



THE *129th* CLLA NATIONAL CONVENTION May 17-19, 2023

CHICAGO
Swissotel



Attendee Guide

ATTEND IN-PERSON OR VIRTUALLY!

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: APRIL 14, 2023

A Message from Your President



Happy 2023! Spring is sure to arrive soon, which can only mean we will be in Chicago for **CLLA's 129th National Convention!** I found the below quote that, to me, describes Chicago perfectly:

"It is hopeless for the occasional visitor to try to keep up with Chicago-she outgrows his prophecies faster than he can make them. She is always a novelty; for she is never the Chicago you saw when you passed through the last time."

Mark Twain, *Life On The Mississippi* 1883

I think about the many times I have been in Chicago for CLLA and each and every time I discover something new about the city or new about the League. Open your mind to all this great city and this great organization have to offer.

We are planning an action-packed three days of education, keynote speakers, awarding of the **President's Cup**, installation of **new volunteer leaders**; and, of course, **networking opportunities**. Please join us Friday to celebrate this year's winner of the President's Cup and to welcome our new President, Bill Thrush.

Your First Lady of the League, Maria Kozelek is putting together the first community outreach program for the **Women's Empowerment Networking Event**. Maria is working with staff and **Dress for Success Worldwide**. The mission of Dress for Success is to promote the economic independence of women by providing professional attire, a network of support and the career development tools to help women thrive in work and in life. More information about this event can be found on the insert.

As I head into the final months of my term as your President, I am still amazed at the amount of time and effort our volunteer leaders spend in making this organization the premier trade organization that it is. So please, in your travels take the time to thank our volunteer leaders who spend countless hours each year on your behalf.

Please do not hesitate to let me know if I can be of any assistance in helping to make your membership with the League a success.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'JK' or 'Jim Kozelek'.

Jim Kozelek,
CLLA President 2022-2023



CLLA WELCOMES YOU TO CHICAGO

Join CLLA, May 17-19, 2023, in Chicago at the Swissotel Chicago. In addition to the high-quality educational sessions and networking events, you can explore Chicago - a shopping mecca! Or, take in the festive atmosphere of Navy Pier, do some museum hopping, and sample cuisine from around the world. Nearby attractions include: The Magnificent Mile, the Art Institute of Chicago, State Street shopping, the Field Museum, Shedd Aquarium and Adler Planetarium.

CONVENTION EVENTS

Business Session – Town Hall Meeting that includes the Annual Report from the League President and the Treasurer's Report.

Nominating Debates (when necessary) – Make informed decisions on candidates running for office.

Change of Officers – Introduction of the newly installed officers.

President's Cup – Recipient recognition.

Goosechase – The CLLA is sending you on a goosechase.

Game Show – Bring your best brain-teasing solving mind.

Prohibition Tour – This tour of several local Speakeasies is an in depth look at prohibition. There is an extra charge for this tour. The limit is 40 people so sign up when you register for the convention!

A Note from the National Education Committee Chair

"The Education Committee has been working hard to finalize the education programs for the National Convention and is proud to announce that the CLLA will again offer dual track programming to provide more choices to our members, as well as a program presented by a professional speaker!"

At the National Convention, our members will have the opportunity to choose from a variety of topics addressing bankruptcy, creditor's rights, and advanced commercial issues. We also have the honor of welcoming multiple distinguished speakers on our education panels, including several current/past judges and law school professors. Also, our Government Affairs Committee will provide an update on our legislative efforts. We are confident that these education programs will meet our members' wide-ranging interests and will provide any required education credits.

We look forward to seeing everyone in person in 2023!"



Lorna Walker

CLLA National Education Chair

Law Offices of Sweet & Walker, PC
San Francisco, CA

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

REGISTRATION DEADLINE

Friday, April 14, 2023

IN-PERSON Registration Fee	Early Bird* Thru 3/17	Regular* Thru 4/14
All CLLA & IACC Members**	\$850	\$950
Spouse/Guest***	\$429	\$429
Non-Members	\$1,700	\$1,700

Member/Non-Member Registration Fee Includes:

- Access to all Educational Sessions
- Keynote Speaker
- Continuing Education: CLE/CEU
- Breakfast daily
- AM/PM Breaks
- Goosechase
- Thursday's Lunch Buffet
- Women's Empowerment & Networking Event
- Evening Receptions
- Game Show
- Friday's Annual Awards Program

Spouse/Guest Registration Fee Includes:

- Keynote Speaker
- Breakfast daily
- Goosechase
- Thursday's Lunch Buffet
- Women's Empowerment & Networking Event
- Evening Receptions
- Game Show
- Friday's Annual Awards Program

VIRTUAL Registration Fee	Early Bird* Thru 3/17	Regular* Thru 4/14
All CLLA & IACC Members**	\$500	\$500
Non-Members	\$1,000	\$1,000

Virtual Registration Fee Includes:

- Access to all Educational Sessions
- Keynote Speaker
- Continuing Education: CLE/CEU
- Thursday's Business Meeting
- Friday's Annual Awards Program

**Disclaimer: CLE credit is available to attendees from qualifying states who register on or before March 17. We cannot guarantee state accreditation after March 17.*

***One registration form per member.*

****Please note that business colleagues are not eligible to register under this category.*



Hotel Information

Swissotel Chicago Chicago, IL

323 East Upper Wacker Drive
Chicago, IL 60601
(312) 565-0565

Designed by renowned Chicago architect Harry Weese, Swissotel Chicago is an award-winning luxury hotel overlooking the Chicago River and Lake Michigan, and just steps from the Magnificent Mile. The distinctive 4-diamond, all-glass hotel offers spectacular wrap-around views from Navy Pier to Millennium Park, 662 guest rooms and suites, five premier ballrooms, state-of-the-art penthouse fitness center, and spotless European-style service.

Hotel Reservations

Make your hotel reservation as early as possible to ensure you receive the discounted rate (subject to availability).

Making your reservation by phone, call the Reservations Department at 1-888-737-9477 or the Global Reservation Centre at 1-800-441-1414. Be sure to mention you are with the Commercial Law League of America-CLLA to receive the group rate.

On-line reservations can be made by clicking the link below:

<https://book.passkey.com/e/50371135>

Room Rate: \$269/night, single/double occupancy, plus applicable taxes (currently 17.4%) (NO resort fee). Room cut-off is Friday, April 14, 2023.

Questions?
Contact Dawn Federico at
dawn.federico@clla.org or call
312-240-1400.

Parking

Swissotel: Valet Parking overnight with in/out access is \$78/night

Nearby Self-Parking Garages:

- 303 East Wacker Garage (303 E. Wacker Dr.)
- Coast Parking (345 E. Wacker Drive)
- The Tides at Lakeshore East (360 E. South Water St)
- Illinois Center (111 E. Randolph)
- Park Millennium Parking Garage (221 N. Stetson Ave.)

To find discounted parking near the hotel, download the SpotHero app to your mobile device and search the area.

Weather

Average Chicago temperatures for early May are high 70 / low 50. Rain is always a possibility. Be prepared, it's Chicago!

Transportation

Visit the link below for driving directions.

<https://www.swissotel.com/hotels/chicago/explore-hotel/>



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Code of Conduct

The Commercial Law League of America has zero-tolerance for discrimination and all forms of harassment, including but not limited to sexual harassment. Our zero-tolerance policy means that no form of discriminatory or harassing conduct by or towards any CLLA member, exhibitor, presenter, attendee, vendor or staff member will be tolerated. The CLLA is committed to assuring compliance with its policy at all levels within the association. By registering for this event, you agree to accept the Code of Conduct Policy.

CLE Credit

The Commercial Law League is applying for CLE with those states that require CLE credits for their licensed attorneys. All attorney attendees will receive a CLE Attendance Record form in their registration packet. At the conclusion of the Convention, please submit your form at the Registration Desk or via email by Friday, June 2, 2023.

Special Needs

Commercial Law League of America is happy to assist you with any special needs or requirements you may have. Visit the Registration Desk and a staff member will be happy to assist.

Dress Code

All CLLA Convention events are business casual.

Recorded Presentation Information

Commercial Law League of America's 2023 National Convention recorded presentation materials will be available to view/download through a link provided via email the week after the meeting.

Name Badges

The Commercial Law League of America requires all attendees to properly display their name badge at all Convention sessions and events.

Cell Phones

Please be considerate of your cell phone use. CLLA requests that electronic devices be silenced in all sessions as a courtesy to the presenters and attendees.

