

# 2026 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Connecticut Bankruptcy Conference

Thursday, October 22, 2026

8:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Saint Clements Castle and Marina  
Portland

Presented by the Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section

## Agenda

8:00 a.m. – 8:50 a.m.

### Registration and Breakfast

*Waterford Room*

**Breakfast sponsored by:**  
**Verdolino & Lowey PC**  
**Robinson + Cole LLP**

8:50 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

### Welcome Remarks

*Waterford Room*

#### Presenters:

**Hon. Julie A. Manning**, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, District of Connecticut, Bridgeport

**John Cesaroni**, Zeisler & Zeisler PC, Bridgeport

**Joanna M. Kornafel**, Green & Sklarz LLC, New Haven

9:00 a.m. – 9:20 a.m.

### Opening Plenary: State of the Court (ECB261022-OP)

*Waterford Room*

#### Presenter:

**Chief Judge Ann M. Nevins**, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, District of Connecticut, New Haven

9:20 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

### Transition

9:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

### Morning Plenary: Judges' Round Table (ECB261022-MP)

*Waterford Room*

#### Presenters:

**Chief Judge Elizabeth D. Katz**, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, District of Massachusetts, Springfield, MA

**Chief Judge Ann M. Nevins**, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, District of Connecticut, New Haven

**Hon. John A. Dorsey**, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, District of Rhode Island, Providence, RI

**Hon. David S. Jones**, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Southern District of New York, NY

**Hon. James J. Tancredi**, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, District of Connecticut, Hartford

**Moderator:**

**Hon. Julie A. Manning**, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, District of Connecticut, Bridgeport

11:15 a.m. – 11:25 a.m.

**Break**

**Break sponsored by:**  
**Reid & Reige PC**

11:25 a.m. – 12:40 p.m.

**Concurrent Seminars 1**

**Consumer Track A: Clawback Chronicles – Avoidance Action Pitfalls, Practice & Perspectives (ECB261022-1A)**

*Prince Edward Ballroom A*

**Presenters:**

**Hon. James J. Tancredi**, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, District of Connecticut, Hartford

**Robert M. Fleischer**, Green & Sklarz, LLC, New Haven

**Taruna Garg**, Harris Beach Murtha, Stamford

**Bonnie Mangan**, Law Office of Bonnie C. Mangan PC, South Windsor

**Commercial Track B: Bankruptcy Exceptionalism: Are These Courts of Law or Equity—or Both? (ECB261022-1B)**

*Prince Edward Ballroom B/C*

**Presenters:**

**Chief Judge Alan S. Trust (Ret.)**, JAMS Mediation, Arbitration and ADR Services, New York, NY

**Portia Baudisch**, Pullman & Comley LLC, Bridgeport

**Brian Remondino**, Shipman & Goodwin LLP, Stamford

12:40 p.m. – 2:10 p.m.

**Lunch**

*Waterford Room*

**Lunch sponsored by:**  
**Green & Sklarz LLC**  
**Harris Beach Murtha**  
**Zeisler & Zeisler PC**

1:10 p.m. – 2:10 p.m.

**Luncheon Plenary: Practical Application of Artificial Intelligence for Business and Consumer Bankruptcy Lawyers (ECB261022-LP)**

*Waterford Room*

**Sponsored by:**  
**Pullman & Comley LLC**

**Presenters:**

**Hon. Christopher J. Panos**, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, District of Massachusetts, Worcester, MA

**Monte E. Frank**, Pullman & Comley LLC, Bridgeport

**Stacey Lantagne**, Suffolk University, Boston, MA

2:10 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.

**Break**

2:20 p.m. – 3:35 p.m.

**Concurrent Seminars 2**

**Consumer Track A: Means Test Issues and Updates 2026 (ECB261022-2A)**

*Prince Edward Ballroom A*

**Presenters:**

**Gregory F. Arcaro**, Advanced Bankruptcy Legal Services of Connecticut, Grafstein & Arcaro, LLC, New Britain

**Denise M. Shear**, Roberta Napolitano Chapter 13 Standing Trustee, Hartford

**Moderator:**

**Matthew K. Beatman**, Zeisler & Zeisler PC, Bridgeport

**Commercial Track B: Subchapter V: Perks and Pitfalls (ECB261022-2B)**

*Prince Edward Ballroom B/C*

**Presenters:**

**Hon. Paul W. Bonapfel**, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of Georgia, Atlanta, Georgia

**Kara S. Rescia**, Rescia Vaillancourt, PC, Enfield

**Jeffrey M. Sklarz**, Green & Sklarz LLC, New Haven

**Moderator:**

**Annecca Smith**, Robinson + Cole LLP, Hartford

3:35 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

**Break**

**Break sponsored by:**

## **RJ Reuter**

3:45 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

### **Closing Plenary: The Bad Boys of Bankruptcy and Ethical Issues in Bankruptcy Cases (ECB261022-CP)**

*Waterford Room*

#### **Presenters:**

**Hon. Frank J. Bailey, (Ret.)**, Pioneer New England Legal Foundation, Boston, MA

**Hon. Elizabeth A. Gunn**, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, District of Columbia, Washington, DC

**Andrew G. Lizotte**, Murphy & King, Boston, MA

**Stephen B. Darr**, Stephen Darr LLC, Boston, MA

5:15 p.m. – 5:20 p.m.

### **Closing Remarks**

*Waterford Room*

5:20 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

### **Cocktail Reception (with hot passed *hors d'oeuvres*)**

*Waterford Room*

## **Thank you to our sponsors!**

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