

Snell & Wilmer



Christopher H. Bayley

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Main Bio

Christopher Bayley's practice is focused exclusively upon bankruptcy (creditor/committee/trustee/debtor) and related state and federal court debtor/creditor rights litigation, such as lift stay, nondischargeability, preference, fraudulent conveyance, plan confirmation, receiverships, third-party guaranty and related appellate work.

Representative Transactions

- Lead attorney for Chapter 11 debtor in confirming Chapter 11 plan of reorganization (2011)
- Lead attorney for secured creditor in Chapter 11 case by owner operator of resort style golf course community in liquidation of real property asset (2010-2011)
- Lead attorney for Debtor-in-Possession Lender and successful Stalking Horse Purchaser of operations of Palm Harbor Homes Chapter 11 debtor (including insurance and finance companies) in \$85 million acquisition (2010-2011)
- Lead attorney for Canadian investor, note buyer, on Chapter 11 plan litigation involving \$40 million, 110-acre commercial industrial development project (2010-2011)
- Lead state court litigation counsel for national lender in \$190 million guaranty litigation involving largest independent and family-owned residential home builder in Arizona (2009-2010)
- Lead attorney for state court receivership and foreclosure for secured creditor against Superstition Mountain L.L.C. private golf club (2008-2009)
- Lead attorney as debtor's counsel in confirming Chapter 11 plan of reorganization, In re Marine Military Academy (based in Harlingen, TX) (2000-2004)
- Lead attorney as debtor's counsel in confirming Chapter 11 plan of reorganization, In re Fourthstage Technologies, Inc., restructuring, and selling over \$125 million in debt and equity (2002)
- Lead attorney, Post-Petition Debtor in Possession Lender and Majority Lender of \$100 million Bank Group for Ugly Duckling Corporation in \$170 million In re First Merchants Acceptance Corporation Chapter 11 case (1997-1998); as pre-confirmation servicer and post-confirmation servicer for \$300 million pool of sub-prime auto receivables in In re Reliance Acceptance Corp., Chapter 11 case (1998)
- Lead attorney, Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors in successful \$70 million Chapter 11 case involving multiple resort and golf course properties in southern California, In re Regency Properties L.P. and Golf Ventures (1991-1992)
- Lead attorney local bankruptcy counsel re multiple Chapter 11 restructure/liquidation of \$72 million

non-performing real estate/public bond financed freeway construction and adjacent real estate development involving approximately 45 separate bankruptcy cases for secured lender (1987-1990)

Education

- University of San Diego School of Law (J.D., 1986)
 - Member, San Diego Law Review
- University of Arizona (B.A., 1983)
 - Dean's List

Professional Memberships & Activities

- Arizona Bankruptcy American Inn of Court (2011-present)
 - Executive Committee (2012)
- American Bar Association
- State Bar of Arizona
 - Bankruptcy Section, Executive Counsel (1995-1996)
- Maricopa County Bar Association
- American Bankruptcy Institute

Representative Presentations & Publications

- "[Burned by Toys R Us, will suppliers ever trust a bankrupt retailer again?](#)" Quoted, Retail Dive (August 28, 2018)
- "[The Arizona Court of Appeals Expands Anti-Deficiency Protection for Borrowers](#)," Co-Author, SW Financial Services Litigation Bulletin (March 2012)

Professional Recognition & Awards

- The Best Lawyers in America®, Bankruptcy and Creditor-Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law, Bankruptcy Litigation (2010-2020)
- Southwest Super Lawyers®, Bankruptcy (2008-2009); Bankruptcy & Creditor/Debtor Rights (2013)
- America's Most Honored Professionals, American Registry (2011)
- Ranking Arizona: The Best of Arizona Attorneys, Bankruptcy (2010-2011)
- Super Lawyers®, Bankruptcy - Corporate Counsel Edition (2009-2010)
- Arizona's Top Lawyers, Arizona Business Magazine (2010)
- Arizona's Finest Lawyers

Bar Admissions

- Arizona

Court Admissions

- Supreme Court of Arizona
- United States District Court, District of Arizona
- United States District Court, Eastern District of Michigan
- United States Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit

- United States Supreme Court