



Attorney Steven N. Berger

Shareholder

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2800 North Central Avenue, Suite 1200, Phoenix, Arizona 85004

Practice Areas

Bankruptcy and Reorganization

Business Formation and Transactions

Creditors' Rights

Loan Workouts

Commercial Landlord Tenant Law

Business and Financial Restructuring

Real Estate

Loan Documentation

Mediation

Buying and Selling of Businesses

Education

University of Arizona, J.D., with highest distinction 1984, Articles Editor, Arizona Law Review

Arizona State University, B.A. Finance, 1980

Admissions

Admitted to all Federal and State Courts in AZ

Assisted By

Cynthia Nesselrode



Steven N. Berger has focused his career on resolution of complex business disputes through effective representation of clients in bankruptcy or other reorganization proceedings, loan workouts, litigation and business transactions. He co-founded the firm in 1999 after gaining experience as an associate and partner at two of Arizona's largest law firms. He has extensive experience in representing parties involved with troubled loans or troubled businesses, and has represented lenders, lessors, business owners, investors, asset purchasers, creditor committees and other parties in bankruptcy and reorganization cases. Steve has more than 30 years' experience in representing clients throughout Arizona, is admitted to practice before all state and federal courts in Arizona, and before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. He is a long-time Arizona resident and business owner, providing him with added perspective in his work on Arizona based issues.

Focus

Assisting clients in finding creative and satisfying resolutions of legal issues related to business.

Clients

Lenders, Banks, Borrowers, Real Estate Brokers/Developers, Landlords, Investors, Owners of Closely-Held Businesses, Owners of Troubled Businesses

Industries

Advertising and Media, Asset Based Lenders, Agriculture, Commercial Lenders, Equipment Leasing, Factoring, Franchising, Hard Money Lenders, Healthcare, Hospitality and Restaurants, Insurance, Non-Profits, Printing and Publishing, Private Education and Preschools, Property Management, Restructuring, Retail and Shopping Center Owners

Professional

The American College of Bankruptcy, Fellow

Lawyer Representative, Ninth Circuit Conference, 2010 – 2014

State Bar of Arizona Bankruptcy Section, Chair/Member

State Bar of Arizona CLE Committee, Chair/Member

University of Arizona Rogers College of Law, Board of Visitors

Arizona Bankruptcy American Inn of Court, Charter Member & VP, 2010 – 2012

BNA Bankruptcy Law Reporter, Member, Advisory Board

American Bankruptcy Institute, Member

ABA Alternative Dispute Resolution Section, Member

Law Clerk for Hon. Thomas Tang, Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, 1984 – 1985



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Recognition

Named "Lawyer of the Year" by *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law in Phoenix, AZ, 2016, 2018 and 2020; and in Litigation - Bankruptcy in Phoenix, AZ, 2022

Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*® in the field of Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law in Phoenix, AZ, since 2003

Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*® in the field of Litigation – Bankruptcy in Phoenix, AZ, since 2011

Selected to Southwest Super Lawyers, Bankruptcy, Alternative Dispute Resolution, Business/Corporate, Business Litigation, Real Estate, Creditor Debtor Rights, 2007 – 2021

Selected to Southwest Super Lawyers "Top 50 Arizona Lawyers", 2009 – 2019

Az Business Magazine, Top 100 Lawyers in Arizona, 2016 – 2020

Phoenix Magazine, Top 50 Lawyers in Arizona, 2015 – 2016

The Business Journal, Best of the Bar, 2003 – 2004

AV-Rated by Martindale Hubbell®

Certified in Business Bankruptcy by American Board of Certification

Career Highlights

Representation of owner of multi-state cattle ranch operation in loan workout of over \$20 million secured credit facility.

Representation of lessor of farmland in Chapter 11 case of lessee farming operation.

Representation of the State of Arizona in its takeover, wind-down, and transition to a new provider of the entity responsible for management of the mental health care system for Maricopa County.

Successful restructuring through Chapter 11 of a telecommunications related business in which the shareholders were previously deadlocked and the business's very survival had been jeopardized.

Successful negotiation and implementation for a lender client of multi-million dollar loan to a farming operation during the borrower's Chapter 11 case.

Representation of a creditors' committee in the Chapter 11 case of a primary school and nursery school holding company, resulting in the successful sale and spin-off of schools as going concerns, and the prosecution of actions against corporate insiders.

Representation of a bankruptcy trustee in the successful negotiation of a transition plan among multiple parties including the City of Phoenix, secured lenders, resident groups, and creditors regarding the closing and liquidation of a senior housing project.



ENGELMAN | BERGER, PC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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Publications

"Bankruptcy Law and Procedure, a Guide for the Paralegal," Co-Author

Community Service

Anti-Defamation League's "Al" Brooks Community Leadership Award Recipient, 2017

Equality Arizona – Human Rights Individual Award, 2011

Friends of the Phoenix Library

Anti-Defamation League

American Jewish Committee

Community AIDS Council

Arizona AIDS Project

Maricopa Community College Foundation, "Out & Up" LGBT Scholarship Fund

Lambda Legal