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News Release

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ABI'S DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION WORKING GROUP ANNOUNCES 2023 MENTORSHIP PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

June 14, 2023, Alexandria, Va. — The American Bankruptcy Institute's (ABI's) [Diversity and Inclusion Working Group](#) (DWG) announced that it has commenced its 2023 Mentoring Program to connect active or recently graduated business and law students with ABI past presidents and members who can provide guidance on career and professional development. Launched in 2021, the program brings mentors and mentees together to discuss ethical and confidentiality issues, common practice risks and traps, career goals, time-keeping, client management and development, and negotiation skills.

The 2023 group of mentees includes:

- **Maria Cho** of Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP (Los Angeles)
- **Sameer Alifarag** of Pryor Cashman LLP (New York)
- **Trevor C. Mosby** of Hinshaw & Culbertson, LLP (New Orleans)
- **Tomas Blanco-Perez** of Ferraiuoli, LLC (San Juan, P.R.)
- **Reginald Sainvil** of Baker & McKenzie LLP (Miami)
- **Melina Bales** of Jones Day (Dallas)
- **Katelin Morales** of Potter Anderson & Corroon LLP (Wilmington, Del.)
- **Jennifer Cruz** of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California (Santa Barbara, Calif.)

ABI members volunteering to serve as mentors this year include:

- **H. Joseph Acosta** of Dorsey & Whitney LLP (Dallas)
- **David D. Farrell** of Thompson Coburn LLP (St. Louis, Mo.)
- **Ferve E. Khan** of BakerHostetler (New York)
- **Gerard R. Luckman** of Forchelli Law (Uniondale, N.Y.)
- **Patricia A. Redmond** of Stearns, Weaver, Miller, Weissler, Alhadeff & Sitterson, PA (Miami)
- **Claire Ann Richman** of Steinhilber Swanson LLP (Madison, Wis.)
- **Brian L. Shaw** of Cozen O'Connor (Chicago)

- The Honorable **Sage M. Sigler** (U.S. Bankruptcy Court N.D. Ga.; Atlanta)

ABI's Mentorship Program will hold formal bi-monthly meetings to discuss a variety of topics with resources from ABI and members of the reorganization community, including judges, trustees, attorneys and accountants. The group meetings will provide an opportunity to interact with other experienced insolvency professionals while offering an educational program and fostering opportunities to discuss important topics in the mentees' professional development. The mentors and mentees will then meet every other month to discuss such topics as courthouse decorum, attorney/firm interactions, work/life balance, networking, time-management, and any other topics that the mentors/mentees choose.

The DWG's Mentoring Subcommittee developed this program. This year the Subcommittee will be led by **Kimberly A. Posin** of Latham & Watkins LLP (Los Angeles) with support from The Honorable **Martin Barash** (U.S. Bankruptcy Court C.D. Cal.; Woodland Hills), **Sonia Colón** of Ferraiuoli (Orlando, Fla.), **Mariane Dorris** of Shuker & Dorris, P.A. (Orlando, Fla.), , **Zhao (Ruby) Liu** of The Rosner Law Group (Wilmington, Del.), **Allen Kadish** of Archer & Greiner PC (New York), **Stephen A. Spitzer** of AlixPartners, LLP (New York) and **Shanti Katona** of Polsinelli (Wilmington, Del.)

The overall mission of the DWG is to develop recommendations for increasing diversity within ABI and its leadership, to help create opportunities for diverse ABI members, and otherwise to promote diversity within ABI and the insolvency profession. The DWG is chaired by **Michael Bernstein** of Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP (Washington, D.C.) and **Shanti Katona** of Polsinelli (Wilmington, Del.).

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ABI is the largest multi-disciplinary, nonpartisan organization dedicated to research and education on matters related to insolvency. ABI was founded in 1982 to provide Congress and the public with unbiased analysis of bankruptcy issues. The ABI membership includes nearly 10,000 attorneys, accountants, bankers, judges, professors, lenders, turnaround specialists and other bankruptcy professionals, providing a forum for the exchange of ideas and information. For additional information on ABI, visit www.abiworld.org. For additional conference information, visit <http://www.abi.org/calendar-of-events>.