



## BRIAN G. RICH

### Partner

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Tallahassee, FL 32301

Brian Rich's practice includes representation of debtors, creditors' committees, bankruptcy Trustees and secured creditors. Brian is consistently one of the firm's primary bankruptcy counsel in numerous complex Chapter 11 cases and out of court reorganizations, including matters involving healthcare companies such as hospitals.

Brian has prosecuted and defended numerous of adversary proceedings seeking the recovery of avoidable transfers in Bankruptcy Courts throughout the country. Additionally, he has represented numerous real estate developers in real estate "workouts" and restructurings. Brian has also represented bankruptcy trustees in numerous fraud related cases seeking recovery for victims of "Ponzi schemes" and real estate fraud.

During the course of the most recent severe economic crisis, Brian devoted a substantial part of his practice to representing developers and borrowers in out-of-court restructuring matters. These representations have included the negotiation of restructured loans, deeds-in-lieu of foreclosure and settlement of guaranty claims. Additionally, Brian represents clients seeking to purchase assets from troubled entities and loan portfolios.

He has overseen the wind-down process of several large cases wherein the claims reconciliation process involved claims ranging from \$100 million to over \$1.5 billion. He services clients throughout the State of Florida and nationally, with a present focus on the Florida panhandle.

### Education

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J.D., University of Miami School of Law

B.S. in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance, Temple University

## Bar Admissions

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Florida

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

## Practice Teams

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Business Reorganization

## Practice Areas

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Administrative Hearings & Appeals

Bankruptcy-Related Litigation

Bankruptcy/Restructuring

Healthcare

Hospitality & Leisure

Real Estate

## Representative Matters

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- 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

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- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, 2014-2020
  - *Best Lawyers*, Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Lawyer of the Year (Tallahassee), 2020
- Chapter 11 Reorganization of the Year (Middle Market) for HearUSA, *M&A Advisor's* 6th Annual Turnarounds Awards, 2012

- *Chambers & Partners USA, America's Leading Business Lawyers*, Bankruptcy Restructuring, 2007-2019
- *Florida Trend, Legal Elite*, 2005-2013, 2015-2016
- *Florida Super Lawyers*, 2008-2019
- America's Leading Business Lawyers in 2007
- Martindale-Hubbell, AV® Preeminent™ rated

## **Community Activities / Associations**

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- Tallahassee Bar Association Pro-Bono Program (2006-Present)
- CARE (Credit Abuse Resistance Education) Program (2007-2011)
- President of the Northern District of Florida Bankruptcy Bar Association (2012-2013)
- American Bankruptcy Institute
- Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida

## **Publications**

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Daily Business Review, "Distressed Hospital Trend Continues and the Potential Impact on South Fla. Grows"  
August 21, 2018

South Florida Legal Guide, "What to Watch Out For – Diagnosing a Distressed Hospital"  
January 8, 2018

Becker's Hospital Review, "What to watch out for – Diagnosing a distressed hospital"  
June 29, 2017

## **Events & Speaking Engagements**

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Brian Rich, Speaker, "Business Bankruptcy Panel," ABA Spring Meeting  
April 12, 2018

Brian Rich, Speaker, "Bankruptcy Code Puzzlers, Anomalies, Riddles and Rhymes," ABA Spring Meeting  
February 26, 2018

## **In the News**

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Thirty Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 2020 Edition of Best Lawyers In America  
August 15, 2019

Twenty-Eight Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in 2019 Edition of Florida Super Lawyers  
May 30, 2019

Berger Singerman Recognized by Chambers USA for Sixteenth Consecutive Year  
April 25, 2019

Thirty Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 2019 Edition of Best Lawyers In America  
August 15, 2018

Washington County News quotes Brian Rich in, "CGH Trustee: 'Our neighbor stepped up and helped us'"  
August 1, 2018

Tallahassee Democrat: Briefcase: July 8  
July 9, 2018

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

June 18, 2018

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

June 4, 2018

Berger Singerman Recognized by Chambers USA for 15th Consecutive Year

May 3, 2018

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

August 15, 2017

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

June 9, 2017

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

May 30, 2017

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

August 15, 2016

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

June 22, 2016

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

June 14, 2016

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

June 2, 2016

## **Doing Business in Florida Blog**

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Collaboration is Key to Successful Opportunity Zone Development in Florida

March 19, 2019

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

April 17, 2017

"Money for Nothing, but the Checks for Free" – Free Money for Fiduciaries

September 19, 2016

Approval of Bankruptcy Settlements – No Evidentiary Hearing Required

February 16, 2016