How do I access sessions virtually?

All sessions will be accessible via Zoom. One week prior to the convention, you will receive an Attendee Information email that will direct you to the Convention Resource Center for all Zoom links to the sessions. We recommend downloading the app and setting up an account (it is free) before the first session. You can download it here: <https://zoom.us/download>

Will I receive CLE/CEU for participating in the live sessions virtually?

All live sessions will be accredited with the state(s) in which members are registered. Be sure to register on or before Friday, March 17 in order to receive CLE state(s) accreditation.

What happens if I am unable to attend the live sessions virtually?

Don't worry, all the sessions will be recorded and available up to 30 days following the conference to all registered attendees. Some states are allowing more flexibility with pre-recorded credits due to the pandemic. We will do everything possible to get all pre-recorded sessions accredited with each state. We ask that you know your states requirement(s) to insure acceptance of your session(s) for CLE.

To adhere to most states' accreditation of CLE's for recorded sessions, the recorded sessions must be "interactive". The session moderator will hold up a visual "que" towards the beginning and towards the end of the presentation. You will be asked to identify the "que" on your CLE Form.

Cancellation Policy

Cancellations must be submitted in writing. Registration fee refunds will be granted on the following schedule.

Cancellation notice received by Monday, April 24, 2023, will receive 100% refund less \$50 processing fee, between April 25-May 5 will receive a 50% refund and no refund on or after May 6, 2023.

Registration Link: https://clla.formstack.com/forms/2023_clla_national_convention_registration



RON PETERSON
JENNER & BLOCK LLP
CHICAGO, IL

2023 PRESIDENT'S CUP AWARD

FRIDAY, MAY 19

ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCH

12:00 PM — 1:30 PM

Join us as Ron Peterson is presented with the distinguished CLLA President's Cup Award.

Ron Peterson is the 2023 CLLA President's Cup Award recipient for outstanding service to the CLLA, and for leading a respected personal and professional life. Ron is Of Counsel at Jenner & Block, LLP in Chicago, Illinois. His specialties include Bankruptcy and Restructuring, Corporate, and Real Estate and Hospitality.

Debtors, trustees, creditors, committees, landlords, and secured lenders in Chapter 11 cases turn to him for his counsel. Ron also advises clients on transactional issues such as corporate restructurings. His distinguished career has been highlighted by presiding over high-stakes complex commercial cases, including that of the country's 10th largest commodities house and a \$1.7 billion Ponzi scheme.

A fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, Ron is a prolific lecturer and writer on bankruptcy and commercial law issues. He contributes to this area of law by his involvement in several initiatives and organizations. Ron served on the panel of the Chapter 7 Trustees for the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division, from 1989 to 2021. He served on the American Bankruptcy Institute's commission to reform our nation's bankruptcy laws, which submitted its report to Congress in 2014. He also was the co-chairman of the Avoidance Action Committee for the ABI's Commission on the Reform of Commercial Bankruptcy Laws. He is a member of INSOL (International Association of Restructuring, Insolvency & Bankruptcy Professionals) and, in the past, served on the board of the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees.

Ron has served on multiple committees and sections of the Commercial Law League of America and on the Board of Governors, and has presented at several CLLA events.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Sponsorship will provide you with exposure to attorneys, agencies and commercial collection professionals. This is a great opportunity to showcase your company name as one of the sponsors at the 129th National Convention. Show your support and sponsor today!

BENEFITS

All sponsors will be listed on

- CLLA website
- Email promotions
- On-site Signage
- Event Program

EXCLUSIVE SPONSORSHIPS:

- Tanyards - \$750 **SOLD**
- Pocket Guide - \$500 **SOLD**
- Notepads - \$350 **SOLD**
- Pens - \$350 **SOLD**

GENERAL SPONSORSHIPS:

- Evening Receptions - \$750
- Thursday Luncheon - \$750
- Breakfasts - \$500
- Networking Breaks - \$350
- General Convention Sponsor - \$250

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

TIME

7:00 AM — 6:00 PM

REGISTRATION

ROOM: **St. Moritz**, Lucerne Level

10:30 AM — NOON

BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

ROOM: **Élevé Riverview**, 42nd Floor

NOON — 1:00 PM

LEADERSHIP LUNCH

For Region Councils, Section Councils and National Committee Members.

ROOM: **Élevé Lakeview**, 42nd Floor

1:00 — 1:45 PM

MEETINGS COMMITTEE MEETING

ROOM: **Lugano**, 2nd Floor

EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING

ROOM: **Bianco/318**, 3rd Floor

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

ROOM: **Neuchatel/315**, 3rd Floor

MARKETING COMMITTEE MEETING

ROOM: **Rhone/311**, 3rd Floor

BOARD OF ASSOCIATE EDITORS MEETING

ROOM: **Verbier**, Lucerne Level

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS MEETING

ROOM: **Arosa**, 2nd Floor

1:45 — 2:00 PM

BREAK

Lucerne Foyer

2:00 — 2:45 PM

AGENCY SECTION EXEC COUNCIL MEETING

ROOM: **Lugano**, 2nd Floor

CREDITORS' RIGHTS SECTION EXEC COUNCIL MEETING

ROOM: **Bianco/318**, 3rd Floor

BANKRUPTCY SECTION EXEC COUNCIL MEETING

ROOM: **Neuchatel/315**, 3rd Floor

YOUNG MEMBERS SECTION EXEC COUNCIL MEETING

ROOM: **Rhone/311**, 3rd Floor

2:45 — 3:00 PM

BREAK

Lucerne Foyer

3:00 — 3:45 PM

EASTERN REGION EXEC COUNCIL MEETING

ROOM: **Lugano**, 2nd Floor

WESTERN REGION EXEC COUNCIL MEETING

ROOM: **Bianco/318**, 3rd Floor

MIDWEST REGION EXEC COUNCIL MEETING

ROOM: **Neuchatel/315**, 3rd Floor

SOUTHERN EXEC COUNCIL MEETING

ROOM: **Rhone/311**, 3rd Floor

3:45 — 4:00 PM

BREAK

Lucerne Foyer

17

Wednesday



Let the Goosechase begin!

CLLA is sending you on a GOOSECHASE! As a special featured attraction during the convention, every registered in-person attendee to this year's convention will be assigned a randomized team and given the opportunity to compete in a convention-long scavenger-type hunt!

We hope you will join in the fun and make new connections!

4:00 — 5:00 PM

OPENING KEYNOTE ETHICS – NOBODY NEEDS IT... UNTIL THEY GET CAUGHT

CLE CEU

This is a must workshop for everyone, including lawyers and collection agency professionals, preparing for management and leadership. It is the misunderstood and most slippery slope of organizational empowerment. No one really gets hurt by twisting the truth a little – right? Everyone wants to do the right thing – right? Nope! We want to do the easy thing. In this empowering and life changing presentation everyone will leave with a new understanding of - and appreciation for - the power of self-ethical monitoring.

Speaker:

Dr. Dale Henry, Your Best Unlimited, Kingston, TN

ROOM: **Alpine**, Lucerne Level

5:15 — 6:15 PM

FIRST TIME ATTENDEE'S RECEPTION

Leadership, Mentors and Mentees

ROOM: **Currents**, Concourse Level

6:30 — 7:30 PM

WELCOME RECEPTION

ROOM: **Élevé Ballroom**, 42nd Floor



8:30 — 10:30 PM

WINDY CITY THROWDOWN

Join your sponsors, the Young Members Section for a night of socializing and throwing down with other CLLA members at the Game Room of the Chicago Athletic Association.

LOCATION:

The Chicago Athletic Association, Game Room
12 South Michigan Avenue; 312-940-3552

Thank You to Our Sponsors!



CONVENTION SCHEDULE

TIME

7:00 AM — 6:00 PM

REGISTRATION

ROOM: **St. Moritz**, Lucerne Level

7:15 — 8:00 AM

PAST PRESIDENTS' BREAKFAST (By Invitation Only)

HOSTED BY: Chris Young

ROOM: **Élevé Riverview** (42nd Floor)

7:30 — 8:00 AM

BREAKFAST AND NETWORKING

ROOM: **Lucerne Foyer**

8:00 — 8:30 AM

WELCOME/ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Jim Kozelek, CLLA President,
Weltman, Weinberg & Reis, Co., L.P.A.

ROOM: **Alpine**, Lucerne Level

8:45 — 9:45 AM

2023 LEGISLATIVE FORUM

Speakers: **Daniel Kerrick**, Hogan McDaniel;
Jeffrey N. Schatzman, Schatzman & Schatzman, P.A.;
Conor Kelly, Webster, Chamberlain & Bean, LLP;
Lori Frank, Markoff Law PLLC;
Robert P. Charbonneau, Agentis, PLLC

ROOM: **Alpine**, Lucerne Level



9:45 — 10:00 AM

BREAK Lucerne Foyer

10:00 — 11:00 AM

ENCROACHMENT OF CONSUMER LAWS UPON COMMERCIAL COLLECTION PRACTICES

Speakers: **Daniel Kerrick**, Hogan McDaniel;
Lori Frank, Markoff Law PLLC

ROOM: **Alpine**, Lucerne Level



HOT TOPICS IN BANKRUPTCY CASE LAW

Speaker: **Ronald R. Peterson**, Jenner & Block LLP, Chicago, IL

ROOM: **Lucerne 3**, Lucerne Level

11:00 — 11:15 AM

BREAK Lucerne Foyer

11:15 AM — 12:15 PM

PIERCING THE CORPORATE/LLC VEIL IS A REALITY: YOU CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN

Speaker: **Timothy Wan, Esq.**, Smith Carrood Wan & Parikh

ROOM: **Alpine**, Lucerne Level



MEDIATING BANKRUPTCY DISPUTES: A GHOST-RUNNER ON SECOND OR NEED A NEW GAME?

Speakers: **Candice Kline**, Saul Ewing LLP;
Hon. Judith K. Fitzgerald (Ret.), Tucker Arsenberg, PC;
Leslie A. Berkoff, Moritt Hock & Hamroff LLP

ROOM: **Lucerne 3**, Lucerne Level



12:15 — 1:15 PM

LUNCH BUFFET

ROOM: **Geneva**, Concourse Level

12:15 — 1:30 PM

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT & NETWORKING LUNCH



Help promote a network of support and the career development tools to help women thrive in work and in life.
ROOM: **Currents**, Concourse Level

18 Thursday

1:30 — 2:30 PM

WIRE TRANSFERS AND CHECKS: FRAUD AND LOSS-WHO PAYS?

Speakers: **Carter H. Klein**, Jenner & Block LLP;
Beverly Weiss Manne, Esq., Tucker Arensberg, PC

ROOM: **Alpine**, Lucerne Level



HOW TO WIN AN APPEAL - EFFECTIVE PERSUASION TO AN APPELLATE COURT

Speakers: **Hon. Joan Feeney** (Ret.), JAMS;
Hon. Eugene R. Wedoff (Ret.), US Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of IL; **Hon. Mary Ann Whipple**, US Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of OH

ROOM: **Lucerne 3**, Lucerne Level



2:30 — 2:45 PM

BREAK Lucerne Foyer

2:45 — 3:45 PM

BEST PRACTICES FOR COLLECTION AGENCIES AND ATTORNEYS

Speakers: **Robert Ash**, AMS, a Radius Global Solutions Company; **Robert L. Pollak**, Glassberg, Pollak & Associates;
Bryan Rafferty, Commercial Collection Corp. of NY

ROOM: **Alpine**, Lucerne Level



GET REAL! REAL ESTATE ISSUES IN UNCERTAIN ECONOMIC TIMES

Speakers: **Jack Rose**, JR2G, LLC; **Beverly Weiss Manne, Esq.**, Tucker Arensberg, PC; **Hon. Thomas M. Lynch**, US Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of IL

ROOM: **Lucerne 3**, Lucerne Level



3:45 — 4:00 PM

BREAK Lucerne Foyer

4:00 — 5:00 PM

BANKRUPTCY SECTION GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

ROOM: **Lucerne 1**, Lucerne Level

CREDITORS' RIGHTS SECTION GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

ROOM: **Lucerne 2**, Lucerne Level

YOUNG MEMBERS SECTION GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

ROOM: **Currents**, Concourse Level

AGENCY SECTION GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

ROOM: **Geneva**, Concourse Level

5:15 — 6:30 PM

THURSDAY EVENING SOCIAL

ROOM: **Lucerne/Alpine Foyers**

9:00 — 11:00 PM

TAKE A SHOT!

Come have a nightcap, a shot, or cocktail at the Swissotel media room, or take a shot at Billiards, Shuffleboard, or Darts!
LOCATION: **Amuse Media Room**, Swissotel Lobby

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

TIME

7:30 AM — 12:00 PM

REGISTRATION

ROOM: **St. Moritz**, Lucerne Level

8:00 — 8:30 AM

BREAKFAST AND NETWORKING

ROOM: **Lucerne 1-2**, Lucerne Foyer

8:30 — 9:30 AM

UNRAVELING THE COMPLEXITIES OF CONSIGNMENT AGREEMENTS UNDER UCC ARTICLES 2 AND 9 IN TRANSACTIONAL WORK, STATE COURT LITIGATION AND IN BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS - PART 1

Speakers: **Hon. Deborah Thorne**, US Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of IL; **Wanda Borges, Esq.**, Borges & Associates LLC; **Yasamin N. Kaye**, Goldberg Kohn; **Catherine Steege**, Jenner & Block LLP; **Gilbert M. Singer**, Marcadis Singer P.A.



ROOM: **Lucerne 3**, Lucerne Level

9:30 — 9:45 AM

BREAK

Lucerne Foyer

9:45 — 10:45 AM

UNDERSTANDING THE BASICS OF CRYPTOCURRENCY AND DIGITAL ASSETS

Speakers: **Owen G. Hare, Esq.**, Friedman, Framme & Thrush PA; **Brad Council**, Slovin & Associates Co., LPA



ROOM: **Alpine 1**, Lucerne Level

UNRAVELING THE COMPLEXITIES OF CONSIGNMENT AGREEMENTS UNDER UCC ARTICLES 2 AND 9 IN TRANSACTIONAL WORK, STATE COURT LITIGATION AND IN BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS - PART 2

Speakers: **Hon. Deborah Thorne**, US Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of IL; **Wanda Borges, Esq.**, Borges & Associates LLC; **Yasamin N. Kaye**, Goldberg Kohn; **Catherine Steege**, Jenner & Block LLP; **Gilbert M. Singer**, Marcadis Singer P.A.



ROOM: **Lucerne 3**, Lucerne Level

10:45 — 11:00 AM

BREAK

Lucerne Foyer

11:00 AM — 12:00 PM

GAME SHOW

Master of Ceremonies:
Timothy Wan, Esq., Smith Carroad Wan & Parikh

Bring your best brain-teasing solving mind for a lively interactive hour of team building and competition!

ROOM: **Geneva**, Concourse Level



12:00 — 1:30 PM

ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCH

The conference wraps up with this annual lunch and awards presentation recognizing service to the CLLA. Join us as we honor Ron Peterson and present him with the distinguished CLLA President's Cup.

ROOM: **Lucerne 1-2**, Lucerne Level



Emory Potter, Hays & Potter, LLP, receiving the President's Cup at the 128th CLLA National Conference.

19 Friday



2:00 — 5:30 PM

PROHIBITION TOUR

From the "down and dirty" gangster hangouts, to the "jackets required" establishments for Chicago's elite, this tour of several local Speakeasies is an in depth look at prohibition. You will learn about the factors that led to prohibition in the first place, the groups that fought for it, the groups that opposed it, how it was ratified to the constitution as the 18th amendment, the problems it caused, the names it created (both famous and infamous), its failure, repeal and lasting impact on the US. You will also learn what the speakeasy actually was, including dispelling the Hollywoodized version many people imagine.

LOCATION: Meet in hotel lobby. Participation is optional. **FEE:** \$175 per person. Fee includes tour, transportation, libations and light snacks. **There is a limit of 40 people on this tour.**



EDUCATION PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, MAY 18

8:45—9:45 AM

CRS

BKY

CLE

CEU

Legislative Forum

Join the CLLA's legislative chairs and lobbyist as they discuss and update legislative, amicus and grassroots activities impacting the credit and finance industry. They will discuss matters such as bankruptcy venue reform, forgiveness/discharge of student loans, third-party releases, and the expansion of consumer protections into commercial transactions and other developing issues. This is an important panel for creditors' rights and bankruptcy practitioners and will also provide an opportunity to members to help determine what specific issues to pursue on Capitol Hill for the industry and the CLLA.

SPEAKERS: Daniel Kerrick, Hogan McDaniel, Wilmington, DE; Jeffrey N. Schatzman, Schatzman & Schatzman, P.A., Miami, FL; Conor Kelly, Webster, Chamberlain & Bean, LLP, Washington, DC; Lori Frank, Markoff Law PLLC, Southfield, MI; Robert P. Charbonneau, Agentis, PLLC, Coral Gables, FL

10:00—11:00 AM

CRS

CLE

CEU

Encroachment of Consumer Laws Upon Commercial Collection Practices

A review and analysis of the impact of recent consumer laws and regulations upon commercial law practices.

SPEAKERS: Daniel Kerrick, Hogan McDaniel, Wilmington, DE; Lori Frank, Markoff Law PLLC, Southfield, MI

10:00—11:00 AM

BKY

CLE

CEU

Hot Topics in Bankruptcy Case Law

This session will be a summary of important bankruptcy cases decided through March 31, 2023, including three recently decided U.S. Supreme Court cases (assuming the two U.S. Supreme Court cases that were argued recently will be decided by then).

SPEAKER: Ronald R. Peterson, Jenner & Block LLP, Chicago, IL

11:15 AM—12:15 PM

CRS

CLE

CEU

Piercing the Corporate/LLC Veil is a Reality: You Can Make It Happen!

Creditors' attorneys are faced with an increasing demand for asset location, judgment enforcement, and debt recovery, all while debtors are attempting to shield their assets. Effectively using the tools to pierce the corporate/LLC veil and find alter ego liability is essential to satisfy debts and judgments. Learn the strategies, tactics, and methods, in four specific real-life case studies which led to a seemingly uncollectible debt being collected. The application of litigating against corporate/LCC shells, navigating complex corporate liability issues, applying Successor-in-Interest, De Facto Merger, and Alias Theory will be discussed.

SPEAKER: Timothy Wan, Esq., Smith Carroad Wan & Parikh, Smithtown, NY

Questions? Please contact Dawn Federico at dawn.federico@clla.org or call 312.240.1400

THURSDAY, MAY 18

11:15 AM—12:15 PM



CLE

CEU

Mediating Bankruptcy Disputes: A Ghost-Runner on Second or Need a New Game?

Bankruptcy practice relies on mediation from preferences to chapter 11 plan formulation and confirmation, and many other claims and litigation disputes in a wide variety of settings, including appeals. The use and practice of mediation has generated some debate among academic and practitioner commentators, suggesting the issue is well developed for discussion. What are the pros/cons of current practices for mediating bankruptcy settlements for plan confirmation purposes? Is mandatory mediation akin to a “tax” for parties, i.e., in preference actions and chapter 11 plan disputes, does mediation provide real value? What other mediation and ADR models should be considered, including the use of staff mediator programs? Among observers and practitioners, what best practices and opportunities for reform are worth highlighting? For example, is recourse to mediation appropriate if what is being mediated is a potentially unconfirmable plan? If mediation drags on, are there any mechanisms that could encourage efficiency? Who decides which players should have a seat at the table in the mediation? What about discovery and confidentiality complications? Is there value to transparency and accountability, or is that overrated? How does transparency and accountability dovetail with confidentiality requirements?

SPEAKERS: **Candice Kline**, *Saul Ewing LLP*, Chicago, IL; **Hon. Judi Fitzgerald (Ret.)**, *Tucker Arensberg, PC*, Pittsburgh, PA; **Leslie Berkoff**, *Moritt Hock & Hamroff LLP*, New York, NY

1:30—2:30 PM

CRS

CLE

CEU

Wire Transfers and Checks: Fraud and Loss-Who Pays?

How do your clients pay for goods and services? Wire transfers? Checks? Payment fraud losses worldwide are in the billions of dollars. Losses due to fraud worldwide increased by 14% in 2021. Who gets stuck with the loss when a payment order or a check is fraudulent? This panel will address issues related to several payment systems (wire transfers - UCC Article 4A, and checks - UCC Articles 3 and 4) and the allocation of the risk of loss arising from, among other things, fraud.

SPEAKERS: **Carter H. Klein**, *Jenner & Block LLP*, Chicago, IL; **Beverly Weiss Manne, Esq.**, *Tucker Arensberg, PC*, Pittsburgh, PA

1:30—2:30 PM



CLE

CEU

How to Win an Appeal – Persuasion to an Appellate Court

Bankruptcy appeals present unique challenges. The panel of judges will offer guidance on bankruptcy appellate practice while also providing tips beneficial to all attorneys arguing a matter before a court. The panel will address when an appeal is available, including how to determine whether a bankruptcy order is final. Attendees will learn the factors to consider when choosing a forum, a choice that varies substantially from circuit to circuit. For example, practitioners must determine whether to take a direct appeal to the circuit court or an intermediate appeal to the district court or bankruptcy appellate panel, an option only in the First, Sixth, Eighth, Ninth, and Tenth Circuits. The panelists will offer their expertise on how to best present an appeal orally and in writing, including how to address technical issues before a tribunal that lacks bankruptcy expertise, as well as on how to decide whether to take an appeal—including the potential risks that should be considered—and how to handle relations with the client.

SPEAKERS: **Hon. Joan Feeney (Ret.)**, *JAMS*, Boston, MA; **Hon. Eugene R. Wedoff (Ret.)**, *US Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of IL*, Chicago, IL; **Hon. Mary Ann Whipple**, *US Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of OH*, Toledo, OH

EDUCATION PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, MAY 18

2:45–3:45 PM

CRS

CLE

CEU

Best Practices for Collection Agencies and Attorneys

The more things change, the more they remain the same. The practice of commercial litigation and judgment enforcement has changed over the years. Security cameras, lockboxes, controlled buildings make service of process more difficult. Are there alternatives available today through social media and internet use by which that legal process can be served and parties/assets can be located? Is every case worthy of suit? Partnerships between agencies and attorneys can be complicated. Attorneys and agencies need to get to know each other and how they operate so they can provide better services to the clients as each office is different. As always, prompt and accurate communication is essential to keep clients apprised of the case status and to lead to better end results. Credit professionals have changed and are often younger persons with little or no actual credit background, wearing multiple hats and many times not the final decision maker. These panelists will discuss these and other issues that agencies and attorneys face each day and provide tips on how to better manage commercial cases to achieve the best results for the clients.

SPEAKERS: Robert Ash, AMS, a Radius Global Solutions Company, Fair Lawn, NJ; Robert L. Pollak, Glassberg, Pollak & Associates, San Rafael, CA; Bryan Rafferty, Commercial Collection Corp. of NY, Tonawanda, NY

2:45–3:45 PM

BKY

CLE

CEU

Get Real! Real Estate Issues in Uncertain Economic Times

The panelists will address how to approach issues in bankruptcy involving real estate and the impact of uncertainty in the markets. As interest rates and inflation continue their rise and economists struggle to predict what comes next, practitioners must deal with the reverberations in the bankruptcy world and determine how best to resolve valuation fights, cash collateral and adequate protection disputes, and other issues related to leasehold interests, executory contracts, plan confirmation, and § 363 sales. The panel will address the various valuation methodologies and how the typical battle of the experts has evolved to account for economic uncertainty. The panel will also discuss financing options available to distressed companies inside and outside of bankruptcy, the advantages of bankruptcy over other reorganization alternatives (including tax advantages), and what practitioners are likely to see when lenders change practices and/or reorganization efforts fail.

SPEAKERS: Jack Rose, JR2G, LLC, Bronxville, NY; Beverly Weiss Manne, Esq., Tucker Arensberg, PC, Pittsburgh, PA; Hon. Thomas M. Lynch, US Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of IL, Chicago, IL



To Register,
SCAN THE QR CODE
or use the link below.

Registration Link: https://clla.formstack.com/forms/2023_clla_national_convention_registration

FRIDAY, MAY 19

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8:30—9:30 AM

CRS

BKY

CLE

CEU

Unraveling the Complexities of Consignment Agreements Under UCC Articles 2 and 9 in Transitional Work, State Court Litigation and in Bankruptcy Proceedings-PART 1

Clients sometimes believe a consignment agreement is a sure-fire way to protect their receivables and enter into consignment agreements without understanding the steps necessary to obtain a truly enforceable consignment agreement. An unperfected consignment agreement can spell trouble for a client in state court litigation and disaster for a creditor in a bankruptcy proceeding. These panelists will discuss the nuances necessary to enable our clients to create enforceable consignment agreements in state court litigation and when confronted with a bankruptcy proceeding. Discussion will include the mandates for an enforceable consignment agreement and the pitfalls which abound in these types of contracts.

SPEAKERS: Hon. Deborah Thorne, *US Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of IL, Chicago, IL*; Wanda Borges, Esq., *Borges & Associates, Syosset, NY*; Yasamin N. Kaye, *Goldberg Kohn, Chicago, IL*; Catherine L. Steege, *Jenner & Block LLP, Chicago, IL*; Gilbert M. Singer, *Marcadis Singer P.A., Tampa, FL*

9:45—10:45 AM

YMS

CLE

CEU

Understanding the Basics of Cryptocurrency and Digital Assets

While the recent bankruptcies of crypto currency exchanges such as FTX, Celsius, and BlockFi have kept creditors' rights and bankruptcy attorneys especially busy, the cryptocurrency and digital assets space remains an ever-evolving labyrinth of confusing concepts and technologies for most lawyers. This program is designed to provide practitioners a basic understanding of the concepts underlying technologies such as cryptocurrencies, NFTs, digital tokens, and other digital assets. The panel will also discuss the panoply of collection, regulatory, and bankruptcy issues that remain pervasive in this space.

SPEAKERS: Owen G. Hare, Esq., *Friedman, Framme & Thrush PA, Owings Mills, MD*; Brad Council, *Slovin & Associates Co., LPA, Cincinnati, OH*

9:45—10:45 AM

CRS

BKY

CLE

CEU

Unraveling the Complexities of Consignment Agreements Under UCC Articles 2 and 9 in Transitional Work, State Court Litigation and in Bankruptcy Proceedings-PART 2

Clients sometimes believe a consignment agreement is a sure-fire way to protect their receivables and enter into consignment agreements without understanding the steps necessary to obtain a truly enforceable consignment agreement. An unperfected consignment agreement can spell trouble for a client in state court litigation and disaster for a creditor in a bankruptcy proceeding. These panelists will discuss the nuances necessary to enable our clients to create enforceable consignment agreements in state court litigation and when confronted with a bankruptcy proceeding. Discussion will include the mandates for an enforceable consignment agreement and the pitfalls which abound in these types of contracts.

SPEAKERS: Hon. Deborah Thorne, *US Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of IL, Chicago, IL*; Wanda Borges, Esq., *Borges & Associates, Syosset, NY*; Yasamin N. Kaye, *Goldberg Kohn, Chicago, IL*; Catherine L. Steege, *Jenner & Block LLP, Chicago, IL*; Gilbert M. Singer, *Marcadis Singer P.A., Tampa, FL*



Robert Ash is a seasoned veteran of the collection industry; with over 20 years' experience in Accounts Receivable Management, Consumer Collections and Commercial Debt Collections. His longstanding career with AMS began in 1997, when Robert joined the collection team. After six years of delivering exceptional recovery results and service to AMS' clients, Robert was promoted to Legal Department Manager. Robert's financial expertise and strong communication skills provide a seamless transition from collections to litigation. As a member of the Commercial Law League of America (CLLA) and active participant within the CLLA's Eastern Region, Robert has developed and cultivated close associations with a network of collection attorneys throughout the country, ensuring AMS' clients have the best representation to meet their legal needs.



Leslie A. Berkoff is a Partner with Moritt Hock & Hamroff LLP where she serves as Chair of the firm's Dispute Resolution Practice Group and is the former Co-Chair of the firm's Creditors' Rights and Restructuring Department. Ms. Berkoff splits her practice between these two Practice Groups. In the restructuring space, she concentrates her practice in chapter 11 cases, bankruptcy litigation and corporate workouts, where she represents a variety of corporate debtors, trustees, creditors, and creditor committees both nationally and locally. Ms. Berkoff is an experienced commercial litigator. Ms. Berkoff's Dispute Resolution practice has her frequently serving as an ad hoc and panel mediator; she is on the Mediation Panel for the Eastern and Southern Districts of the United States Bankruptcy Courts in New York, the United States Bankruptcy Courts in Delaware, and the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, as well as the Commercial Mediation Panel for Nassau County and the American Arbitration Association ("AAA"). Ms. Berkoff also serves as a member of the Second Circuit United States Court of Appeals Pro Bono Appellate Mediation Panel and as a Special Master in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, Appellate Division, Second Judicial Department Mediation Program. Ms. Berkoff is also a trained arbitrator and is a member of the AAA panel.

Ms. Berkoff is the immediate past Co-Chair of the American Bankruptcy Institute's (ABI) Mediation Committee and is a contributing editor of the quarterly column "Mediation Matters." She has also served as Co-Editor and contributing author of the ABI's Bankruptcy Mediation Manual. Ms. Berkoff also serves as the American Bar Association ("ABA") Business Law Section's representative on the Dispute Resolution Advisory Council, and is the Chair of the Dispute Resolution Committee, the Vice Chair of Programming for the Business Bankruptcy Committee of the Business Law Section and the Vice Chair of the Bankruptcy Court Structure and Insolvency Committee. She is a contributing editor for the ABA publication "Business Law Today" on Dispute Resolution. Ms. Berkoff speaks and writes frequently on topics concerning both Dispute Resolution and Bankruptcy.

Prior to joining Moritt Hock & Hamroff LLP, Ms. Berkoff served as a law clerk to the Honorable Jerome Feller, United States Bankruptcy Judge in the Eastern District of New York, from 1991 to 1993 and to the Honorable Allyne R. Ross, Federal Magistrate Judge in the Eastern District of New York, from 1990 to 1991.



Wanda Borges, Esq. is the principal member of Borges & Associates, LLC, a law firm based in Syosset, New York. For more than forty years, Ms. Borges has concentrated her practice on commercial litigation and creditors' rights in bankruptcy matters, representing corporate clients and creditors' committees throughout the United States in Chapter 11 proceedings, out of court settlements, commercial transactions, and preference litigation. She is a member and Past President of the Commercial Law League of America and has been an Attorney Member of its National Board of Governors, a Chair of the Bankruptcy Section and Creditors' Rights Section. She is the President of the Commercial Law League Fund for Public Education. She is a member of several bar associations, including the American Bar Association, the American Bankruptcy Institute, and the New York State

Academy of Trial Lawyers. Ms. Borges serves on the Board of Directors of the International Association of Commercial Collectors, of which her firm is an associate member. She is an internationally recognized lecturer and author on various legal topics including Bankruptcy Issues such as 503(b)(9) claims and preferences, the Uniform Commercial Code, ECOA, FCRA, antitrust law, and current legal issues such as Credit Card Surcharge issues, social media, Cybersecurity and Ethics for the Trade Credit Grantor and current proposed legislation that may impact trade credit grantors. Ms. Borges has authored, edited, and continues to contribute to numerous publications including Thomson West's Enforcing Judgments and Collecting Debts in New York (as its Editor-in-Chief and Lead Author), NAB's book Out of the Red and into the Black, the BCCA's Credit & Collection Handbook, The Financial Manager, and the CLLA's Commercial Law World Magazine. She has authored the treatise "Hidden Liens, Who is Entitled to What?" and NACM's Antitrust, Restraint of Trade and Unfair Competition: Myth Versus Reality, most recently revised in 2017. She is a contributing author to NACM's Manual of Credit and Collection Laws and Principles of Business Credit. She has co-authored The Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005 – An Overhaul of U.S. Bankruptcy Law, also published by the NACM and her article has "Uniform Voidable Transactions Act (US) has been published by the British Law Journal - Insolvency Intelligence. In October 1996, Ms. Borges was awarded the Mercy College Trustee's Medal for outstanding dedication to her profession and alma mater. In September 2000, she was named one of the "50 Outstanding Alumni" of Mercy College. In February 2001, she received the "Career Achievement Award" from the Broadcast Cable Credit Association. In November 2010, Ms. Borges received the "Robert E. Caine Award for Leadership" from the Commercial Law League of America. In April 2015, Ms. Borges received a "Woman of Distinction" award from St. Catharine Academy, her high school alma mater. Ms. Borges has been included in the New York Super Lawyers – Metro Edition list (Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights) each year since 2009. She is listed in Who's Who in America.



Robert Charbonneau is a founding member of the firm, Agentis, PLLC. He concentrates his practice in troubled loan workouts, business restructuring and dispute resolution and insolvency matters. Bob has particularly broad experience representing statutory committees, including creditors' committees, and funds purchasing distressed debt.



