

BRIAN G. RICH

Partner

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Brian Rich leads complex Chapter 11 negotiations and out-of-court reorganizations. He has overseen numerous mid-market to large cases with claims over a billion dollars. Brian represents bankruptcy trustees and fiduciaries in fraud-related cases where he advocates for victims of Ponzi schemes and financial frauds. He also advises secured creditors and real estate developers in real estate workouts and restructurings and represents clients seeking to purchase assets from troubled entities and loan portfolios.

The four tenets of Brian's work ethic are: loyalty, success, accessibility, and hard work. Having practiced through multiple cycles of economic up-turns and down-turns, including the Great Recession and the global pandemic, Brian's hard work and dedication to client service has resulted in him becoming a trusted advisor to numerous clients that he and the firm have represented for many years.

While emotions and passions often run high in bankruptcy and restructuring matters, Brian believes it is essential for clients to feel comfortable and willing to confide honestly so that the best result can be achieved, despite challenges that may exist. These practices have proven successful as a substantial portion of Brian's clients come from repeat business and referrals. While being a reliable, assertive lawyer is a given part of the profession, what matters most to Brian is gaining a client's trust.

Having worked across the country, Brian now primarily shares his expertise with Florida clients, being resident in the Florida Panhandle but serving clients throughout the State. His experience and compassion meld together to help ensure that no struggling business or individual who approaches him will ever go unheard.

Education

J.D., University of Miami School of Law
B.S. in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance, Temple University

Bar Admissions

Florida
U.S. District Court, Northern, Middle and Southern Districts of Florida

Practice Teams

Practice Areas

Administrative Hearings & Appeals
Bankruptcy Litigation
Bankruptcy/Restructuring
Healthcare
Hospitality & Leisure
Real Estate

Representative Matters

- Debtor Counsel to National Automobile Lenders, Inc.
- Debtor Counsel to Campbellton-Graceville Hospital Corporation
- Debtor Counsel to Bermo Enterprises
- Debtor Counsel to AT&T Latin America
- Debtor Counsel to Aloha Airlines in their two Chapter 11 cases (filed in Honolulu HI)
- Debtor Counsel to Pharmed Group Holdings and its subsidiaries
- Debtor Counsel to CDS Manufacturing, Inc.
- Debtor Counsel to American Home Builders
- Counsel to Home Bancshares Inc in its acquisition of Premier Bank Holding Company
- Counsel to Real Estate Developers in distress situations throughout the State
- Counsel to Bankruptcy Trustees
- Lender counsel in Renata Resort's Chapter 11 bankruptcy case
- Counsel to Bankruptcy Trustee in the Loraine Brooke, Inc. case in which the rights to the book "If I Did It" related to the O.J. Simpson murder trial were sold

Awards & Honors

- *Chambers & Partners USA, America's Leading Business Lawyers*, Bankruptcy Restructuring, 2007-2023
- *The Best Lawyers in America®*, 2014-2024
 - *Best Lawyers*, Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Lawyer of the Year (Tallahassee), 2020
- *Lawdragon 500*, named among the nation's 500 Leading Lawyers in Bankruptcy and Restructuring, 2023
- *Florida Super Lawyers*, 2008-2023
- *Florida Trend*, Legal Elite, 2005-2013, 2015-2016
- Chapter 11 Reorganization of the Year (Middle Market) for HearUSA, *M&A Advisor's* 6th Annual Turnarounds Awards, 2012
- America's Leading Business Lawyers in 2007
- Martindale-Hubbell, AV® Preeminent™ rated

Community Activities / Associations

- Board Member for Hang Tough Foundation (2022-2024)

- Member, Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Advisors
- Steering Committee for AIRA Newport 39th Annual Conference - Panel: Real Estate Workouts
- Tallahassee Bar Association Pro-Bono Program
- President of the Northern District of Florida Bankruptcy Bar Association (2012-2013)
- American Bankruptcy Institute
- Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida
- Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Northern District of Florida

In the News

Berger Singerman Attorneys Listed in the 2023 Edition of Lawdragon's 500 Leading U.S. Bankruptcy and Restructuring Lawyers

June 20, 2023

Berger Singerman Recognized by Chambers USA for Twentieth Consecutive Year

June 1, 2023

Forty-Three Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 2023 Edition of Best Lawyers In America

August 18, 2022

Twenty-three Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in 2022 Edition of Florida Super Lawyers

June 27, 2022

Thirty-nine Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 2022 Edition of Best Lawyers In America

August 19, 2021

Nineteen Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in 2021 Edition of Florida Super Lawyers

June 24, 2021

Berger Singerman's Bankruptcy Litigation Practice Recognized As 2021 "Litigation Departments of the Year" By Daily Business Review

March 29, 2021

Thirty-Five Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 2021 Edition of Best Lawyers In America

August 19, 2020

Twenty-Seven Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in 2020 Edition of Florida Super Lawyers

June 8, 2020

Thirty Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 2020 Edition of Best Lawyers In America

August 14, 2019

Twenty-Eight Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in 2019 Edition of Florida Super Lawyers

May 29, 2019

Berger Singerman Recognized by Chambers USA for Sixteenth Consecutive Year

April 24, 2019

Thirty Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 2019 Edition of Best Lawyers In America

August 14, 2018

Washington County News quotes Brian Rich in, "CGH Trustee: 'Our neighbor stepped up and helped us'"

July 31, 2018

Tallahassee Democrat: Briefcase: July 8

July 8, 2018

Thirty-One Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in 2018 Edition of Florida Super Lawyers

June 17, 2018

The Tallahassee Democrat recognized Brian Rich and Daniel Thompson on their 2018 Chambers USA achievement

June 3, 2018

Berger Singerman Recognized by Chambers USA for 15th Consecutive Year

May 2, 2018

Thirty Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 2018 Edition of Best Lawyers In America

August 14, 2017

Thirty-Two Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 2017 Super Lawyers Florida Edition

June 8, 2017

Berger Singerman Receives High Marks by Chambers USA for Fourteenth Consecutive Year

May 29, 2017

Twenty-Eight Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 2017 Edition of Best Lawyers In America

August 14, 2016

Twelve Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 2016 Edition of Florida Trend

June 21, 2016

Thirty-Six Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 2016 Super Lawyers Florida Edition

June 13, 2016

Berger Singerman Receives High Marks by Chambers USA for Thirteenth Consecutive Year

June 1, 2016

Publications

Daily Business Review, "Distressed Hospital Trend Continues and the Potential Impact on South Fla. Grows"

August 20, 2018

South Florida Legal Guide, "What to Watch Out For – Diagnosing a Distressed Hospital"

January 7, 2018

Becker's Hospital Review, "What to watch out for – Diagnosing a distressed hospital"

June 28, 2017

Events & Speaking Engagements

Brian Rich, Panelist, "Update on Third-Party Releases, Injunctions and Bar Orders" Alexander L. Paskay

Memorial Bankruptcy Seminar

February 21, 2023

Brian Rich, Speaker, "Business Bankruptcy Panel," ABA Spring Meeting

April 11, 2018

Brian Rich, Speaker, "Bankruptcy Code Puzzlers, Anomalies, Riddles and Rhymes," ABA Spring Meeting

February 25, 2018

Doing Business in Florida Blog

Collaboration is Key to Successful Opportunity Zone Development in Florida

March 18, 2019

Financial Institution Bankruptcy Act of 2017 – Big Changes for Big Banks

April 16, 2017

"Money for Nothing, but the Checks for Free" – Free Money for Fiduciaries
September 18, 2016

Approval of Bankruptcy Settlements – No Evidentiary Hearing Required
February 15, 2016