

John H. Small

Partner



CONTACT INFO

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OFFICE

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John Small has more than 30 years of experience representing both creditors and debtors in business bankruptcies, and is a Board Certified specialist in Business and Consumer Bankruptcy Law. He also counsels small businesses and religious organizations on a wide range of legal issues. He thrives on solving his clients' most complex problems.

MY PRACTICE

BUSINESS BANKRUPTCIES REPRESENTING NON-DEBTORS

John represents secured creditors in bankruptcies for business and real estate loans. He also has experience working with landlords, equipment lessors, trade creditors and Chapter 11 and Chapter 7 trustees in bankruptcy cases, as well as individuals who may be purchasing assets out of the bankruptcy.

BUSINESS BANKRUPTCIES REPRESENTING DEBTORS

PRACTICE AREAS

Bankruptcy & Creditor's Rights
Business and Corporate
› Entity Formation
› Mergers & Acquisitions

INDUSTRIES

Banking, Investment & Financial Services
Construction & Development
Manufacturing
Media, Publishing, & Communications
Not-for-Profits
Real Estate
Transportation

EDUCATION

Yale University
J.D., 1979; Editor, *Yale Law Journal*
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
B.A., 1976, Phi Beta Kappa
Certified by the North Carolina Board of Legal Specialization as a specialist in Bankruptcy Law-Consumer and Bankruptcy Law-Business, 1988 to present

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

North Carolina
US Supreme Court
US Court of Appeals
4th Circuit
US District Court - North Carolina
Western District
Middle District
Eastern District

John represents businesses experiencing financial difficulties, many of which are going through Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings. He has represented a variety of businesses, including manufacturing companies, retailers, and real estate companies.

SMALL BUSINESS

John represents both principals and small businesses, including corporations, LLCs, and partnerships, on entity formation, mergers and acquisitions, financing and contract issues.

RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

John serves as general counsel for the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, and represents other churches and religious organizations both inside and outside the Baptist denomination. He helps religious organizations navigate their unique legal landscape, including structure, governance issues and the impact of the First Amendment on general laws and regulations applicable to religious organizations.

HONORS

Selected by his peers for inclusion in [*The Best Lawyers in America*](#)® in Bankruptcy and Creditor-Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law, Bet-the-Company Litigation and Bankruptcy Litigation (2003-2020); Greensboro "Lawyer of the Year" for Bankruptcy Litigation (2016, 2020) and for Bet-the-Company Litigation (2018, 2020)

Recognized in [*North Carolina Super Lawyers*](#) (Thomson Reuters) in Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights (2006-2014), Bankruptcy: Business (2015-2020), and Top 100 (2009)

Recognized in [*Super Lawyers Business Edition*](#) in Bankruptcy: Business (2015)

Recognized by [*Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*](#) for Bankruptcy/Restructuring Law (2009-2019)

Recognized by his peers for inclusion in *Business North Carolina's* "[Legal Elite](#)" in Bankruptcy Law (2005-2015, 2017-2018)

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Vice-Chair (2018-present), Member (1986-89, 2015-present), Bankruptcy Section Council, [North Carolina Bar Association](#)

Member, Board of Directors, (2001-04), Chairman of the Board (2002), [Fruitland Baptist Bible Institute](#)

Executive Committee Member (1997-98), General Board Member (1995-98), [Baptist State Convention of North Carolina](#)

Chairman (1997-98) and Member (1995-98, 2000-03), Business Services Committee, [Baptist State Convention of North Carolina](#)

Chairman (1998) and Member (1997-98, 2002-03, 2005), Constitution Committee, [Baptist State Convention of North Carolina](#)

Parliamentarian, [Alaska Baptist Convention](#) Annual Meeting (2001, 2002)

Treasurer, [Grimsley High School](#) Band Boosters (2000-2003)

Chair (2008--2009) and Member (2004-2009), Bankruptcy Law Specialty Committee of the Board of Legal Specialization, [North Carolina State Bar](#)

Member, Bankruptcy and Business Sections, [North Carolina State Bar](#)

Member, [American Bankruptcy Institute](#)

PUBLICATIONS & MEDIA

["Highlights of Consumer Bankruptcy Changes Under the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005,"](#) Legal Topics Bulletin

John H. Small Profiled by N.C. State Bar Board of Legal Specialization Newsletter, May 29, 2018

Brooks Pierce Partner Honored for Work in Bankruptcy Law, April 30, 2018

Brooks Pierce Attorney John Small Selected for Leadership Role with the Bankruptcy Section of the North Carolina Bar Association , December 14, 2017

Brooks Pierce Attorneys, Practice Areas Earn Top Rankings from Chambers USA, May 26, 2017

Twelve Brooks Pierce Attorneys to Present at the Festival of Legal Learning, January 12, 2017

Eighteen Brooks Pierce Attorneys to Speak at the 2016 Festival of Legal Learning, February 2, 2016

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Twenty Brooks Pierce Attorneys to Speak at the 2015 Festival of Legal Learning, February 10, 2015