



Stephen A. Donato

Member

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Profile

Stephen is chair of the firm's business restructuring, creditors' rights and bankruptcy practice. He has more than 25 years' experience representing financial institutions, secured and unsecured creditors, commercial debtors, creditors' committees, debtor-in-possession financing lenders, municipalities, bond holders, indenture trustees, examiners, purchasers of distressed businesses, landlords and equity holders.

Stephen is a former Judicial Law Clerk for the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of New York, Hon. Leon J. Marketos and the Hon. Stephen D. Gerling.

Honors & Affiliations

- Listed in:
 - *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2019, Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law; Litigation - Bankruptcy (listed for 25 years)
 - *Best Lawyers' 2019 Syracuse Litigation - Bankruptcy Lawyer of the Year*
 - *Best Lawyers' 2013 Syracuse Litigation - Bankruptcy Lawyer of the Year*
 - *Best Lawyers' 2012 Syracuse Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law Lawyer of the Year*
 - *Martindale-Hubbell*®, AV Preeminent Rated
 - *New York Super Lawyers 2018*®, Bankruptcy: Business (listed for more than 10 years)
- 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

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 Courts in New York

Practices

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

Representative Publications

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

Representative Presentations

- 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*, April 18, 2018
- Panel Member, Webinar Series: *The Business of Higher Education: Sustainability, Leadership, Assessment and Action*, April 30, 2018
- Panel Member, Webinar Series: *The Business of Higher Education: Return on Investment*, March 26, 2018
- Panel Member, Webinar Series: *The Business of Higher Education: Strategic Planning and Leadership*, February 26, 2018
- Panel Member, Webinar Series: *The Business of Higher Education: Sustainability*, January 22, 2018
- Panel Member, *Beyond Quick Fixes: Building a Sustainable Small College Business Model*, Eastern Association of College and University Business Officers, October 2017