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Members and Friends of IWIRC NY,

Happy Summer!

We were excited to hold two amazing events this quarter, balancing our networks interest in virtual and in-person events, and educational sessions and social outings.

For this quarter, we hosted a virtual discussion in May on mass tort bankruptcies as the first installment in our “Hot Topics” series. We then had a fun night out on June 16th at Chelsea Piers learning to improve our golf techniques while networking with many of you.

We hope to take advantage of the summer weather to plan at least one more in-person event before the end of summer. So stay tuned!

Finally, we also wanted to create opportunities to get to know many of our members better through smaller group settings. Many of you have already joined our small networking pods. If you haven't yet and are interested in learning more, please feel free to contact one of us.

Enjoy the summer and we hope to see you at our next event!

Best,
Rachel Chesley & Shirley Luo
IWIRC NY Co-Chairs

Become a Member

Joining IWIRC NY is easier than ever.
[Sign up](#) and select New York as your primary network.

Get Involved

Interested in joining an IWIRC NY subcommittee?
Do you have member news to share? [Drop us a line.](#)

IWIRC • NY www.iwirc.com/networks/new-york

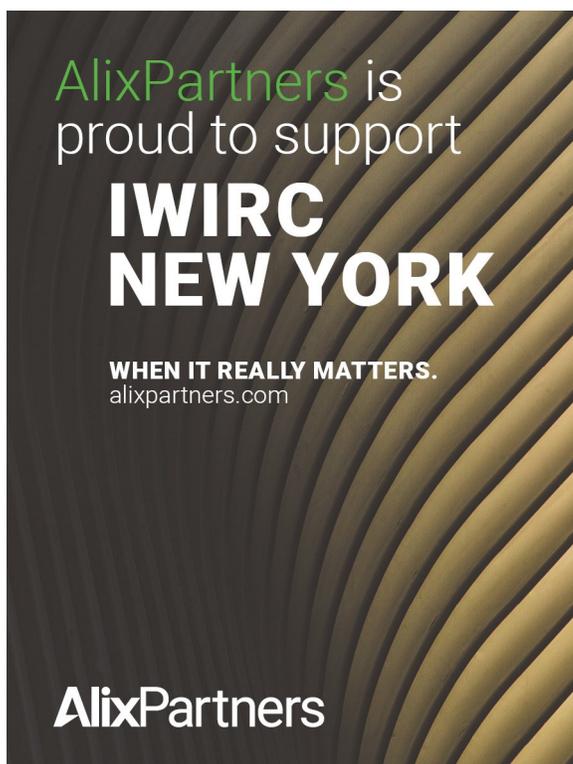


Mass Tort Liabilities, Divisive Mergers and Useful Tools in Bankruptcy - What We Need to Know.

**Sharmeen Khan and Alissa Nann—
Substantive Events Co-Chairs**

On May 4, 2022, IWIRC NY hosted the first installment of its “Hot Topics” series, providing an overview of mass tort bankruptcy issues to a virtual audience that included lawyers, financial advisors, investment bankers, and other restructuring professionals. The panelists gave a summary of the historical background for the current mass tort bankruptcy trend, provided background on how mass tort bankruptcies are implemented, and discussed some of the thorny communications issues that arise in these cases. The panel was followed by a question and answer session.

The panel was moderated by Katina Brountzas of White & Case. Our panelists included Erin Diers, partner at Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP; Jessica Liou, partner at Weil, Gotshal & Manges; Rachel Chesley, senior managing director at FTI Consulting; and Denise Lorenzo, director at AlixPartners.



Chelsea Piers Golf Outing

Sophia Hepheastou and Nishat Jabin—Networking Co-Chairs

June 16, 2022

Gearing up for the summer months, IWIRC NY hosted a golf outing at Chelsea Piers NY where guests worked with experienced golf pros to perfect their backswing. The group watched the sunset, caught up with colleagues and practiced putting and driving on the Hudson River!





Samantha LeBlanc

The success of our Chapter is due in no small part to the contributions and enthusiasm of our incredible members. In celebration of that fact, each quarter, we recognize an “IWIRC NY Shining Star” to introduce you to exemplary members of the IWIRC NY community.

This issue we celebrate Samantha LeBlanc, our former IWIRC NY Secretary. Congratulations, Samantha!

Samantha is a Consultant in EY-Parthenon’s Turnaround & Restructuring Strategy practice. She focuses on assisting clients to improve their liquidity positions and evaluating strategic options. Samantha has experience advising on both corporate and public sector restructurings, as well as managing insolvency proceedings. Samantha has been active in IWIRC for many years and had the privilege to be elected Secretary of IWIRC-NY for the 2020 – 2022 term. She continues to stay involved in IWIRC NY and IWIRC International.

What’s your most memorable IWIRC moment or event?: It’s hard to pick just one moment that makes IWIRC so special! From the second I started coming to IWIRC events, I was welcomed with open arms to the restructuring and bankruptcy community. My absolute favorite event every year is the IWIRC at the Shore Conference. I find it extremely helpful to be able to get out of the city and relax at the spa while still making meaningful connections with other restructuring professionals.

Name your favorite vacation spot you’ve been to and your bucket list vacation spot that you haven’t: My favorite vacations are anywhere with mountains that I can hike! My most memorable trip was a cross-country road trip to visit 11 US National Parks including Yellowstone, Grand Tetons, and Zion. Witnessing the grandeur of the terrain and mountains was absolutely breath-taking. In December I am taking my National Park obsession international with a visit to Torres del Paine National Park in Patagonia, Chile. I am currently accepting any and all recommendations and tips!

