

# Lowenstein Sandler



**Sharon L. Levine**

Partner

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## Vice Chair, Bankruptcy, Financial Reorganization & Creditors' Rights Department

### Sharon blogs for the Wall Street Journal's Bankruptcy Beat

Sharon L. Levine has been at the forefront of some of the largest and most complex bankruptcy cases in recent years, and she has earned a national reputation among clients and peers as a tenacious and accomplished bankruptcy lawyer. She is highly regarded for her litigation and negotiation skills in the practice of restructuring, debtor-creditor law and bankruptcy litigation; her representations include purchasers, debtors and creditors (committees and individuals). Sharon has a well-established reputation as a formidable force in bankruptcy courts across the country, where she has tried contested and litigated matters in venues including federal bankruptcy courts in New York, Delaware, California, Texas and New Jersey, among many others.

Clients rely on Sharon's adept strategic ability to provide bankruptcy advice on "out of court" corporate reorganizations, corporate and structured finance matters, and acquiring assets out of bankruptcy, as well as in circumstances when one of the parties may be insolvent.

Sharon is a frequent lecturer on various bankruptcy topics and serves as Co-Chair of the Trade Credit Committee of the American Bankruptcy Institute (ABI), and as a member of the Board of Trustees and the Women's Committee of the Turnaround Management Association. She also serves as Co-Chair of the Labor and Benefits Issues Advisory Committee to the ABI's Commission to Study the Reform (amend or modify) of the Bankruptcy Code treatment of Pension and Retiree Medical Benefits. She is active in serving her community and is on the Board of Trustees for the State Theatre Regional Art Center in New Jersey and on the Advisory Board of Women's Campaign International.

## REPRESENTATIVE ENGAGEMENTS

- Represents the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) in Detroit's Chapter 9 bankruptcy.
- Represented the official unsecured creditors' committees in cases such as Universal Cooperatives Inc., Gridway Energy Holdings Inc., Exide Technologies, KidsPeace, Oreck, Ormet, Handy Hardware, Southern Air, Global Aviation, Blitz U.S.A., Inc., Chef Solutions, Hussey Copper, Manistique Papers, Inc., Harry & David Holdings, Inc., American Safety Razor, Pinnacle Films, Inc., Consolidated Horticulture Group, Lear Corporation, Hayes Lemmerz, ION Media, Leiner Health Products, Inc., Star Tribune, Pliant Corporation, Foamex International, Papas Telecom, Stant Parent Corporation and Marcal Paper.
- Served as lead counsel for the ad hoc committee of bondholders under Global A&T Electronics (GATE) 10% Senior Secured Notes due 2019.

## RELATED AREAS

Bankruptcy, Financial Reorganization & Creditors' Rights

## EDUCATION

Case Western Reserve University School of Law ( J.D. , 1983 ) , *Associate Editor, Case Western Reserve University Law Review*

Franklin & Marshall College ( B.A. , 1980 )

## BAR ADMISSIONS

New Jersey

## COURT ADMISSIONS

2014 , U.S. Supreme Court

1983 , U.S. District Court, District of New Jersey

1988 , U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit

## AFFILIATIONS

- Litigation Counsel of America, Fellow
- Turnaround Management Association of (NJTMA)
  - Board of Trustees
  - Women's Committee
- American Bankruptcy Institute (ABI)
  - Past Co-Chair, Trade Committee
- American Bankruptcy Institute's Commission to Study the Reform of Chapter 11

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Partner

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- Represented individual committee members in MF Global, Lyondell, AMR, American Airlines, American Eagle, Hawker Beechcraft, Hostess, Estes, and Bigler LP.
  - Served as bankruptcy trial counsel to the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM) and represented the IAM in the Chapter 11 cases of Northwest Airlines, Hawker Beechcraft, Hostess, United, US Airways (I and II), Hawaiian Airways, Aloha Airlines (I and II), TWA, AeroThrust Corporation, Motor Coach Industries International, Inc., and the creditors' committee and creditor trust in the Fedders bankruptcy proceedings.
  - Represented the debtors in ConnectEdu Inc., Consolidated Aluminum Corporation, Coach America, American Coach Lines, Royal Tours of America, Inc., Gilbert Express, Jobson Medical Information, Meridian Behavioral Health, LLC, IFL Corp., International Fight League, Summit Global Logistics, Inc., and Creative Group, Inc.
  - Served as bankruptcy trial counsel to the Transport Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO in the Chapter 11 cases filed by AMR, American Airlines and American Eagle.
  - Served as special bankruptcy counsel to the IAM National Pension Fund in the Hostess case and to the American Federation of Musicians and Employers Pension Fund in the Philadelphia and certain other orchestra cases.
- Co-Chair Labor and Benefits Issues Advisory Committee
  - State Theatre Regional Art Center at New Brunswick
    - Board of Trustees
  - Women's Campaign International
    - Advisory Board
  - New Jersey State Bar Association
    - Debtor/Creditor Section
  - American Bar Association
    - Business Law Section
  - Essex County Bar Association
    - Debtor/Creditor Section
  - Federal Bar Association
    - New Jersey Chapter

## OTHER DISTINCTIONS

- **Litigation Counsel of America (2014)** – Selected as a Fellow.
- **Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business (2008–2014)** – Sharon has been lauded as “an excellent litigator...Clients are quick to praise her, noting that ‘she is just extremely smart and gets to the heart of the matter promptly; she is top-notch.’”
- **The Best Lawyers in America (2012–2015)**
- **Super Lawyers (2005–2014)** – Sharon has been consistently acknowledged by her peers for her work in bankruptcy and creditor/debtor rights.

## PUBLICATIONS

- Involuntary Bankruptcy: The Retail Vendor's Payment Tool To Maximize Trade Vendor Recoveries  
*Bankruptcy, Financial Reorganization & Creditors' Rights Client Alert*, November 6, 2014  
Sharon Levine, Nicole Brown
- Successor Liability in § 363 Sales  
*Labor and Employment, American Bankruptcy Institute Committee Newsletter*, August 2014  
Sharon Levine, Cassandra Porter
- Chapter 9 May Be Tough to Swallow for Unions, Retirees  
*Journal of Corporate Renewal*, June 2014  
Sharon Levine, Philip Gross