

Michael L. Schuster

COUNSEL

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Mike Schuster has 18 years of experience focused exclusively on complex commercial bankruptcy, insolvency, restructuring, distressed real estate, loan enforcement and related litigation in State and Federal Courts nationwide. He primarily represents secured lenders, special servicers, accredited investors, bondholders and mid-to-large market commercial borrowers.

Mike brings deep industry experience in construction lending, commercial mortgage-backed securities, distressed multi-family housing, commodity risk management and capital solutions, special situation investing, distressed health care and insurance recovery and defense. Mike has also pioneered emerging and innovative strategies for restructuring and winddown in the cannabis industry, having recently completed the largest restructuring transaction for a Cannabis enterprise in Colorado and New Mexico. Mike recently received the 2026 Turnaround Atlas Awards for Corporate Restructuring of the Year (Middle Market) and Healthcare Restructuring of the Year.

Mike is licensed in Colorado and Florida and routinely practices in both jurisdictions. Previously, Mike practiced with a prestigious firm in Miami, Florida and an AMLAW 100 firm in Denver, Colorado. Mike has also served as law clerk to the Honorable Michael E. Romero, Chief Judge of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Colorado and the Tenth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel.

Education

- University of Florida Levin College of Law (J.D., 2008)
- University of Florida (B.S., 2005)
 - Psychology

Bar Admissions

- Colorado, 2018
- Florida, 2008

Court Admissions

Capabilities

- Bankruptcy & Restructuring

- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida
- U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Florida
- U.S. District Court, District of Colorado

Memberships

- Director - Colorado Faculty of Federal Advocates
- President and Founder - Colorado Bankruptcy Discharge and Dischargeability Pro Bono Foundation Inc.
- Advisory Committee - ABI Rocky Mountain Bankruptcy Conference, 2023-present
- Advisory Committee - ABI Southeast Bankruptcy Workshop, 2015-2017
- Member – Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida

Recognition

- Selected for inclusion in *Best Lawyers in America*[®] for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law, 2025-2026 (Miami)
- Named one of *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch*[®] in America in Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law, 2025-2026 (Denver)
- Super Lawyers Rising Stars, 2013-2016 (Florida)
- Super Lawyers Rising Stars, 2019-2022 (Colorado)
- Florida Legal Elite Rising Stars 2015-2016
- 2026 Turnaround Atlas Awards – Corporate Restructuring of the Year, Middle Market (Medicine Man Technologies (Schwazze))
- 2026 Turnaround Atlas Awards – Healthcare Restructuring of the Year (Concordance Healthcare Solutions)
- 2016 South Florida Daily Business Review Top Dealmaker of the Year (Plantation Fashion Mall)
- 2011 South Florida Daily Business Review Top Dealmaker of the Year (Arch Aluminum and Glass)

Publications

April 2023

Third Party Releases under the Bankruptcy Code

The Review of Banking & Financial Services

April 2023

Bankruptcy Practice and Procedure: Avoiding Basic Pitfalls for the Federal Lawyer

Faculty of Federal Advocates Newsletter

February 2023

Bank Account Garnishments: Has the CFPB Changed Regulatory Expectations?

Ballard Spahr Webinar

January 2023

Third Party Releases

American Bankruptcy Institute Rocky Mountain Bankruptcy Conference

October 2022

Opinion Suggests Competition is King and a Debtor's Customers May Be Targeted Without Violating the Automatic Stay

Ballard Spahr Legal Alert