Brad A. Council is a partner in the Cincinnati based law firm of Slovin & Associates Co., LPA. His practice covers all areas of commercial litigation, creditor's rights including compliance with federal and state consumer credit and collection laws, and landlord-tenant matters. He frequently represents national banking associations, finance companies, medical service providers, debt-buyers, and other credit grantors in the areas of creditor's rights and account receivables management. He also regularly advises and counsels these organizations on issues related to compliance with the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA), as well as similar state law acts and regulations. Brad also represents manufacturers, sub-contractors, and material suppliers involving actions under the Uniform Commercial Code relating to sales, leases, and secured transactions.

Brad is a past chair of the Midwest Region for the Commercial Law League of America and is currently the Secretary of the Young Members Section and member of the Creditor's Rights Executive Council. The CLLA is North America's oldest Creditor's Rights Organization and has been operating since 1895. Brad is also the co-chair of the Ohio Legislative Committee for RMA International, the nation's premier trade association for companies that purchase receivables on the secondary market.

Brad received his Bachelor of Arts from the University of Illinois at Chicago in 2003 and his Juris Doctor from the Northern Kentucky University, Salmon P. Chase College of Law in 2006. During law school Brad served as the Symposium Editor for the Northern Kentucky Law Review.

Brad is licensed to practice law in the States of Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana. He is also licensed to practice before the U.S. District Court for the Northern and Southern Districts of Ohio and Indiana.



Hon. Joan Feeney (Ret) JAMS Mediator, Arbitrator and Referee/Special Master - joined JAMS following almost 27 years on the bench of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Massachusetts and 23 years as a member of the United States Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the First Circuit. Judge Feeney is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and served for three years on its Board of Regents. She is the co-author of the Bankruptcy Law Manual, a two-volume treatise published by Thomson Reuters West, and the co-author of a book for consumers, The Road Out of Debt, published by John Wiley & Sons. Judge Feeney was the President of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges in 2011 and 2012 and has served that organization in numerous capacities, including on its Board of Governors, Chair of the Newsletter Committee, Editor in Chief

and Reporter for Conference News, and on special projects. From 2016 to 2018, Judge Feeney was the Business Manager of "The American Bankruptcy Law Journal," the premier and most cited specialty law review in the nation and was an Associate Editor from 2013 to 2016. Judge Feeney is a founder of the M. Ellen Carpenter Financial Literacy Project, a joint venture of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Massachusetts and the Boston Bar Association. She was a member of the International Judicial Relations Committee of the Judicial Conference of the United States from 2006 through 2012 and hosted many delegations of foreign judges in the United States and traveling to foreign countries on behalf of the federal judiciary. Judge Feeney was the Chair of the Massachusetts Bankruptcy Court's Pro Bono Committee and Co-Chair of the Massachusetts Local Rules Committee for many years. She also served for several years on the Board of Directors of the American Bankruptcy Institute and as Judicial Chair of several regional ABI educational programs. Judge Feeney is a graduate of Connecticut College and Suffolk University Law School. Judge Feeney is a frequent panelist and lecturer on bankruptcy law topics in Massachusetts and throughout the country. In 2005, Judge Feeney received the Boston Bar Association's Haskell Cohn Award for Distinguished Judicial Service and in 2009 the American College of Bankruptcy First Circuit Fellows recognized her for contribution to bankruptcy jurisprudence and practice. Judge Feeney was the 2018 recipient of the Charles P. Normandin Lifetime Achievement Award from the Boston Bar Association and the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges Excellence in Education Award. Judge Feeney presided over a full range of cases, including complex commercial cases with multiple parties and conflicting interests. While on the bench, she wrote over 500 opinions in many different areas of the law.



Hon. Judith Fitzgerald (Ret.) Retired U.S. Bankruptcy Judge, Judith K. Fitzgerald served in her home jurisdiction in the Western District of Pennsylvania for nearly 26 years. She sat by designation in the District of Delaware, the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and the District of the U.S. Virgin Islands. She has been blessed with an exciting, challenging and intellectually stimulating career. As a Judicial Law Clerk, Assistant U.S. Attorney, Chief Bankruptcy Judge, Professor of Law, Practitioner at Tucker Arensberg, Arbitrator, Mediator, Author and Expert Witness, she has experienced a wide variety of legal disciplines and administrative responsibilities. Judi is a Professor in the Practice of Law at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, where she

teaches Bankruptcy and Advanced Bankruptcy. She is active in national and local professional organizations including the American Law Institute, the American College of Bankruptcy, the American Inns of Court, Commercial Law League of America, and the American Bankruptcy Institute. Among other offices, she has served as President of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges and as Chair of the Bankruptcy Judges Advisory Committee to the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts. Judi has received numerous awards and recognitions including the Commercial Law League's Lawrence P. King Award for Excellence in Bankruptcy and the American Inns of Court Bankruptcy Alliance Distinguished Service Award. Judi consults and lectures in matters involving trial strategy, professional responsibility, bankruptcy including mass tort bankruptcies, evidence, procedure, and contracts and participates on several committees and boards dedicated to fostering legal education and improving access to justice.



Lori J. Frank received her undergraduate degree from Boston University and law degree from Detroit College of Law, now known as Michigan State University College of Law. Lori is the President of the Michigan Creditors Bar Association. She is a past board member for the Commercial Law League of America and has lobbied in Congress and Lansing. Lori is an active member of the State Bar and Oakland County Bar Associations and is the proud dog mom of Big Popi & Little Khalessi.

PRESENTER BIOS



Owen G. Hare, Esq. received his Bachelor of Arts from Tulane University in 2006 where he graduated with a Major in Political Science and a Minor in History. Mr. Hare attended the Tulane University Law School and obtained his Juris Doctorate in 2009. He also received a Certificate in Admiralty and Maritime Law and worked for the Tulane University Domestic Violence Clinic.

Mr. Hare worked as the Managing Attorney of Florida Bankruptcy at a large national law firm for several years handling a wide spectrum of creditor rights and bankruptcy matters for secured and unsecured creditors.

Mr. Hare also worked as the managing partner of a firm he started handling creditor's rights and bankruptcy work for creditors before joining Friedman, Framme & Thrush, P.A., in April, 2016.

Mr. Hare is a Principal of Friedman, Framme & Thrush, P.A., a law firm based in Owings Mills, MD. His practice has a primary focus on Commercial Bankruptcy, Commercial litigation, Banking and Finance, Commercial Creditor's rights, and Complex Consumer Bankruptcy. Mr. Hare is an active member of the CLLA serving on the Marketing Subcommittee and Young Members Section Executive Council. Mr. Hare is licensed to practice in state, federal, and bankruptcy courts in Maryland, Florida, and the District of Columbia.



Yasamin N. Kaye is an Associate in Goldberg Kohn Ltd.'s Bankruptcy & Creditors' Rights Group.

She represents lenders in the protection and enforcement of creditors' rights in commercial workouts and bankruptcies, including restructurings, reorganizations, sales, and liquidations. Her bankruptcy experience includes the representation of creditors and purchasers in connection with the negotiation and documentation of debtor-in-possession financing orders, cash collateral orders and sale orders. Ms. Kaye also has experience representing banks and other commercial lenders in documenting, negotiating and performing due diligence for asset based and cash flow loans.

Since 2021, Ms. Kaye has been named annually by Best Lawyers to its Ones to Watch in America list in the area of Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law. In 2020, she was honored by The Chicago Bar Foundation with The Maurice Weigle Exceptional Young Lawyer Award for her demonstrated commitment to pro bono work and community service. In 2021, she earned a Blackshear Fellowship at the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, which is awarded to five up-and-coming minority bankruptcy practitioners each year.



Conor Kelly is an associate attorney at Webster, Chamberlain & Bean LLP in Washington, D.C. specializing in government relations. Before joining the firm, Conor worked as a counsel for Senator Amy Klobuchar on the U.S. Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, where he focused on issues including voting rights, election administration, and investigations into events surrounding January 6. He graduated from George Washington University Law School, where he served as a member of the Federal Communications Law Journal and worked in law clerk positions on Capitol Hill and with a voting rights nonprofit. He holds a B.A. from the University of Virginia, where he majored in history and government and wrote a thesis on the Iraq anti-war movement in the United States that won the history department's award for best undergraduate thesis in modern American history.



