

# WHO'S WHO

# in Tax & Bankruptcy Law

## BURTON S. WESTON

*Garfunkel, Wild & Travis PC*



Burton S. Weston is a partner at Garfunkel, Wild & Travis PC in Great Neck.

Weston is chair of the firm's corporate reorganization and bankruptcy practice group, representing debtors, creditors and creditor constituencies in all aspects of the Chapter 11 process. He is also a member of the firm's business practice group, which advises clients on an array of corporate and transactional matters.

Weston joined the firm in 2002. His practice includes the preparation and prosecution of Chapter 11 cases for corporate debtors; the representation of creditors' committees, creditor constituencies and individual creditors in reorganization cases; the acquisition and disposition of assets and business

in the Chapter 11 context; the development of competing plans of reorganization for potential acquirors of distressed entities; the advise of parties in connection with the claims trading process and debtor-in-possession financing; the defense of preference and fraudulent conveyance actions; and the representation of landlords to Chapter 11 debtors.

Weston anticipates a rise in 2008 bankruptcy filings.

"The specter of increased filings in 2008 looms large as the fallout from interest rate adjustments has mushroomed into a near financial crisis," he said. "The high default rates under sub-prime mortgages have affected not only individual homeowners, but have had more far reaching effects on credit markets generally."

Substantial losses by major financial institutions have already led to far more restrictive lending practices, he said. "This, in turn, is apt to limit capital availability, slow economic growth and increase unemployment levels, Weston noted. "General concern in consumer confidence also impacts individual spending, putting increased pressure on the economy in general and marginal companies specifically," he said. "The potential thus exists not only for an increase in corporate filings, but an increase in individual filings as well. The concern is not whether filings in 2008 will increase, but how long will the cycle last."

Prior to joining Garfunkel, Wild & Travis, Weston was a partner at Kramer, Levin, Nessen, Kamin &

Frankel in NYC; and administered his own firm for 15 years.

He has co-authored a bankruptcy text for inside counsel and other practitioners entitled, "Bankruptcy Strategies for Corporate Creditors" and lectures on creditors' rights and asset protection issues to professional groups and attorneys.

Weston earned a juris doctor, cum laude, from NY University School of Law and a BSBA from Boston University, summa cum laude.

He is a member of the bankruptcy committee of the Nassau County Bar Association and a member of the American Bankruptcy Institute.

Weston is admitted to practice in NYS; NYS Supreme Court, Appellate Division; US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit; US District Court, NY, Southern District; US District Court, NY, Eastern District; US District Court, NY, Northern District. He is also a member of the NYS Bar Association and Nassau County Bar Association.

Founded in 1980, Garfunkel, Wild & Travis maintains one of the most active health care practices in the Northeast, while also providing services to many non-health related clients. Always at the forefront of federal and state developments, the firm meets a full range of needs including EPA/environmental issues, strategic planning, complex transactions, exempt and taxable financing, white collar defense, estate planning, elder law, litigation, tax issues, real estate, fraud and abuse, licensing, capital formation and bankruptcy.