

Thomas J. Salerno

PARTNER

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Office: Phoenix



Thomas brings global experience and out-of-the-box solutions to his work with complex commercial corporate restructurings, helping distressed, often high-profile companies find new paths forward.

Clients turn to Thomas for his national and international experience helping private and publicly-traded companies in a broad range of industries continue operations as they negotiate restructuring plans. He has advised lenders, distressed companies, committees and asset acquirers in bankruptcies and out-of-court settlements.

Thomas works with a global roster of clients from an array of industries, including casinos, hotels, real estate, sports, tech, power generation, agribusiness, construction, health care, manufacturing, airlines and franchising. Many of his cases have an international component. He is an adjunct professor and prolific author and lecturer, writing for both practitioners and corporate executives.

EXPERIENCE

Thomas represented the owners of the Phoenix Coyotes, an NHL hockey team, in bankruptcy negotiations that resulted in a historic sale of the team to the NHL, marking the first time the NHL purchased one of its own franchises.

PRACTICES & INDUSTRIES

Bankruptcy & Creditors' Rights
Aviation & Aerospace

ADMISSIONS

U.S. Supreme Court
Supreme Court of Arizona
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona

EDUCATION

Notre Dame Law School, J.D., *cum laude*, 1982

- *Notre Dame Law Review*

Rutgers University, B.A., *summa cum laude*, 1979

- Phi Beta Kappa

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Known for his savvy in large-scale cases, Thomas has served as restructuring counsel for a national drug store chain, a nationwide operator of nursing homes and assisted living facilities, a publicly-traded owner/operator of fire and ambulance services, and Industrias Nucleares do Brasil S/A, the Brazilian nuclear regulatory agency in the bankruptcies of Nuexco Exchange (U.S. and Switzerland).

In addition to serving as an expert witness on U.S. insolvency law in litigation in Germany, Thomas has advised numerous foreign governments on revamping their laws and has taught Comparative International Insolvency at the University of Salzburg.

A frequent writer, lecturer and presenter, Thomas is active in leadership in the American Bankruptcy Institute and is a past chair of the Bankruptcy Section of the State Bar of Arizona.

RECOGNITIONS

America's Top 200 Lawyers, *Forbes*, 2024

Selected to the 2022 and 2023 *Lawdragon* 500 Leading Bankruptcy and Restructuring Lawyers guide

Selected for inclusion in "Top 100 Lawyers in Arizona" by *AZ Business Magazine*, 2020, 2022-2024

Recognized by *AZ Business Leaders* in the area of Bankruptcy Law

Member of the select group of insolvency professionals listed in the K&A Restructuring Professionals Registry

Best Lawyers in America[®]: Bankruptcy and Creditor-Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law, Phoenix, 1993 - Present

Best Lawyers in America: Litigation-Bankruptcy, Phoenix, 2011 - Present

Best Lawyers in America: "Lawyer of the Year," Litigation-Bankruptcy, Phoenix, 2014

Best Lawyers in America: "Lawyer of the Year," Bankruptcy, Phoenix, 2010

Best Lawyers in America: "Lawyer of the Year," Bankruptcy and Creditor-Debtor Rights, Phoenix, 2009

Selected for inclusion in Southwest *Super Lawyers*, 2007 – Present

Selected to Southwest *Super Lawyers*' Top 50 Attorneys in Arizona, 2020, 2023, 2024

Listed in *The International Who's Who of Insolvency & Restructuring Lawyers*, 2009

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Listed in *The International Who's Who of Business Lawyers*, 2009 and 2011

Lawdragon's Leading Lawyers in America, 2010

Who's Who Legal 100, 2012

Named one of 12 Outstanding Bankruptcy Attorneys in 1998 and 2000 by *Turnarounds & Workouts*

Rated "AV/Preeminent Attorney" by *Martindale-Hubbell*®

PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC ACTIVITIES

American College of Bankruptcy, Fellow (Class of 2001)

American Bankruptcy Institute, past director and Executive Committee

American Bankruptcy Board of Certification, Inc., Past Director

Bankruptcy Section of the State Bar of Arizona, Past Chair

American College of Bankruptcy Fellow

Plan Issues Advisory Subcommittee for the ABI Bankruptcy Review Commission

NEWS

Salerno Opines on Proposed Federal Legislation Eliminating Loopholes for Debtors in Child Sexual Abuse Claims

04.29.2024

Super Lawyers' 2024 Southwest Lists Features Four Stinson Attorneys

04.08.2024

Thomas J. Salerno Named to *Forbes'* Inaugural Top Attorneys in America List

03.27.2024

Thomas Salerno named "Top 100 Lawyers in Arizona" by *AZ Business*

12.27.2023

175 Stinson Attorneys Selected to the 2024 *Best Lawyers in America* List

08.17.2023

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Thomas J. Salerno

Stinson's Bankruptcy and Restructuring Attorneys' Three-Part Series Selected to "Best of ABI" Book