Daniel C. Kerrick is an experienced litigator representing creditors of all size, type and geographic origin in Delaware and Pennsylvania. His experience includes preventative legal counseling, comprehensive litigation advice and services, accounts receivable advice and management, and timely and efficient enforcement of judgments. He litigates matters in every court in the State of Delaware, including Chancery Court and Bankruptcy Court. Mr. Kerrick represents a wide variety of clients in complex commercial disputes, corporate fiduciary litigation, business divorce and control disputes. Mr. Kerrick is a published author and speaks regularly about issues affecting creditors' rights and remedies.



Carter H. Klein is currently Of Counsel with Jenner & Block LLP and has practiced in its Commercial and Corporate Law Departments since 1974 after a two year judicial clerkship. He is liaison for the ABA's Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) Committee to the Permanent Editorial Board of the UCC; Past Chair of ABA's Payments Law and Letter of Credit Subcommittees and the Chicago Bar Association's Commercial and Financial Transactions, International & Foreign Law, and Consumer Credit Committees; and for 45 years was co-author of three books on the payment articles of the Uniform Commercial Code.



Candice Kline is a partner at Saul Ewing LLP focusing on bankruptcy and restructuring situations and litigation. She serves in leadership at various bar and trade associations and is a member of the CLLA's Bankruptcy Section Executive Council. Candice has an MBA and JD and began her legal career after many years in global commercial banking and business, including startups. She practices in Illinois and Ohio with a nationwide docket in complex commercial matters.



Hon. Thomas M. Lynch was appointed to the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois in January 2013. He is a graduate of the Northwestern University School of Law. Judge Lynch earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Dayton and M.A. from the University of Chicago.

Prior to joining the bench Judge Lynch practiced law in Chicago. He began his legal career in the litigation and bankruptcy departments of Winston & Strawn. He was a partner at Wildman, Harrold, Allen & Dixon and then at Baker & Daniels (now Faegre Drinker). For nearly thirty years he tried cases throughout the United States, representing clients in business disputes and bankruptcy and commercial matters. Before law school Tom was an economic analyst and executive in the public sector. While a senior executive in the City of Chicago's Department of Finance during the late 1970's, he assisted with the formulation and implementation of the city's financial restructuring.

Judge Lynch has been an adjunct faculty member at the Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law since 1998. He also served on the faculty of the National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA) for more than two decades, and he frequently lectures on bankruptcy, financial issues, evidence and trial practice to the bench, bar, business organizations and the general public.



Ronald R. Peterson, Partner, Jenner & Block LLP in Chicago, Illinois. He concentrates his practice in the areas of commercial, insolvency and bankruptcy law. Mr. Peterson has presided over numerous complex commercial cases, including Stotler & Co., the country's 10th largest commodities house, and Lancelot Investors Fund, L.P., a \$1.7 billion Ponzi scheme. He is the Chairman of the Creditors' Committee in Thomas J. Petters, a \$3.5 billion Ponzi scheme. Mr. Peterson served as the examiner in the Chapter 11 case of Robert Lund, a large real estate developer.

Mr. Peterson has been a member of the panel of Chapter 7 Trustees for the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division, since 1987. He is the past President of the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees.

Mr. Peterson is a fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and a member of the American Bankruptcy Institute. He is a member of the Business Bankruptcy Committee of the Business Law Section and the Bankruptcy Litigation Committee of the Litigation Section of the American Bar Association. He is a member of the International Association of Restructuring, Insolvency & Bankruptcy Professionals, and the Commercial Law League of America. In 2014, the Commercial Law League of America awarded Mr. Peterson the Lawrence P. King Award.



Robert Pollak is the managing partner at Glassberg, Pollak & Associates. Over his 44-year law career, he has litigated and tried numerous cases to conclusion in both state and federal court. He has extensive experience in counseling clients in credit transactions and foreclosure of liens. He is also experienced in enforcement of stop notices in construction cases, enforcement of equipment leases and litigating insurance premium disputes.

Bob is a trusted advisor, representing trustees and other creditors in bankruptcy matters that involve the collection of accounts receivable and enforcement of judgments. Since 1993, he has been certified by the American Board of Certification as a specialist in Creditors' Rights Law. He is a frequent speaker on creditors' rights topics

at continuing legal education programs and to professional business associations. Bob also has been recognized as a Northern California Super Lawyer for more than 10 years. He has been an active member of the Commercial Law League of America since 1982 and is AV rated on Martindale Hubbell.



Bryan Rafferty has an expansive knowledge of the commercial collection industry. Over his 25-year career at Commercial Collection Corp. of NY (CCC), Bryan worked his way up from an entry-level position, into being one of the co-owners of the business. Bryan expanded his knowledge about commercial collections through managing a variety of different departments which includes Sales, Collections, and Legal. With an understanding of making win-win partnerships with both creditors and attorneys, Bryan focuses on providing excellent service and leadership without sacrificing the relationships that CCC has grown to depend on. Carrying forward the legacy of the mentors before him (the late Robert Ingold & Bernie Engle), Bryan implements the best practices he has learned over his career and strives to be a knowledgeable and respected member of the commercial collection industry.



Jack Rose is the CEO and founder of JR2G, LLC. The firm focuses on purchasing properties in secondary and tertiary markets. Jack is former Managing Director at Kroll LLC in the Restructuring Advisory practice in New York, where he focused his practice on distressed real estate. More than likely you may know Jack from his past life where he spent 30 years as a bankruptcy lawyer with Rosenberg & Estis, Ashurst, White & Case, Rogers & Wells (now Clifford Chance) and Weil Gotshal.

Questions? Please contact Dawn Federico at dawn.federico@ccla.org or call 312.240.1400



Jeffrey N. Schatzman is the principal shareholder in the Miami, Florida law firm of Schatzman & Schatzman, P.A. He received his undergraduate degree in Political Science from the University of Florida in 1986 and his J.D. degree from the Thomas M. Cooley Law School (Western Michigan University) in Lansing, Michigan in 1989.

Mr. Schatzman is a member of The Florida Bar and is admitted to practice in all Florida State Courts as well as the Federal District and Bankruptcy Courts for the Southern and Middle Districts of Florida and the United States Supreme Court. He concentrates his law practice in the areas of Bankruptcy, representing creditors, debtors and trustees; Commercial Collections; Commercial Litigation; Business Transactions; and Residential and Commercial Real Estate Transactions and frequently lectures on the topics of bankruptcy and creditors' rights.

He has been a member of the Commercial Law League of America since 1991, and has held numerous positions within the League including a three year term as an attorney member of the CLLA Board of Governors and President of the CLLA from 2013 to 2014.

Mr. Schatzman has achieved high ratings and recognition by his peers, clients and various organizations including Super Lawyers, an AV rating by Martindale-Hubbell, a 10.0 rating by AVVO, one of Florida Trend Magazine's "Legal Elite" Top Attorneys in the State of Florida and ALM's Top Attorneys in South Florida.



Gilbert M. Singer is a Senior Partner in the law firm of Marcadis Singer, P. A., and has been practicing commercial/collection law in Florida since graduating from the University of Miami School of Law in 1979 where he earned his Juris Doctor Degree. He is a member of The Florida Bar, Hillsborough County Bar Association, as well as the Commercial Law League of America in which he served as Southern Region Chair in 2018-2019. Gil has an AV Rating with Martindale-Hubbell.

He is a longtime volunteer for the Guardian Ad Litem Program in Hillsborough County and currently volunteers with Bay Area Legal Services and with Crossroads for Florida representing older children in foster care. He has also been active as a Board Member for Joshua House, A Kid's Place, and For the Family. He served on the Citizens Advisory Commission to the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners and was honored in 1996 by The Florida Bar and the Florida Supreme Court for his pro bono service.

In 2002, Governor Jeb Bush appointed him to the Florida Commission on Human Relations on which he served for over 18 years. In 2011, Governor Rick Scott appointed Gil to the Judicial Nominating Commission for the 13th Judicial Circuit. In 2016, he was elected as Chair and served an 8-year term which ended in 2020. Florida's Judicial Nominating Commissions are constitutionally created non-partisan bodies designed to interview and nominate diverse, highly qualified candidates for judgeships to the Governor for appointment when a judicial vacancy arises.

Gil serves on the Hillsborough County Republican Executive Committee and continues to be active as a volunteer in local, statewide, and national political campaigns.

Gil is incoming Chair of CLLA Southern Region, member of CLLA Legislative Affairs Committee, and Board member of Creditors Rights Section. He has lectured on collections and commercial litigation issues to numerous trade groups and Bar Associations.



