**D. Lamar Hawkins, Esq.**

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Helping both businesses and individuals resolve their most pressing financial issues, Lamar Hawkins has earned a reputation for representing clients with efficiency, experience, and a focused approach. Consistently recognized as a top lawyer by industry associations and peers, Lamar’s practice focuses on all phases of commercial and consumer debt workout and bankruptcy services including Chapter 11 and Subchapter V and Classic Chapter 11.

Lamar is one of the leading voices in Arizona regarding bankruptcy law and confirmed the state’s first Subchapter V 11. Attuned to the complexities of bankruptcy code, he advises both buyers and sellers with significant bankruptcy sales and secures favorable financial resolutions for his clients through out-of-court workouts or Chapter 7, 11, or 13 bankruptcy. Lamar offers extensive knowledge in bankruptcy planning, local rules and procedures, and associated tax issues, confidently guiding his clients through each step of this process. He also serves as a valued community and industry resource on bankruptcy, regularly invited to share insights at Arizona State Bar events and at other civil, legal, and religious groups.

Throughout his career, Lamar has assisted with the reorganization of numerous business entities, often serving as a pivotal negotiator. Notably, he oversaw the buyout of Great Western Produce, a regional broker of agricultural products, the reorganization of numerous doctor, lawyer, accounting, and other professional groups and organizations, and numerous real estate ventures. In the real estate sphere, Lamar has served on behalf of both the controlling and non-controlling equity ownership. Importantly, Lamar is a community leader in handling the issues for the individual who is impacted most by the financial troubles, achieving numerous individual Chapter 11 reorganizations.

Before joining Guidant, Lamar was a shareholder at Aiken Schenk Hawkins & Riccardi P.C. for nearly three decades. He was instrumental in the favorable outcomes for numerous cases, including *Inselman,* in which he eased “responsible person” liability for the unpaid transaction privilege taxes of a corporation and limited liability company.

Additionally, Lamar is extensively involved in the Arizona Volunteer Lawyers program, providing workout and bankruptcy assistance to the less fortunate. He was awarded Lawyer of the Month for his hard work with the organization and local community.

Lamar has been recognized in the Southwest Super Lawyers guide since 2012 and has been honored by *The Best Lawyers in America.* He was also recognized in Phoenix Magazine’s 2019 list of Top Attorneys in Arizona.

**Representative Matters**

* Secured favorable outcomes for numerous clients through Chapter 7, 11, or 13 bankruptcy.
* Lead Counsel on the reorganization of dozens of business entities.
* Lead Counsel on numerous reorganizations for individuals.
* Negotiated the buyout of multiple prominent corporations.
* Successfully reorganized numerous real estate ventures.
* Eased “responsible person” liability for the unpaid transaction privilege taxes of a corporation and limited liability company.

**Activities & Memberships**

* Chair, Bankruptcy Law Advisory Commission, Arizona Board of Legal Specialization (2006–present)
* Co-Chair, Committee to Rewrite Local Bankruptcy Rules (2005–2006)
* Chair, State Bar of Arizona, Bankruptcy Section (2004–2005)
* Member, Maricopa County Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Program (1995–present)

**Recognitions**

* *AzBusiness* Magazine: Arizona’s Top 100 Lawyers (2024)
* *The Best Lawyers in America©:* Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law (2016–present)
* Super Lawyers, Bankruptcy (2012–present)
* Martindale-Hubbell® AV Preeminent® rated
* Arizona’s Finest Lawyers (2013–present)