If you didn’t become a consultant, what career would you have chosen? If I didn’t become a restructuring consultant, I would have made a career for myself in the food industry. I grew up baking with my grandmother and have always absolutely loved being in the kitchen, snacking, gossiping, and creating delicious meals with friends and family. Due to the pandemic, I’ve spent a lot of time at home over the past 2.5 years and have picked up cooking along with baking. It brings me such pleasure to create a dish that people enjoy, it would be a dream to be able to create food for people on a larger scale.

What’s your favorite TV show? If I had to choose one, my favorite show is The Office, but I would be just as happy with any sitcom from the 2010’s. I’d watch a marathon of New Girl, 30 Rock, or Parks and Rec any day.

Congratulate your fellow IWIRC NY members on their recent accomplishment!

Give yourself some shine! Email us your accomplishments for inclusion in our next newsletter.

- DLA Piper had two new teammates joining the New York office: (i) [Oksana Lashko, Partner](#) and (ii) Malithi Fernando, Associate.
- Jamila Willia and Rachel Albanese, both Partners from DLA Piper New York office, were featured on a recent fireside chat with Holly Etlin from AlixPartners, discussing the current state of the retail industry. Watch the webinar recording [here](#).
- DLA Piper's female-led Restructuring group once again increased its rankings in Chambers, being recognized in Band 2 Highly Regarded Nationwide! In addition, our New York practice was recognized in Elite Band 5; Illinois in Band 3; Delaware in Band 2; and several Partners received individual rankings, including Rachel Albanese in Band 4 for New York Bankruptcy/Restructuring.
- Lisa Donahue, AlixPartners Co-Head of the Americas and Asia, attended the World Economic Forum at Davos in May and shared thoughts on [deglobalization: WEF2022 – De-globalization](#), getting the balance right.
- IWIRC NY members [Camille Bent](#) and [Jolene Wee](#) spoke on the “The Basics of Blockchain and Its Effects on Your Next Restructure” panel at the 2022 ABI Spring Meeting.
- Morrison Foerster Partner, Jennifer L. Marines, was recognized with several recent awards and rankings, including: in [Chambers Band 4 for Bankruptcy/Restructuring](#); in [Legal500 as a Next Generation Partner for Restructuring \(Including Bankruptcy\): Corporate](#); as [Top Women Dealmaker in Global M&A Network's Annual Awards](#); and as [Top Women in Dealmaking by The Deal](#).
- A Debevoise & Plimpton team led by partner Jasmine Ball has received the Asia-Pacific Deal of the Year Award at the Airfinance Journal Awards and the Airline Economics Asia Pacific Restructuring Deal of the Year Award at the Aviation 100 Awards for its role in advising Philippine Airlines' pre-negotiated Chapter 11 cross-border restructuring. The Debevoise team advised Philippine Airlines Inc. in connection with its Chapter 11 restructuring, with the support of substantially all of PAL's lenders, lessors, and aircraft and engine suppliers, as well as its majority shareholder. The restructuring enabled the company to successfully reorganize its finances and fleet to navigate the COVID-19 crisis and emerge as a leaner and better-capitalized airline.

Debevoise & Plimpton

Debevoise is pleased to support the **International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation**



To join the conversation about women in the workplace, visit the Debevoise Women's Review at [women.debevoise.com](https://www.women.debevoise.com)

Welcome to IWIRC NY's New Members

[Caroline Gange](#)

Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP

[Mary Korycki](#)

M3 Partners

[Jennifer Schein](#)

McDermott Will & Emery

[Meredith Mitnick](#)

U.S. Bankruptcy Court, SDNY

[Rachelle Frisby](#)

Deloitte

[Heather Pergola](#)

SierraConstellation Partners

[Lauren Lundy](#)

White & Case LLP



There is power in
our differences

Kirkland & Ellis is proud to support IWIRC NY in its commitment to the connection, promotion and success of women in the insolvency and restructuring professions worldwide.

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Drop a line personally welcoming these new members by using the hyperlinks on their names.

Need to renew your membership or become an IWIRC NY member? We want to see you here in our next newsletter—Register or renew [HERE](#) today.

Membership Subcommittee Members

- Lily Liang (Co-Chair)
- Maeghan McLoughlin (Co-Chair)

ABI Virtual Happy Hours

July 13 & July 27

ABI

[Register Here](#)

TMA Sunset Yacht Party with TMA New York

July 14

TMA NY

[Register Here](#)

International Insolvency & Restructuring Symposium (London)

October 13-14

ABI, IWIRC, III, INSOL and TMA

[Register Here](#)

IWIRC's 29th Annual Fall Conference (Orlando)

October 18

IWIRC

[Register Here](#)

96th NCBJ Annual Conference (Orlando)

October 19-22

NCBJ

[Register Here](#)

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International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation



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Connect with Us

We now have a combined total of 595 followers on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter, and it's not too late for you to join the fun. Being a "friend" of IWIRC NY on social media has become more rewarding than ever! Continue to look out for more giveaways to upcoming events on LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter!



Additional Facebook Networks

[IWIRC](#)
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- Michelle McMahon (Co-Chair)
- Jeanine Krattiger
- Kathleen Lauster
- Stephanie Randall

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