



RICHARD W. ENGEL, JR.

PARTNER

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Rick Engel is a member of the firm's Financial and Real Estate Services practice group, and serves as the chair of the Bankruptcy and Debtor/Creditor Relations subgroup, which handles bankruptcy, reorganization and restructuring matters. In his practice, he has represented the interests of local, regional, national and international corporations and financial institutions in all aspects of corporate and financial counseling. His integrated skill set combines advantageously complementary disciplines, including:

Financial Structuring, Restructuring and Bankruptcy

Rick represents the interests of corporate borrowers, debtors, trade creditors and financial institutions 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 general 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 general 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.

Finally, Rick serves as outside general counsel to law firms and partners within law firms. He is often requested by law firms and individual partners to provide counsel regarding governance issues and fiduciary duties.

EDUCATION

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

SERVICES AND INDUSTRIES

Bankruptcy and Financial
Restructuring
Financial Services
Financial Services and Banking
Manufacturing and Innovation
Technology

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

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

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 Coal-Mining Company in Chapter 11 Proceedings

Served as co-counsel to 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 Coal Company in Chapter 11 Bankruptcy

Served as co-counsel to the debtor, a coal company, 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.