**Publications**

* Author, “Key paths to resolve business debt: Workout, reorganization and liquidation**,**” The Business Journals (Nov. 2024)
* Author, “Change your perception: Bankruptcy can strengthen and rebuild businesses**,**” The Business Journals (Aug. 2024)
* Author, “5 pitfalls of bankruptcy in business and how to avoid them**,**” The Business Journals (June 2024)
* Author, “Top 3 corporate restructuring strategies to avoid bankruptcy**,**” The Business Journals (March 2024)
* Author, “Avoid bankruptcy: 4 ways to preserve your business′s financial health**,**” The Business Journals (Dec. 2023)
* Author, “3 business strategies to navigate Arizona’s minimum wage increase,” *InBusiness Phoenix* (Dec. 2023)
* Author, “Five ways for businesses to avoid bankruptcy - and two tips if it becomes unavoidable,” *InBusiness Phoenix* (Oct. 2023)
* Author, “Facing bankruptcy? Consider the types and alternatives first**,**” The Business Journals (April 2023)
* Author, “My View: Fully Disclose Assets in Bankruptcy to Avoid Hefty Problems,” *Phoenix Business Journal* (May 2022)
* Author, “Avoid a Plunge into Bankruptcy,” *InBusiness Phoenix* (Dec. 2021)
* Author, “It’s a Brave New Bankruptcy World – Enter Subchapter V 11,” *Maricopa Lawyer* (March 2021)
* Author, “Subchapter V 11 Bankruptcy Saves Companies Significant Time and Money,” *InBusiness Phoenix* (Nov. 2020)
* Author, “My View: How new 'Subchapter V' can keep Arizona businesses ahead of bankruptcy tsunami,” *Phoenix Business Journal* (Sept. 2020)
* Co-Author, “Avoid a Tsunami of Business Bankruptcies,” *InBusiness Phoenix* (May 2020)
* Author, “Pre-Bankruptcy Planning: Where Do You Draw the Line?” (2019)
* Author, “Retention of Professionals in Bankruptcy” (2018)
* Author, “The Scope of the Automatic Stay” (2017)

**Presentations**

* Co-Presenter, “Selected Subchapter V Issues: A Deeper Dive,” Arizona Bankruptcy Inn of Court (Dec. 10, 2020)
* Moderator, “The Intersection of Marijuana and Bankruptcy,” Arizona Bankruptcy Inn of Court (Feb. 2020)
* “Things to Do to Avoid Bankruptcy Filing,” (2019)
* “Pre-Bankruptcy Planning: Where Do You Draw the Line” (2019)
* “Retention of Professionals in Bankruptcy” (2018)
* “The Scope of the Automatic Stay,” (2017)
* Panelist, “Bankruptcy in Transition – Preparing for the Future,” State Bar of Arizona Convention (2014)
* Presenter, “Basics of an Individual Chapter 11 Case,” State Bar of Arizona (2014)
* Presenter, “Individual Chapter 11 Proceedings,” State Bar of Arizona Convention (2009)
* “The New Local Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure for the District of Arizona,” location (2007)
* “What Happens When a Borrower with Multiple Loans Files Bankruptcy,” location (2007)
* “Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005: Individuals in Chapter 11,” location (2005, 2006)
* “Drafting and Negotiating Commercial Real Estate Leases” (2006)
* “New Bankruptcy Code Amendments: How They Impact Your Real Estate Practice” (2005)

**Media Appearances**

* Quoted, “Are Title Loans Included in Bankruptcy?” *Bankrate* (May 2022)
* Quoted, “Protecting Your Car Loan Through Bankruptcy,” *Bankrate* (May 2022)
* Quoted, "Fast-growing Guidant Law Firm scoops up Valley attorneys to expand reach,” *Phoenix Business Journal* (Feb. 2022)
* Television commentator, “New Arizona law allows debt collectors access to your home’s equity,” *ABC15* (June 2021)
* Quoted, “Arizona motel among many expected to file for bankruptcy in coming months,” *ABC15* (April 2021)
* Quoted, “Pandemic measures have prevented bankruptcy filings in Arizona, but a flood may be on the horizon,” *Phoenix Business Journal* (March 2021)
* Quoted, “Courts could be overwhelmed by a 'tsunami' of bankruptcy filings in the next few months,” *ABC15* (Dec. 2020)
* Quoted, “10 Banking Industry Trends to Watch in 2021,” *AZBusiness* (Nov. 2020)
* Quoted, “As feds debated COVID-19 deal, clock is ticking on state eviction protection,” *Cronkite News* (Aug. 2020)
* Quoted, “Tempe lawyer describes steps for businesses to avoid bankruptcy,” *KTAR News* (April 2020)
* Quoted, "Valley commercial real estate industry braces for coronavirus fallout,” *Phoenix Business Journal* (March 2020)

**Education**

* J.D., Arizona State University
* B.S., Accounting, Arizona State University
	+ *Magna cum laude*

**Bar Admissions**

* Admitted in Arizona
* Admitted in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit