

**TENTH ANNUAL WESTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
BANKRUPTCY CONFERENCE
SPEAKER BIOS**

Peter J. Barrett, a partner in Kutak Rock's Richmond, Virginia office, concentrates his practice on financial restructuring matters. Mr. Barrett represents unsecured and secured creditors, trustees, equity holders, distressed investors and corporate debtors in insolvency matters, including Chapter 11 reorganizations, business liquidations and out-of-court restructurings. He has significant experience representing interested parties in asset sales conducted under the Bankruptcy Code. He has been involved in a number of complex Chapter 11 bankruptcy cases throughout the country involving industries such as manufacturing, hospitality, construction, retail, entertainment and real estate. He also works with other firm attorneys to analyze the effects of insolvency and bankruptcy on corporate and financial transactions. Mr. Barrett also serves as a member of the panel of Chapter 7 bankruptcy trustees for the Eastern District of Virginia, Richmond Division and as a member of the panel of subchapter V trustees in Virginia. He is licensed to practice in Virginia and California and is a graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law.

Paul M. Black was appointed as United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Virginia in 2014. He currently serves as Chief Judge of that court. A native of Roanoke, Virginia, Judge Black received his undergraduate degree from Washington and Lee University in 1982, studied at Cambridge University in England, and received his law degree from the University of Richmond in 1985. He then served as law clerk to the Honorable Blackwell N. Shelley, United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia. After practicing law in Richmond for several years, he returned to Roanoke where he was a member of the regional firm of Spilman Thomas & Battle, PLLC. At Spilman, he was co-chair of the Bankruptcy and Creditor's Rights practice group, and his practice focused on commercial litigation, bankruptcy, and banking and finance law. In private practice, he was named to *Best Lawyers* in multiple areas related to finance and insolvency, to Virginia's "Legal Elite" by *Virginia Business* magazine in both Civil Litigation and Bankruptcy Law, and as a Virginia *SuperLawyer* in the field of Bankruptcy Law. For many years, he was an active participant in the Boyd-Graves Conference of the Virginia Bar Association, which studies and makes recommendations to the Virginia legislature on improvements to civil practice in Virginia. Judge Black was past chair of the Litigation Section of the Virginia State Bar, and also chair of the Bankruptcy Section of the Virginia Bar Association. He served as a member of the Virginia State Bar Disciplinary Board from 2007-2013. He is co-chair of the Legislative Committee of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges. Judge Black is a frequent speaker to insolvency professionals on matters pertaining to bankruptcy, litigation, and ethics.

W. Joel Charboneau received his law degree from George Mason University School of Law. He began practicing in 2004 with the firm Magee, Foster, Goldstein & Sayers, P.C. In 2010, he joined the United States Department of Justice as a trial attorney for the United States Trustee for Region Four. Though based in the Roanoke, he has represented United States Trustees across the country. He enjoys spending his free time with his family and can often be found hiking local trails on the weekends.

Rebecca B. Connelly is a United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of Virginia. Before joining the bench, Judge Connelly was the Standing Chapter 13 Trustee and Chapter 12 Trustee for the Western District of Virginia, and prior to that was in private practice in Virginia and in Washington, D.C.

Judge Connelly is Chair of the Judicial Conference Advisory Committee on the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure. As a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, Judge Connelly formerly chaired the NCBJ Federal Rules Advisory Committee.

Judge Connelly is an adjunct professor of law at Washington and Lee University School of Law (teaching bankruptcy). She is a conferee in the National Bankruptcy Conference. In addition, she is a frequent speaker for Virginia CLE, an author of two chapters of *BANKRUPTCY PRACTICE IN VIRGINIA* (2004, reprinted 2008, and revised and reprinted 2016), and an active member of the American Bankruptcy Institute since 1994. She has served as a contributing editor and a features author for the ABI Law Journal, a member of the Consumer Law Committee, and a speaker at the Annual Spring Meeting, the Winter Leadership Conference, Regional conferences, Eye on Bankruptcy, and Views from the Bench. Judge Connelly serves on the advisory board and volunteers for CARE. Judge Connelly formerly served on the Board and as a volunteer for Rockbridge Area Hospice.

