



## **RICHARD W. ENGEL, JR.**

### **MANAGING PARTNER**

St. Louis, MO

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Rick Engel is managing partner of Armstrong Teasdale and chairs the firm's Executive Committee. He has spent more than 30 years of his career at the firm and has long been active in management. Rick has served as leader of the Financial and Real Estate Services practice group as well as the Restructuring, Insolvency and Bankruptcy practice; was a member of the firm's Compensation Committee; and most recently served as the firm's General Counsel.

In his legal practice, Rick has represented the interests of local, regional, national and international corporations and financial institutions in all aspects of corporate and financial counseling. He has served as outside corporate counsel to law firms and partners within law firms, and has often been called upon to provide counsel regarding governance issues and fiduciary duties. His integrated skill set combines advantageously a number of complementary disciplines.

### **FINANCIAL STRUCTURING, RESTRUCTURING AND BANKRUPTCY**

Rick represents the interests of corporate lenders and borrowers, trade creditors, boards, and committees in all aspects of debtor/creditor relations. Representations include negotiating and documenting capital and debt structures, loan workouts and asset acquisitions and divestitures. In addition, he has represented both corporate debtors and creditors in all aspects of bankruptcy proceedings, including lead counsel representation of debtors in possession, lenders and creditors' committees. Rick has represented debtors, significant creditors, committees and indenture trustees in some of the largest bankruptcy proceedings and corporate restructurings in the country.

### **CORPORATE AND MERGER AND ACQUISITION COUNSELING**

Rick represents the interests of several corporations on virtually all aspects of their corporate existence, in many cases serving as outside corporate counsel or counsel to the general counsel. He represented the interests of companies both acquiring and selling hundreds of millions of dollars of assets and businesses throughout the country, both inside and outside bankruptcy proceedings.

### **FRANCHISEE REPRESENTATION**

Rick serves as the outside corporate counsel to one of the largest Great Clips franchisees in the U.S. In that role he reviews and handles all aspects of representation of the company, including franchise agreement issues, employment, landlord tenant and other contractual and legal issues.

### **SERVICES AND INDUSTRIES**

Restructuring, Insolvency and Bankruptcy

Debt Finance

Financial Services and Banking

Manufacturing and Innovation

Technology

Outside Corporate Counsel

### **ADMISSIONS**

Missouri

Illinois

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Missouri

U.S. District Court, Western District of Missouri

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

U.S. District Court, Central District of Illinois

U.S. District Court, Southern District of Illinois

U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit

U.S. Supreme Court

## EDUCATION

- University of Missouri School of Law (J.D.)
- Saint Louis University (B.S.B.A.)

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- The Missouri Bar (Former Executive Committee Member - YLS)
- Illinois State Bar Association
- Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis
- American Bankruptcy Institute
- American Bar Association (Co-chair, Asset Distribution Subcommittee of the Business Law Section)

## CHARITABLE AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

- United Way
- Independence Center
- Mental Health America
- St. Louis Arc

## ACCOLADES

- *The Best Lawyers in America*®; Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law (2020-present)
- “Sec. 363 Sale of the Year” in the \$250-500 million category, 11th Annual M&A Advisor Turnaround Awards (2017)
- Selected as a 2012 Top Rated Lawyer in Commercial Litigation by *Martindale-Hubbell* and *American Lawyer Media (ALM)*
- [Missouri/Kansas Super Lawyers](#)® (2010-present); *Super Lawyers*®, Business Edition (2011-2014)
- AV® Peer Review Rated, *Martindale-Hubbell*

## EXPERIENCE

### **Co-counsel to Foresight Energy, Affiliated Debtors in Chapter 11 Proceedings**

Serving as co-counsel to Foresight Energy LP, a producer of thermal coal, and 30 affiliated debtors in Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Missouri.

### **Counsel to International Secured Lender in Manufacturing Bankruptcy**

Served as counsel to the largest secured creditor in Chapter 11 of international manufacturing entity.

**Counsel to Retail Chain Convenience Store Distributor in Chapter 11 Bankruptcy**

Served as counsel to a regional distributor of inventory to convenience stores throughout the Midwest in its Chapter 11 proceeding.

**Counsel to Acquiring Company in 363 Sale of Assets of Major Steel Manufacturer**

Served as counsel to the purchaser of substantially all of the assets of a major steel manufacturer.

**Counsel to Online Consumer Lender in Chapter 11 Bankruptcy**

Served as counsel to online consumer lender in its Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings and ultimate successful sale to a third-party.

**Counsel to Peabody Energy in Chapter 11 Proceedings**

Served as co-counsel to Peabody Energy, the largest private-sector coal company in the world, in its Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings.

**Counsel to Unsecured Creditors Committee for National Trucking Company**

Served as counsel to the unsecured creditors committee for a national trucking company in its Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings.

**Defended International Freight and Utility Processor in Avoidance Actions**

Served as primary bankruptcy counsel for an international freight and utility processor in the defense of avoidance actions brought in multiple jurisdictions.

**Co-counsel to Armstrong Energy in Chapter 11 Bankruptcy**

Served as co-counsel to the debtor, coal company Armstrong Energy, in its Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings.

**Counsel to the Unsecured Creditors Committee for a Consumer Refrigeration Company**

Served as counsel to the unsecured creditors committee for a consumer refrigeration company in its Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings.

**Equity Holder Representations**

Regularly represented the interests of equity holders and boards in efforts to protect their rights in distressed situations.

**Prosecution and Defense of Fraudulent Conveyance Actions for Multiple Clients**

Prosecuted and defended fraudulent conveyance actions arising from alleged ponzi schemes, leveraged buyouts and alleged non-statutory insider transactions.

**Regularly Served as Counsel to Secured and Unsecured Creditors**

Served as counsel to secured and unsecured creditors to maximize recovery and restructure debt and capital whether in bankruptcy or non-bankruptcy distressed situations, including receiverships, foreclosures, enforcement actions and more.

**Co-counsel in Bioenergy Companies' Chapter 11 Bankruptcy**

Served as co-counsel to global bioenergy companies in Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings.

**Counsel to Unsecured Creditors Committee for Provider of Computer Services**

Served as counsel to the unsecured creditors committee for a provider of computer services in its Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings.

**Representation of Bankrupt Companies in Alleged Patent Infringement Cases**

Represented parties alleged to have infringed patents of bankrupt telecommunications

and manufacturing companies.

**Restructuring of Multi-State, For-Profit College**

Served as counsel to a multi-state, for-profit college in its restructuring and ultimate closure.

**National Counsel to Multiple Airline Service Providers in Bankruptcy**

Served as national counsel to multiple airline services providers in bankruptcies.

**Co-Counsel to Unsecured Creditors Committee for National Movie Theater Chain**

Served as co-counsel to the unsecured creditors committee for a national movie theater chain in its Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings.

**Counsel to the Unsecured Creditors Committee for a Petroleum Producer and Marketer**

Served as counsel to the unsecured creditors committee for a petroleum producer and marketer in its Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings.

**Counsel to the Unsecured Creditors Committee for a National Trucking Company**

Served as counsel to the unsecured creditors committee for a national trucking company in its Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings.

## EVENTS

December 2015

**Understanding the Ethical Limits: Retention Issues**

*Winter Leadership Conference, American Bankruptcy Institute*

## NEWS

August 15, 2024

**130+ Armstrong Teasdale Lawyers Named Among 2025 Best Lawyers®, Ones to Watch**

June 5, 2024

**Armstrong Teasdale Elects Seven Attorneys to Firm Committee Roles**

March 6, 2024

**Armstrong Teasdale to Recognize Prominent Alum Hon. William H. Webster, Dedicate Executive Conference Room**

January 2, 2024

**Armstrong Teasdale Elects Richard Engel to Managing Partner**

August 18, 2022

**130+ Armstrong Teasdale Lawyers Named 2023 Best Lawyers in America®, Ones to Watch**

November 30, 2021

**Richard Engel Named to Missouri Lawyers Weekly 'Power List' in Bankruptcy Law**

November 17, 2021

**Armstrong Teasdale Attorneys Named 2021 Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers®, Rising Stars**

August 19, 2021

**Over 120 Armstrong Teasdale Attorneys Recognized as 2022 Best Lawyers in America®**

July 26, 2021

**Richard Engel Named Armstrong Teasdale General Counsel**

November 16, 2020

**Armstrong Teasdale Attorneys Named 2020 Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers®, Rising Stars**