

Counsel, New York

Corporate Restructuring



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Education

J.D., University of Arizona College of Law, 2008

A.B., Princeton University, 2002

Bar Admissions

New York

U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York

George Howard represents companies, banks, secured lenders, distressed debt investors, asset purchasers and other significant constituencies in stressed and distressed situations, with an emphasis on out-of-court restructurings, Chapter 11 reorganizations, secured financing transactions, distressed M&A and cross-border insolvency proceedings.

Mr. Howard was selected as an emerging leader by the American Bankruptcy Institute's 40 Under 40 initiative in 2019 and was named as an Outstanding Young Restructuring Lawyer by *Turnarounds & Workouts* in 2019. In addition, he advised on the restructuring of Moly-corp, which was recognized as 2017 Transaction of the Year: International by the Turnaround Management Association.

Mr. Howard routinely advises clients on structuring and consummating Chapter 11 restructurings, secured financings, and distressed sales and acquisitions, as well as ring-fencing transactions, spin-offs and other major corporate transactions. He also has experience counseling clients on corporate formalities, fiduciary duties, fraudulent conveyance, illegal dividend, mass tort, environmental, pension and other legacy liability issues.

Mr. Howard has represented:

- Bank of America, as administrative agent, in the high-profile and complex restructurings of Sears, Toys "R" Us and Algeco Scotsman Group;
- Quantum Pacific (Gibraltar) Limited as the majority shareholder in the successful restructuring of Pacific Drilling S.A. pursuant to a consensual Chapter 11 plan that raised over \$1.5 billion of new debt and equity financing; and
- a large, cross-border health care company in assessing and implementing out-of-court liability management and strategic alternatives.

Prior to joining Skadden, Mr. Howard represented the following corporate debtors in their Chapter 11 cases: Peabody Energy (the world's largest private coal company); Alpha Natural Resources (one of the largest producers of coal by volume in the U.S.); MolyCorp (one of the world's largest rare earth producers and processors); NII Holdings (an international mobile communication services company); Fresh & Easy Neighborhood Markets (a chain of grocery stores in the western U.S.); Hostess Brands (producer of Hostess, Dolly Madison, Wonder and other branded bakery products); Franciscan Communities St. Mary of the Woods (a continuing care retirement community); Harry & David (a premium food and gift producer and retailer); and Metaldyne Corporation (a tier-1 provider of metal-based products for the automotive industry).

Mr. Howard is a member of the American Bankruptcy Institute and the Turnaround Management Association, and previously served on the TMA New York NextGen Committee.

Publications

"A Look at 2019 Court Decisions That May Shape Restructuring Issues in the Year Ahead," *Skadden's 2020 Insights*, January 21, 2020

"Rights Offerings Prove Popular With Both Debtors, Distressed Investors," *Journal of Corporate Renewal*, January/February 2018

"Sixth Circuit Rejects Per Se Rule Automatically Mooting Sale Appeals in the Absence of a Stay," *Pratt's Journal of Bankruptcy Law*, July/August 2017