

IWIRC NEWSLETTER

Member News



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Member News

Luana M. Arakaki (Brazil Network), Partner at Arakaki & Gargamala Sociedade de Advogados, published an article entitled, “The Coordination of Cross-Border Insolvency and the Limits of Cooperative Universalism.” Read it [here](#).

Irene Byela (Georgia Network), CIRA, and **Maria DeOliveira** (New Jersey Network) were named to the American Bankruptcy Institute’s prestigious 40 Under 40 list for 2025.

Rasmeet Chahil (New Jersey Network) has been promoted to Partner at Lowenstein Sandler.

Hon. Shelley C. Chapman (New York Network), Senior Counsel at Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP and Chair of its Alternative Dispute Resolution Practice, was named a Lifetime Achievement Award honoree by The American Lawyer at its Industry Awards on November 13, 2025 in New York. She is also speaking at the 2026 Winter Bench and Bar Conference on the panel titled “Trends in Article III Supervision of the Bankruptcy Courts”.

David Chew (Singapore Network) is facilitating a training course on debt restructuring and turnaround in Singapore on March 30, 2026. Learn more [here](#).

Eleanor Fisher (Cayman Islands Network) has recently joined Teneo in the Cayman Islands, as Co-Chair of the International Financial Centres (IFC) region. Eleanor has over 25 years of experience working in financial advisory in the Cayman Islands, Bermuda and the British Virgin Islands (BVI).

Kellie Fisher (New England Network) was named Group Head of Drummond Woodsum’s Bankruptcy, Restructuring, and Creditors’ Rights Practice.

Jennifer Frenis (Dubai Network), Deloitte, published an article on why restructuring and insolvency can drive innovation in the UAE market which was selected as one of the standout articles in the British Chambers of Commerce publications during 2025. Read it [here](#).

Charvi Gupta (New York Network) wrote an article published by HOTELS Magazine entitled, “Why key money is a strategic solution for delayed hotel property improvement plans.” Read it [here](#).

Jenn Hardy (Texas Houston Network) serves as the Chair of the Southern District of Texas Bankruptcy Bench Bar Conference which will be held April 26 to 28, 2026 in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Jennifer B. Kimble (New York Network) joined Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP as counsel in its New York office in November 2025.

Jaclynn McDonnell (New Jersey Network), Genova Burns LLC, has been promoted to Counsel, recognizing her exceptional legal work, leadership within the firm, and sustained commitment to community service.

Kristin Mihelic (Southern California Network) recently joined the Fennemore law firm in the financial restructuring department. In July 2025, she was elected to a three-year term on the Ninth Circuit Conference Executive Committee. She will also be speaking on a panel at the Ninth Circuit Conference of Chief Bankruptcy Judges.

Sari B. Placona (New Jersey Network) has been promoted to Member at McManimon, Scotland & Baumann, LLC.

Lauren Baio Pultro (Washington DC Network) was recently promoted to Partner at Adams & Reese (DC).

Tara J. Schellhorn (New Jersey Network) has recently joined Porzio, Bromberg & Newman, P.C. as Principal.

Allyson B. Smith (New York Network) recently joined Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP as a partner in its New York office. Allyson joins Willkie after having spent almost 10 years at Kirkland & Ellis LLP.

Hon. Elizabeth S. Stong (New York Network) was appointed to serve as chair of the ABA Rule of Law Initiative Middle East North Africa Council. In November, she participated in the World Bank-INSOL Africa Roundtable, in Cape Town, South Africa, joined by more than a dozen judges from several countries in the region. Finally, in October-November, she ran the Chicago Marathon, the 50th Marine Corps Marathon, and the New York City Marathon in just over three weeks.

Kelly Waits (Georgia Network) joined Arbor Realty Trust, Inc. as Counsel, where she is part of a legal team working out defaulted loans in its structured financing bridge loan program.

Yuhua Yang (China Network), Thornhill Legal, recently published an article discussing China's proposed comprehensive revision of its Enterprise Bankruptcy Law. Read it [here](#).

Sandy Yeung (Singapore Network) spoke on a panel at the World Bank-INSOL Africa Round Table on Insolvency Reform titled “Global Dynamics, Africa and Financial Distress” in Cape Town, South Africa, where she shared her experience advising Chinese real estate developers in their debt restructurings.

Sandy Yeung (Singapore Network), **Juliana Sato** (Latin America Network), **Joanna Caytas** (Texas Houston Network), **Gavern Mitchell** (BVI Network), and **Rachael Muldoon** (London Network) participated in the UNCITRAL Colloquium on Harmonizing Law in the Age of Digital Trade and Finance held at the UN Headquarters in New York from February 10 to 13, 2026.

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