Catherine Steege is a partner with the firm of Jenner & Block LLP. She is co-chair of the firm's Bankruptcy and Restructuring practice group, a fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, and a conferee of the National Bankruptcy Conference. She recently represented USA Gymnastics in its chapter 11 case and represented McKesson and an ad hoc group of other major distributors, pharmacies, and manufacturers in Purdue Pharma's chapter 11 case. In addition to a traditional bankruptcy practice, she has represented numerous retiree committees including the retiree committees in the Puerto Rico, Armstrong Flooring, Budd Company, Walter Energy, American Airlines, United Airlines, and Northwest Airlines chapter 11 cases and represented numerous parties in complex bankruptcy litigation matters including her representation of the Zell defendants in the Tribune

fraudulent conveyance litigation, the Sentinel Management Group Litigation Trustee, the Magnatrax Litigation Trust, the NKK Litigation Trust, and the Trustees of Emerald Casino Inc. and Consolidated Industries Corp. She has an active appellate practice and argued in the United States Supreme Court on behalf of Wellness International Network in the case *Wellness International Network v. Sharif* and represented the petitioner in *Law v. Siegel* and the respondent in *City of Chicago v. Fulton*. She represented the examiners in the Lehman Brothers and Celsius Network chapter 11 cases and authored the sections of the Lehman Brothers Examiner's Report that considered potential avoidance actions against various financial institutions.



Hon. Deborah L. Thorne serves as a bankruptcy judge for the Northern District of Illinois. She received her B.A. from Macalester College, a Master of Arts in Teaching from Duke University and a J.D. from Illinois Institute of Technology. She is president of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges and served as Education Chair for the 2020 Annual Meeting. She is past chair of the Chicago Bar Association Bankruptcy and Restructuring Committee and past member of the Board of Governors and chair of the Bankruptcy Committee for the Seventh Circuit Bar Association. She previously served as Vice President for Communications and Information Technology for the American Bankruptcy Institute and as a member of the Executive Committee. Judge Thorne is a fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy.

Judge Thorne is the author of *The Preference Defense Handbook: The Circuits Divided* and a co-author of *Interrupted! Understanding Bankruptcy's Effects on Manufacturing Supply Chains*, both published by the American Bankruptcy Institute.

Judge Thorne served for 19 years on the board of Women Employed, a Chicago not-for-profit policy organization focused on improving the lives of low-wage working women through enhancing access to post-secondary education and improving job quality.

Judge Thorne is married to Jerry Esrig, a judge on the Circuit Court of Cook County. They have two adult children and one granddaughter. In her free time, she enjoys traveling, reading, rowing and going to the park with her grandchildren.



Timothy Wan, Esq. is Senior Partner and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Smith Carroad Wan & Parikh. Mr. Wan's areas of expertise include managing the creditor's rights and collection law practice, serving as General Counsel to various small businesses in the local business community, and spearheading practice in the area of entertainment law, music law, copyright, and intellectual property.

Mr. Wan was admitted to the New York State Bar in January 2001, after graduating from Brooklyn Law School for his Juris Doctor where he was a member of the Moot Court Honor Society, and from Vassar College with a double B.A. in Political Science and Theatre in 1997. This background has fostered Mr. Wan's trial and courtroom skills; throughout his career, he has successfully tried several hundred litigation matters, as well as successfully brought and defended appeals on healthcare-related matters to the appellate courts in the State of New York. Mr. Wan is admitted to the United States District Court for the Southern and Eastern Districts, and a member of the New York State and Suffolk County Bar Associations.

Mr. Wan is a Past Chair of the Eastern Region of the Commercial Law League of America, a Past Chair of the CLLA Young Member's Section, past member of the Board of Governors, and served as the first ever two-consecutive-term President from 2019-2021. He also serves as the President of the New York State Creditors Bar Association. Mr. Wan is a two-time Past President of the Infinite Exchange Chapter of BNI, and a member of the International Association of Commercial Collectors. Mr. Wan is a published author of the New York chapter of the textbook, Judgement Enforcement published by Aspen Publishing, and is a featured columnist and on the Board of Associate Editors for Commercial Law World. He is also the attorney advisor to the Commack High School Mock Trial team, and regularly lectures on topics regarding creditor's rights, collection law, business change management, improving business efficiency, and legal strategy.



Hon. Eugene Wedoff (Ret.) was a bankruptcy judge in Chicago from 1987 to 2015, and chief judge from 2002 to 2007. He has served as chair of the Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules and president of both the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges and the American Bankruptcy Institute. Since 2015, he has engaged in exclusively pro bono representation of clients in bankruptcy appeals.



Beverly Weiss Manne, Esq. Tucker Arensberg, P.C. – is an experienced attorney who represents secured and unsecured creditors, lessors, and buyers of assets in bankruptcy cases, non-judicial restructurings and in complex, and distressed business and commercial credit situations and commercial finance matters. Ms. Manne is licensed in Pennsylvania and Maryland. She also is an adjunct professor at University of Pittsburgh School of Law and teaches Payment Systems and Banking, and also taught Secured Transactions for many years. From 1981 to 1986, she was an attorney with the USDA Office of General Counsel. Ms. Manne obtained her J.D. from the University of Pittsburgh as well as her B.A., magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa. She is a member of the Commercial Law League of America, serves on the Executive Council of its Creditors' Rights Section and

has served on the Executive Council of its Bankruptcy Section. Ms. Manne is Chair of the PBA Business Law Section, a member and ex-officio of the PBA Shale Energy Law Committee, the 2014 Uniform Voidable Transfer Act adoption task force, 2013 Insolvency Law Task Force, UCC Article 9 Revisions Adoption Task Forces in 2000 and 2010, and the Insolvency Law Task Force in 1994-1996. Ms. Manne is a founding member and ex-officio of the Judith K. Fitzgerald Bankruptcy Inn of Court. Ms. Manne frequently is a speaker, panelist and course planner, locally and nationally on bankruptcy, mechanics lien, oil and gas and commercial issues. She is included in the Pennsylvania "Super Lawyers Edition" and "Best Lawyers in America."



Hon. Mary Ann Whipple has served as a United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Ohio, Western Division, at Toledo, since 2001 and is currently the chief bankruptcy judge of the district. She also served on the Sixth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel.

Judge Whipple grew up in Toledo. She graduated from the University of Michigan in 1977 with an A.B. degree in Russian Studies and Stanford Law School in 1981 with a J.D. degree.

Before becoming a bankruptcy judge, Judge Whipple practiced law for twenty years as a commercial, bankruptcy and employment litigator with the Toledo firm Fuller & Henry Ltd. She is admitted to practice in Ohio and Michigan.

Judge Whipple taught Creditor/Debtor Law for more than 20 years as a part-time faculty member at the University of Toledo College of Law. In addition to teaching, she has served her community as a member of the executive boards of the Owens Community College Foundation, American Red Cross-Greater Toledo Area Chapter, Lucas County Mental Health Board, Toledo Area Chamber of Commerce, Family Service of Northwest Ohio and University of Michigan Club of Toledo. She is a master in and past President of The Morrison R. Waite Chapter of the American Inns of Court Foundation. Judge Whipple received The Toledo Bar Association's 2008 Community Service Award and the Toledo Women's Bar Association's 2016 Arabella Babb Mansfield Award.

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Save The Date



12:15 - 1:30 PM
THURSDAY, MAY 18



WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT & NETWORKING EVENT
SPECIAL GUEST: Dress for Success Worldwide Central

Please join us for the CLLA Women's Empowerment and Networking Luncheon, on Thursday, May 18 starting at 12:15pm.



Scan Me!

This event is meant to encourage networking for the women of the League as well as spouses of League members.

We are looking forward to the CLLA National Convention in Chicago on May 17-19, 2023 and have a special event scheduled.

The CLLA has invited Dress for Success Worldwide Central to talk to us about their organization, not only in Chicago, but nationwide. The mission of Dress for Success is to promote the economic independence of women by providing professional attire, a network of support and the career development tools to help women thrive in work and in life.

A buffet lunch will be served, and each attendee will receive a swag bag! Registration will be required.

Charitable donations are being accepted now and will continue through the event. The first \$2,000 in donations will be matched by me, your hostess. All donations are 100% tax-deductible.

Scan the QR code above to make a donation online. Donations, including checks, will also be accepted at the event. Please make checks out to out to Dress for Success Worldwide.

It is our hope that we can help empower other women in business that need a step forward.

Thank you for your generosity!

Maria K.

Maria Kozelek
Event Chairperson

