



# 2024 Bankruptcy Academy Presenters



**CAROLINE DJANG** is a Shareholder at Buchalter, A Professional Corporation in its Orange County, California office. Caroline practices in the areas of insolvency, bankruptcy, and litigation. She has vast experience representing creditors, trustees, debtors, and committees in bankruptcy cases and adversary proceedings. She is a Chapter 11 Small Business Trustee and a certified mediator. Caroline is the President of the Orange County Women Lawyers Association, and is on the Board of Directors of the Orange County Bar Association.

Caroline's has been recognized by numerous publications and top attorney lists, including The Best Lawyers in America, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Orange County Business Journal*, Lawyers of Color's Hot List and SuperLawyers, where she ranked in the Top 100 attorneys in Southern California, Top 50 Women attorneys and Top 50 Orange County attorneys.



**KRYSTAL M. AHART** is a partner at Kahn & Ahart, PLLC, dba Bankruptcy Legal Center™, in Arizona. She focuses her practice on representing individual and commercial clients through Chapter 7, 11, and 13 bankruptcies. Krystal obtained her J.D. from Phoenix School of Law in 2012; she started working with James F. Kahn in 2002, moving her way up from file clerk/receptionist, to secretary, to paralegal, and eventually to lawyer. Krystal recently became certified as a Bankruptcy Specialist by the State Bar of Arizona. She is honored to be a member of the 2020 Class of American Bankruptcy Institute's 40 Under 40 Program and to be on Super Lawyers' 2021 Southwest Rising Stars® list, an honor reserved for only 2.5 percent of attorneys in the region. Krystal is an active member of the legal community and devotes a substantial amount of time to serving the underserved. She has served as Co-Executive Director of Arizona Consumer Bankruptcy Counsel ("ACBC") for nearly four years, and recently resigned as Chair of the Advisory Committee for the Volunteer Lawyers Program, after four years of service in that role. In her free time, Krystal enjoys snowboarding, hiking, kayaking, and camping.



## 2024 Bankruptcy Academy Presenters



**ROBERT J. FARIS** is the U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Hawaii. He received a B.A. from Reed College in 1980 and his J.D. from the Boalt Hall School of Law, University of California, Berkeley, in 1983. From 1983 until 2002, he practiced with a Honolulu law firm. His practice emphasized business restructurings, insolvency, and commercial litigation. He became a bankruptcy judge in February 2002 and was appointed to the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel of the Ninth Circuit in August 2015. He is a member of the American Bankruptcy Institute, the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, and the American College of Bankruptcy.



**DANIEL P. COLLINS** was appointed to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, District of Arizona effective as of January 18, 2013. Judge Collins was the 2023 President of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, is a Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy, is on the 9th Circuit's Trial Improvement Committee, is on the JCUS's Bankruptcy Judges Advisory Group, and was on the national Board of the American Bankruptcy Institute.



# 2024 Bankruptcy Academy Presenters



**CHUCK CHOI** is a partner at Choi & Ito, in Honolulu, Hawaii. Chuck's practice focuses on representing businesses and individuals in creditor workouts, bankruptcy, and commercial disputes. Mr. Choi has represented debtors in chapter 11, 13, and 7 cases, and successfully confirmed the debtor's plan of reorganization in *In re Pomare, Ltd.* (dba Hilo Hattie), and *In re Azabu, Inc.*, a Japanese corporation and then owner of the Hyatt Regency Waikiki Resort & Spa.

Mr. Choi also served as creditor committee counsel in prominent chapter 11 reorganizations such as *In re M Waikiki LLC*, *CHA Hawaii LLC et al.* (Hawaii Medical Center II), *In re E.R.T. Sales of Hawaii dba Price Buster*, *CHA Hawaii LLC, et al.* (Hawaii Medical Center), *Hawaiian Airlines, Inc. II*, *Crazy Shirts, Inc.*, *Liberty House, Inc.* From 1988 to 1995, Mr. Choi practiced in the corporate reorganization groups of national law firms in their Los Angeles offices.



**CURTIS CHING** is the Assistant U.S. Trustee for the District of Hawaii. He received a B.A. from Stanford University in 1982 and his J.D. from Boston College Law School in 1985. He has been with the U.S. Trustee Program for 35 years, first as a Trial Attorney and then as the Assistant U.S. Trustee.