-ups to billion-dollar multi-nationals. We have expertise across most turnaround, restructuring and bankruptcy approaches, including turnarounds, out-of-court workouts, going-concern sales, Chapter 11, ABCs, Article 9 sales, receiverships, orderly wind-downs, assignments for the benefit of creditors and liquidating plans. We have held the roles of financial advisor, chief restructuring officer, chief financial officer, chief operating officer, chief liquidating officer, receiver, assignee and restructuring consultant.

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BG Law is a full-service law firm specializing in financial restructuring, complex bankruptcy proceedings, real estate, and related corporate and

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Bienert Katzman Littrell Williams LLP is a nationally recognized litigation boutique handling high-stakes civil litigation, white-collar defense and investigations, and complex insolvency matters. Our team includes former federal prosecutors, public defenders, and a U.S. Trustee with a proven track record of defense verdicts, favorable criminal outcomes, and multi-million-dollar recoveries. With offices in Orange County and Los Angeles, BKLW delivers big-firm expertise with boutique efficiency.

Binder Malter Harris & Rome -Banks LLP is Silicon Valley's top-rated bankruptcy boutique with expertise representing debtors, committees and lessors in Chapter 7 and 11 cases, as well as bankruptcy litigation and appeals in all divisions of the Northern District of California and beyond. Our dynamic practice and growing group of attorneys is geared to provide prompt, efficient and effective assistance.

Boos & Associates is a full-service accounting and consulting firm providing tax, assurance, and a range of specialty services. The firm has eight offices throughout California and Nevada and is an independent member of BDO Alliance USA. The professionals in our Turnaround & Restructuring group have experience in Chapter 11, 12, Sub V, and receivership cases, as well as interim financial management, out of court workouts, forensic/litigation support, M&A advisory, and strategic tax services.

Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner is a global, full-service law firm with 31 offices around the world, including 18 in the U.S. The firm's restructuring and insolvency practice covers a variety of areas, including representation of secured and unsecured creditors, debtors, debtors-in-possession, trustees, creditors' committees, acquirers of assets from bankruptcy estates and financially distressed sellers, suppliers, customers, principals, and others affected by insolvency. We represent clients in a wide range of in-court and out-of-court situations, litigation and similar settings, appeals, arbitrations and other formal and informal proceedings. The firm's attorneys appear in matters pending in the bankruptcy courts throughout California and the U.S.

For over 80 years, **Buchalter's** Insolvency & Financial Law Group has successfully represented clients in complex proceedings throughout the country in all economic climates. With one of the largest insolvency practices on the West Coast, many of the nation's sophisticated stakeholders trust us to represent them in financial reorganization cases, both in and out of court. Our clients turn to us for our experience in defending threats against senior and subordinate secured status, pursuing rights and remedies concerning reclamation claims, secret liens, environmental liability, third-party creditor disputes, plan confirmation issues, and intellectual property concerns of all types.

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Dinsmore is a full-service firm with more than 750 attorneys in 30 cities coast to coast. Our clients rely on us to support their critical business and strategic needs from corporate growth, risk management, litigation and workforce challenges, to protecting innovations and technology. Our bankruptcy practice features lawyers across the nation with decades of experience who counsel corporate debtors, banks, creditors, committees and trustees in all aspects of Chapter 7 and 11 cases and proceedings and represent clients in sales and receiverships.

Founded in 1989, **Douglas Wilson Companies** provides specialized business, receivership, and real estate services to law firms, state and federal courts, financial institutions, partnerships, corporations, and property owners nationwide. With offices throughout the nation, DWC is the largest business services entity of its kind, offering workout and problem resolution, crisis response, consulting, business planning, receivership, development, entitlement, and construction management services.

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Fear Waddell, P.C. is a boutique bankruptcy firm serving clients in California's Central Valley. Bankruptcy is all we do, and we are passionate about helping our clients get a fresh start from overwhelming debt. Led by multiple specialists certified by the State Bar of California, we handle all aspects of bankruptcy, including both consumer and business, and represent debtors, trustees, and creditors.

Felderstein Fitzgerald Willoughby Pascuzzi & Rios LLP is highly ranked by Chambers USA, US News & World Report, Best Lawyers, and Super Lawyers of Northern California. We represent clients in bankruptcy and commercial law matters, including debtors, creditors, receivers, equity holders, secured creditors, official committees, trustees, landlords, government agencies, and asset purchasers. We have expertise in financial restructuring and debtor/creditor issues, complex Chapter 11 reorganizations, commercial/bankruptcy litigation, workouts, receiverships, assignments for the benefit of creditors, and Chapter 7 liquidations.

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Fox Rothschild is a national full-service firm with 1,000 attorneys coast to coast. Ranked among the leading bankruptcy and restructuring firms in the U.S. by Chambers & Partners, we handle a broad range of bankruptcy and insolvency matters, as well as complex litigation. Our team guides companies of all sizes through out-of-court workouts, successful reorganizations and going-concern sales in all types of Chapter matters. We have many years of experience representing creditors' committees throughout the country and have a track record of obtaining good results for unsecured creditors in challenging cases. Enterprising and forward thinking, our team works to solve problems and map out a strategy that aligns with our clients' goals.

Frazier Capital, with 15 employees and offices in San Francisco and Los Angeles has been in business since 1997. Authors of 10 books on brokerage and valuation, Frazier Capital has brokered businesses and commercial real estate from Washington DC to California, and have valued businesses, commercial real estate and equipment throughout the United States.

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Friedman & Springwater LLP is dedicated to providing clients with exceptional legal representation since its founding in 2003. Based in San Francisco, Friedman & Springwater has represented creditors in bankruptcy cases all over the United States, and handles a wide range of commercial transactions, including the sale of financial assets and asset-based financing. The firm has participated in financial restructurings and liquidations, implementing solutions for businesses in troubled debt situations inside and outside of bankruptcy courts. Our lawyers also handle civil and regulatory litigation, including before the California Public Utilities Commission and in related appellate proceedings. We are a certified woman-owned firm.

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In 1995, Albert, Weiland & Golden LLP was formed as a boutique bankruptcy law firm in Orange County, California. **Golden Goodrich LLP** continues the legacy of Albert, Weiland & Golden LLP as one of Southern California's bankruptcy law and litigation leaders. Golden Goodrich LLP has been recognized as a "Best Lawyers" and its three partners have been consistently recognized as "Super Lawyers" and "Best Lawyers." Golden Goodrich LLP is dedicated to learning the nuances and complexities of your business and industry, and in bringing the right talent and resources to solve your issue. Our objective is to identify and deliver practical solutions for the complex financial challenges our clients face. For the past twenty years, our mantra has been – The Right Result.

Greenberg Glusker is a full-service law firm in Los Angeles, California with clients that span the globe. For 65 years, the firm has delivered first-tier legal services, rooted in understanding clients' intricate business needs and personal concerns. With tailored solutions driving outstanding results, we go beyond the practice of law; we become committed partners in our clients' success.

Janus Law is a Southern California bankruptcy firm with offices in Los Angeles and the Inland Empire. With the recent addition of attorney Angela Jones joining Larry Simons and Frank Ruggier, the firm has over 80 years of combined experience focused on bankruptcy law. The Firm represents all parties in bankruptcy with a practical, solutions-driven approach. Janus Law values professional relationships with referring counsel, providing clear communication, careful case evaluation, and strong client support throughout the process. We look forward to collaborating with you and your referrals to guide them to new financial beginnings.

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Omni Agent Solutions is an essential partner for your legal administration service needs. Omni is a forward-thinking information management company focused on providing professional administrative services and technology solutions to simplify complex bankruptcy case administration. Designed with the restructuring professional in mind, Omni provides personal expert services and state of the art technology to deliver an unparalleled collaborative administration platform. Curated by its experienced team of professionals – who have 100+ years of aggregate experience in the administrative, legal, advisory and executive management sectors – Omni's suite of technology solutions provides a complete set of administrative tools that compliment and integrate with the services provided by the other court-appointed restructuring professionals.

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Perkins Coie is a full-service law firm trusted by innovators for more than a century. We partner with startups and market leaders to deliver high-value, creative, strategic solutions and exceptional client experiences. Our cross-disciplinary teams work at the forefront of legal change, with a focus on tech-driven, tech-disrupted, and tech-enabled sectors. We advise companies across every major industry, from entrepreneurs to Fortune 50s, international organizations, government entities, and educational institutions. With 21 offices across the United States, Asia, and Europe, and a global network, we support clients anywhere and everywhere they do business.

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Robberson Schroedter LLP is a boutique business law firm located in downtown San Diego, California, focused on commercial litigation, business bankruptcy and restructuring, cross-border litigation and mediation. The Bankruptcy, Restructuring and Creditors' Rights practice group is led by Maggie E. Schroedter, and represents creditors, financial institutions, and lenders in Chapter 7, 11 and 13 bankruptcy proceedings, and business debtors with pre-insolvency planning, Chapter 11 and out-of-course restructurings. Our attorneys have substantial experience prosecuting and defending nondischargeability claims, objections to discharge, preference and voidable transfer actions, and automatic stay relief. Robberson Schroedter champions diversity and inclusiveness, both within the firm and the clients we represent.

Rutan & Tucker LLP is the largest law firm based in Orange County, California. Rutan's Corporate Restructuring and Creditors' Rights Group includes attorneys with specialized knowledge and expertise in corporate restructuring, creditors' rights, bankruptcy, transactions, and litigation. The Group's bankruptcy experience includes representing creditors, debtors, debtors in possession, trustees and other fiduciaries, committees, landlords and tenants, asset purchasers and sellers, directors and officers, and other

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parties in reorganizations, liquidations, and litigation. The Group's non-bankruptcy experience includes representing parties in out-of-court debt restructurings, loan workouts, assignments for the benefit of creditors, receiverships, foreclosures, and litigation.

Saul Ewing's Bankruptcy and Restructuring attorneys are well-versed and recognized leaders in bankruptcy and restructuring law. We provide practical guidance and creative solutions to companies facing financial and operational challenges. Whether a company is experiencing financing constraints, needs strategic advice for specific segments of its business, or guidance through workouts or restructurings in times of distress, our attorneys offer strategic advice and realistic goals in order to reach the best outcome. Our practice is regularly involved in out-of-court workouts and restructurings, bankruptcies, reorganizations and other related insolvency issues.

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Attorneys at **Wanger Jones Helsley** bring extensive expertise across a wide range of areas related to distressed businesses, including farms, dairies, and hospital districts. We are dedicated to providing exceptional service to both creditors and debtors in various bankruptcy chapters 7, 9, 11, and 12, as well as in receiverships, workouts, and assignments for the benefit of creditors. With nearly 50 years of experience, our team has played a pivotal role in nearly all major insolvencies in the San Joaquin Valley, ensuring that our clients receive the highest level of support and guidance during challenging times.

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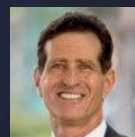
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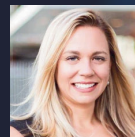
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The speaker had current knowledge of their subject.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The speaker spoke clearly.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The speaker managed class time well.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The speaker was an effective teacher.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The speaker had current knowledge of their subject.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The speaker spoke clearly.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The speaker managed class time well.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The speaker was an effective teacher.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The speaker had current knowledge of their subject.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The speaker spoke clearly.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The speaker managed class time well.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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