06.06.2023

Stinson's Thomas Salerno Joins Tbird2 Advisory Board

04.19.2023

Four Phoenix Attorneys Recognized as 2023 Southwest *Super Lawyers*

04.07.2023

Salerno Discusses State of Crypto Bankruptcies in *Bloomberg Law* Article

03.28.2023

Thomas Salerno named to "Top 100 Lawyers in Arizona" by *AZ Business*

02.08.2023

152 Stinson Attorneys Selected to the 2023 *Best Lawyers in America* List

08.18.2022

Thomas J. Salerno and Clarissa Brady Analyze Third-Party Releases in Chapter 11 Cases for American Bankruptcy Institute

04.14.2022

Three Phoenix Attorneys Recognized as 2022 Southwest *Super Lawyers*

04.13.2022

Thomas J. Salerno Discusses the Acquisition of Bankrupt Companies in *CFO Dive* Article

03.31.2022

Stinson Partners Recognized as Leading Bankruptcy and Restructuring Attorneys

02.18.2022

Elizabeth Chatham, Thomas Salerno named "Top 100 Lawyers in Arizona" by *AZ Business*

01.14.2022

103 Stinson Attorneys Selected to the 2022 *Best Lawyers in America* List

08.19.2021

Stinson Attorneys Named to 2021 Southwest *Super Lawyers*

04.15.2021

Tom Salerno Quoted in *Bloomberg Law* on Extended Debt-Limit Rules

04.02.2021

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Tom Salerno Quoted in the *Wall Street Journal* on Bankruptcy after PPP Loans

11.18.2020

Partner Thomas J. Salerno Featured in *Financier Worldwide* on Bankruptcy Challenges Amid COVID-19

09.21.2020

Tom Salerno Comments on Potential Wave of Bankruptcies for Small Businesses in the *Chicago Tribune*

09.14.2020

112 Stinson Attorneys Selected to the 2021 *Best Lawyers in America* List

08.20.2020

Stinson Partners Recognized as Leading U.S. Bankruptcy and Restructuring Attorneys by Lawdragon

08.14.2020

Thomas J. Salerno Quoted on Rise of Bankruptcies Amid COVID-19 in *ABA Journal*

08.07.2020

Thomas Salerno Quoted on the Next Wave of Bankruptcies in *The Economist*

05.20.2020

Stinson Partners Publish Second Article on Bankruptcy and the CARES Act with American Bankruptcy Institute

05.04.2020

Harvard Bankruptcy Blog Features Stinson Attorneys on CARES Act and DIP Loans

04.15.2020

Stinson Attorneys Named to 2020 Southwest *Super Lawyers*

04.06.2020

Stinson Establishes Coronavirus Task Force to Support Clients

03.12.2020

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

"Four Proposed Legislative Changes to Deal with Third Party Releases in Bankruptcy" American Bankruptcy Institute, August 2023

"Opportunity Amidst Crisis-Buying Distressed Assets, Claims and Securities for Fun & Profit," Restructuring, Insolvency & Troubled Companies 2016 Series

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Finding Opportunity in Adversity-Acquiring Assets from the Financially Distressed Business
05.28.2020

PUBLICATIONS

"In Defense of Third-Party Releases in Chapter 11 Cases: Part I, II and III," *American Bankruptcy Institute*, 2022

"Paycheck Protection Program – What Has Changed?" *Stinson's Government Contracting Matters Blog*, February 4, 2021

"Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Government and Government Contractor Activities Provisions," *Stinson's Government Contracting Matters Blog*, April 3, 2020

"Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Small Business Provisions," *Stinson's Government Contracting Matters Blog*, April 3, 2020

"SBA Consent to PPP Debtor Loan Provisions Under CARES Act II: Just Do It, Already!!!!," *American Bankruptcy Institute*, March 2021

Co-author, "This DIP Loan Should Be Brought to You by Someone Who CARES! (or, 'You Can't Get There from Here'), Part 2.5" *American Bankruptcy Institute*, June 2020

Co-author, "This DIP Loan *Should* Be Brought to You by Someone Who CARES! (Or 'You Can't Get There from Here'), A Plea for Rationality: Part 2," *American Bankruptcy Institute*, April 2020

"Acquisitions from Financially Distressed Companies," *American Bankruptcy Institute*, April 2020

Co-author, "The Coronavirus and Its Likely Impact on the Bankruptcy World: Eight Predictions from Two Restructuring Professionals," *American Bankruptcy Institute*, April 2020

Co-author, "This DIP Loan Brought to You by Someone Who CARES! (Or 'I'm From the Government and I'm Here to Help You')," *American Bankruptcy Institute*, March 2020

Co-author of the two-volume Bankruptcy Litigation and Practice; A Practitioners' Guide, Fifth Edition, *Aspen Law Publications*, 2017

Co-author, "Executive Guide to Corporate Bankruptcy", Second Edition, *Beard Publications*, 2001

Co-author and executive editor of the three-volume treatise "Advanced Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Practice", *Aspen Law Publications*, 1995

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Co-author, "Chapter 11 Cases Involving Sports Franchises," *Collier On Bankruptcy*, 2011

Paycheck Protection Program - What Has Changed?

02.03.2021

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Signed into Law

03.31.2020

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