

Partner, Chicago

Corporate Restructuring



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## Education

J.D., University of Illinois College of Law, 2001 (*magna cum laude*)

B.A., Vanderbilt University, 1997 (*cum laude*)

## Bar Admissions

Illinois

## Experience

Clerkship, Hon. Robert D. Martin, Chief Judge, U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Wisconsin (2001-02)

## Recent Presentations

"Distressed Health Care Restructurings: Key Issues and Considerations (Update)"  
Lawline webinar, October 2023

"Considerations for Borrowers in the Current Economic Environment,"  
Skadden webinar, April 2023

"D&O Indemnification and Insurance: An Overview and Practical Considerations,"  
Skadden webinar, May 2022

"Distressed Healthcare Restructurings: Key Issues and Considerations,"  
Lawline webinar, June 2021

Jim Mazza advises corporate debtors, boards of directors, and private credit and equity investors on complex restructurings and special situations. With more than two decades of experience across many industries, including aviation, automotive, energy, health care, gaming and retail, Mr. Mazza focuses on developing value-maximizing strategies for distressed businesses and capital structures. He represents clients in both in-court and out-of-court restructurings, with deep experience in liability management transactions, DIP and exit financings, and cross-border reorganizations. His practice is uniquely balanced — advising private funds on capital deployment opportunities while guiding companies through strategic restructurings.

## Representative Matters

- **Castlelake** in various cross-border airline financing and investment transactions, including:
  - **Scandinavian Airlines** in a \$1.2 billion Chapter 11/Swedish restructuring investment in Scandinavia's flagship airline (DIP lender and lead member of exit financing consortium)
  - **GOL Linhas Aéreas Inteligentes** in a \$1.25 billion secured exit financing backstop to Brazilian low-cost airline (anchor investor)
  - **Avianca Airlines** in a \$550 million DIP-to-exit facility to Colombia's flagship airline (consortium member; awarded 2022 Corporate Restructuring Deal of the Year by *LatinFinance*)
  - **Abra Group** in a \$740 million out-of-court refinancing of senior secured notes by the parent of GOL and Avianca (anchor investor)
- **Bank of America** as agent in a \$125 million DIP financing for Instant Brands' Chapter 11
- A minority DIP lender and equity investor in Chapter 11 cases of one of Mexico's largest airlines, **Grupo Aeroméxico**
- **TridentUSA Health Services**, a mobile diagnostics company, in a \$600 million deleveraging via Chapter 11 and liability management transactions (awarded 2020 Turnaround and Transaction of the Year by the Turnaround Management Association and Health Care/Life Sciences Deal of the Year (\$500mm+) by *M&A Advisor*)
- **SunEdison**, a renewable energy developer, in the Chapter 11 restructuring of approximately \$8.7 billion in funded debt
- A Las Vegas casino owner in an out-of-court restructuring of approximately \$800 million in senior and mezzanine debt
- **Consulate Health Group**, a nursing home operator, in resolving a \$250 million False Claims Act liability via a strategic Chapter 11 of certain subsidiaries
- **Armstrong Flooring, Inc.**, a flooring manufacturer, in the auction and sale of substantially all domestic and international assets through Section 363 sales
- Mexico's largest non-bank lender in a multibillion-dollar cross-border restructuring
- An ad hoc lender group in the cross-border restructuring of **Crédito Real**

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- **R.R. Donnelley** in negotiating a global settlement and plan releases in the Chapter 11 of former subsidiary LSC Communications
  - **Exide Technologies**, a battery manufacturer, in a more than \$600 million Chapter 11 deleveraging
  - Multiple suppliers in out-of-court workouts and multibillion-dollar Chapter 11 cases as committee members
  - Prior to joining Skadden, company-side restructurings of **Visteon** (automotive), **Calpine** (energy), **A&P** (grocery) and **United Airlines** (airline)

## Recognition

Clients describe Mr. Mazza to *Chambers USA* as:

- “Extremely knowledgeable and able to distill complex alternatives”
- A lawyer who “puts the client first, anticipates opposing counsel’s positions, and drives case strategy”
- “A wonderful lawyer and a solid partner to our business”

Mr. Mazza has been consistently recognized by *Chambers USA*, *Lawdragon 500*, *IFLR1000* and *Turnarounds & Workouts*.

## Selected Publications

“Health Care Accounts Receivable Financing,” *Bloomberg Law*, February 2024

“An Introduction to the Unique Issues in Bank Holding Company Bankruptcies,” *Harvard Law School Bankruptcy Roundtable*, June 27, 2023, and *Skadden Insights*, April 2023

“SVB Collapse Highlights Ch. 11 Issues With Bank Holding Cos.,” *Law360*, April 10, 2023

“A Playbook for Borrowers Facing Economic and Debt Market Pressures,” *Skadden’s 2023 Insights*, December 13, 2022