



Stephen A. Donato

Member

sdonato@bsk.com
One Lincoln Center
110 West Fayette St
Syracuse, NY 13202-1355
(315) 218-8336
(315) 218-8436 fax

600 Third Avenue, 22nd Fl
New York, NY 10016-1915
(646) 253-2351
(646) 253-2301 fax

Profile

Honors & Affiliations

- Fellow, American College of Bankruptcy
- Listed in:
 - *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law; Litigation - Bankruptcy, 1993-2026 (listed for more than 30 years)
 - Lawyer of the Year (Syracuse), Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law, 2012, 2025
 - Lawyer of the Year (Syracuse), Litigation - Bankruptcy, 2013; 2019
 - *New York Super Lawyers*®, Bankruptcy: Business, 2007-2025 (listed for more than 15 years)
 - *Martindale-Hubbell*®, AV Preeminent Rated
- Upstate New York Turnaround Management Association, Founder and Director, Former Program Director and Former Membership Director
- New York State Bar Association
- Onondaga County Bar Association
- American Bankruptcy Institute
- Capital Region New York Bankruptcy Bar Association
- Commercial Law League of America
- Central New York Bankruptcy Bar Association, Founder and First President

Representative Publications

- Quoted in "Higher Ed Law Firm Takes on Bankruptcy Trustees in Tuition Battles," *The Wall Street Journal*, June 29, 2016

Representative Presentations

- Panelist, 21st Annual WNY Bankruptcy Conference, June 17, 2025
- Panelist, Building Futures: Learning and Networking with Turnaround Professionals, Turnaround Management Association Upstate New York Chapter and Syracuse University Whitman School of Management, November 12, 2024

Education

- Creighton University (J.D., *cum laude*, 1983)
- London School of Economics (*Summer 1982*)
- State University of New York at Plattsburgh (B.A., *cum laude*, 1980)

Bar/Court Admissions

- New York
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas

Practices

- Health Care
- Business Restructuring, Creditors' Rights and Bankruptcy

- Panelist, Contested Chapter 11 Confirmation Issues, 19th Annual WNY Bankruptcy Conference, June 9, 2023
- Panelist, Resolving Mass Tort Liability in Bankruptcy Post Purdue Pharma, TMA Upstate New York Chapter, October 13, 2022
- Distressed Institutions of Higher Education: An Exploration of Options, Employment Law Alliance, November 3, 2021
- The Great Contraction: Managing Financial Distress with Strategic Partnerships, Mergers, and Institutional and Program Closures, NACUA Annual Conference, June 24, 2021
- Time Bombs in Bankruptcy, New York State Bar Association, October 22, 2020
- Lecture regarding Distress Investing, Le Moyne College Madden School of Business at Fordham Law School, June 6, 2018; June 5, 2019
- Moderator, *Sound Investing vs. Speculation: Yesterday, Today, and the Future*, Upstate New York Turnaround Management Association, Manufacturer's Association of Central New York, CenterState CEO, Upstate Venture Connect, and the Madden School of Business event, April 18, 2018
- Panel Member, Four Part Webinar Series: *The Business of Higher Education: Sustainability*, January 22, 2018; *The Business of Higher Education: Strategic Planning and Leadership*, February 26, 2018; *The Business of Higher Education: Return on Investment*, March 26, 2018 and *The Business of Higher Education: Sustainability, Leadership, Assessment and Action*, April 30, 2018
- Panel Member, *Beyond Quick Fixes: Building a Sustainable Small College Business Model*, Eastern Association of College and University Business Officers, October 2017