Margaret K. Garber has been with the Roanoke Office of the United States Trustee Program since 1998 and has served as the Assistant United States Trustee since August of 2014. During those years, she has brought myriad civil enforcement actions including motions to dismiss, objections to discharge, motions to sanction and motion to review attorney's fees and/or bar attorneys from practice. Ms. Garber is also a member of the Bankruptcy Fraud Task Force and has participated and testified in criminal actions referred by the Roanoke office to the United States Attorney's Office for prosecution. Ms. Garber received her undergraduate degree from the College of William and Mary. She graduated *with distinction* from the Emory University School of Law. While in law school, Ms. Garber's law review article was published in the Bankruptcy Developments Journal on which she served as Associate Editor. After law school, prior to joining the United States Trustee Program, Ms. Garber practiced bankruptcy law and commercial litigation with a firm in Roanoke, Virginia.

Malissa Lambert Giles is a member of the firm of Giles & Lambert, PC, in Roanoke, Virginia, with additional offices in Blacksburg and Martinsville. She and the firm, which was formed in 1993, limit their current practice to the areas of bankruptcy and consumer rights, focusing on debtor and plaintiff representation.

She has taught at numerous bankruptcy and consumer seminars including most recently the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys' 31st Annual Convention and the VBA's 24th Annual Bankruptcy Law Conference and has been a frequent speaker at the MidAtlantic Institute on Bankruptcy and Reorganization and for the Virginia State Bar and Virginia CLE. She has served as editor of the *Bankruptcy Law News*, and has served as chair of the Board of the Virginia State Bar's Bankruptcy Section.

She has been named a Virginia Super Lawyer in the area of consumer bankruptcy practice since 2007 and the firm of Giles & Lambert, PC has been ranked as a top Tier One Bankruptcy Law Firm in Virginia by US News and World Report since the inception of the rankings.

Hannah White Hutman is a partner at Hoover Penrod, PLC in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Her practice focuses on representing both creditors and debtors in bankruptcy proceedings under Chapters 7, 11, 12, and 13 and insolvency related matters. In addition, Hannah frequently represents creditors in collection matters, including restructuring obligations, asset liquidations and dispositions, and foreclosures. Hannah is a member of the panel of Chapter 7 Trustees for the Western District of Virginia. She is the Immediate Past Chair of the Board of Governors of the Bankruptcy Law Section for the Virginia State Bar. Hannah is a frequent presenter on a wide variety of insolvency related topics and co-authored a chapter in the Bankruptcy Practices in Virginia Handbook. Hannah is "AV" rated by Martindale-Hubbell, has routinely been listed in Super Lawyers as a Rising Star, selected as a member of Virginia's "Legal Elite," and included in the American Bankruptcy Institute's 2018 class of "40 under 40." She received her J.D. from the Marshall Wythe School of Law at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia and her B.A., *summa cum laude*, from Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, Maryland.

Rachel Jones -- Received Bachelor of Arts in International Studies from American University in Washington, D.C. in 2001. Graduated from Syracuse Law School in 2006. Employed at Southwest Virginia Legal Aid Society from 2006 to 2018 as Staff Attorney, then Managing Attorney. Joined Christopher Micale's office as Staff Attorney in 2018 (Office of the Chapter 13 Trustee). Presented over a dozen CLEs in the area of Consumer Protection, Bankruptcy, and Housing Laws from 2010 to present.

Webb King has been a Trial Attorney for the United States Trustee in Roanoke, Virginia since 2015. In addition to his work in the Western District of Virginia, Webb has represented the United States Trustee in large chapter 11 cases filed in the Eastern District of Virginia. From 2001 to 2015 he was in private practice in Roanoke, Virginia. In private practice, he represented debtors and other interest holders in Chapter 11 bankruptcy cases and creditors in Chapter 7 and 13 cases. In addition, he handled a wide variety of civil matters including creditor's rights, landlord/tenant, tort defense, real estate litigation, and uniform commercial code cases. He graduated from Roanoke College in 1998 and the University of Richmond School of Law in 2001.

Chris Micale was appointed Chapter 13 Trustee as of June 2012. Prior to serving as a Chapter 13 Trustee he represented a bankruptcy trustee, worked as a project manager for a software company and as a paralegal for a bankruptcy trustee.

Stephan W. Milo is a member of Wharton Aldhizer & Weaver PLC. Steve joined the firm in 1997 and has served multiple terms as both its managing partner and on its executive committee. He concentrates his practice in corporate reorganization, finance, and mergers and acquisition, with extensive experience as debtor's counsel in Chapter 11 proceedings.

Steve had the privilege and honor of beginning his legal career as law clerk to the Honorable Tina L. Brozman of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York (1989-1991). Under Judge Brozman's tutelage, Steve worked on a number of the then-largest Chapter 11 proceedings in the country and had first hand, "from the bench" exposure to some of the brightest and most creative practitioners using the Bankruptcy Code for its intended purpose. After his clerkship, Steve joined the Manhattan office of Kaye, Scholer, Fierman, Hayes & Handler (now Arnold & Porter) in its corporate reorganization department, working, by choice, on predominantly debtor-side engagements. He remained at Kaye, Scholer, Fierman, Hayes and Handler until returning to the Shenandoah Valley in 1997.

Steve fell in love with the Shenandoah Valley (and his wife, an Augusta County native) while attending Bridgewater College, from which he graduated in 1983.

Shannon Morgan is the staff attorney for Angela Scolforo, Chapter 13 Trustee for the Western District of Virginia (Lynchburg and Harrisonburg Divisions). Immediately prior to joining the Chapter 13 Trustee's Office, she was a partner at the firm of Royer Caramanis in Charlottesville, and practiced exclusively in the area of consumer bankruptcy, primarily representing Debtors in Chapter 7 and Chapter 13 Bankruptcy proceedings. She is admitted to practice in the state and federal courts of Alaska and Virginia. Ms. Morgan started her legal career as a general practitioner focused primarily on domestic relations. Over time, she developed a small sub-practice in the area of consumer bankruptcy in several states. When Ms. Morgan relocated to Virginia in 2012, she committed to solely practice under the Bankruptcy Code and has never looked back.

Stephen F. Relyea is a member and co-founder of Financial Freedom Legal, PLC, where his practice focuses on protecting the rights of consumers in bankruptcy proceedings. He has presented and authored articles on a variety of bankruptcy and consumer protection topics. Steve is admitted to practice before the United States Bankruptcy and District Courts for the Eastern and Western District of Virginia and the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. He serves on the Executive Committee for the Richmond Bar Association, Bankruptcy Section, and he is also a member of the American Bankruptcy Institute and the Old Dominion Bar Association. Steve received his J.D. from the Wake Forest University School of Law and his B.A. from George Mason University.

Todd Rich is the Managing Bankruptcy Attorney for McMichael Taylor Gray, a creditor's rights firm serving clients throughout the Southeast and Mid-Atlantic regions. Originally from Huntsville, Alabama, Todd has lived in Virginia since high school, and earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia and law degree from the University of Richmond. He and his wife live in Richmond, and spend as much time as they can traveling, camping, and being entertained by grandchildren.

Nancy R. Schlichting represents lenders, businesses and individuals who are creditors in bankruptcy proceedings and insolvency related matters. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia and her law degree *cum laude* from the University of Miami School of Law. She moved back to Virginia in 2004 after 16 years of practicing law with a large commercial firm in Florida where she represented large and medium-sized banks in foreclosures, bankruptcies, lender liability cases, real estate disputes, and loan workouts, and collections. Mrs. Schlichting has continued that practice at Flora Pettit in Charlottesville, although she also retains her Florida license.

Angela M. Scolforo is one of the Chapter 13 Bankruptcy Trustees for the Western District of Virginia. She was appointed on April 1, 2023, upon the retirement of Herbert Beskin, after serving as his Staff Attorney for 18 years. She has spoken on seminar panels in Virginia and nationally and enjoys learning from and interacting with her peers. She successfully argued before the Fourth Circuit in *Virginia v. Webb*, 908 F.3d 941 (4th Cir. 2018), a ruling which protects the Trustee from garnishment. Angela served on the Board of Governors for the Bankruptcy Section of the Virginia State Bar from 2009 to 2015, and as the Chair in 2016. She recently retired as the Town Attorney for Gordonsville, Virginia after 20 years of service to them. She is the mother of seven children and fifteen grandchildren. She graduated from the University of Virginia School of Law in 1998, and received a B.A. in English from the College of the Holy Cross in 1987.

Helen J. Spence is the Vice-President, Underwriting Counsel for Fidelity National Financial Family of Companies. She is a 1987 graduate of Radford University, and 1990 graduate of Washington and Lee University School of Law. She was in a small private practice in the New River Valley, handling primarily real estate transactions, wills and estates, and juvenile law, until joining Fidelity National Title in December, 2004. In her capacity as Virginia and West Virginia State Counsel for the Fidelity, Chicago, and Commonwealth Land Title, Helen speaks regularly to title insurance agents, settlement agents, and real estate attorneys on real property and title insurance issues.

Helen is a member of the Virginia and West Virginia State Bars, the West Virginia Bar Association, the Virginia Land Title Association, and the American Land Title Association. She is an area representative to the Real Property Section of the Virginia State Bar.