



TARA J. SCHELLHORN

Practice Areas

Litigation

Corporate Trust Law

Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring

Overview

Tara Schellhorn is a partner in Riker Danzig's Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring Group. Tara's practice focuses on all aspects of bankruptcy and restructuring including the representation of debtors, creditors' committees, trustees, financial institutions, secured lenders, unsecured creditors and other parties in interest in complex chapter 11 cases. As a result, Tara is well positioned to advise clients on all aspects of bankruptcy. Tara also has experience in bankruptcy litigation including prosecuting and defending nondischargeability, preference and other avoidance actions. In addition, Tara has significant experience representing clients on complex corporate lending issues including the representation of indenture trustees in default and bankruptcy situations. Tara's practice is not limited to bankruptcy but also includes civil litigation in both federal and state courts.



Partner

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Tara holds leadership positions in a number of bankruptcy and insolvency organizations. A member of the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation (IWIRC), Tara is currently the Co-Chair of the IWIRC-New Jersey Network and U.S. Program Committee Co-Director for the IWIRC International Board. Tara is also an active member of the American Bankruptcy Institute (ABI).

She is currently the Co-Chair of the ABI Young and New Members Committee and a Contributing Editor of the *ABI Journal*, overseeing the "Building Blocks" column.

In addition, Tara is a member of the Lawyers Advisory Committee to the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Jersey, which serves as a two-way conduit between the bankruptcy bar and the Board of Bankruptcy Judges in New Jersey. Tara is also involved in a number of other organizations and serves as the Co-Chair of the Morris County Bar Association's Women Lawyers Committee and a member of the Board of Advisors of the Widener University Commonwealth Law School. Tara currently serves as a member of the Board of Trustees for The Westmont Montessori School in Mendham, New Jersey.

In January 2020, Tara was appointed to a two-year term as a member of the Chester Township Environmental Commission. The Commission represents the residents and their long-term interests, advocating for open space preservation, informing residents of environmental issues, promoting environmental education, and working with other regional organizations to meet these goals.

Prior to joining Riker Danzig, Tara served as Judicial Law Clerk to the Honorable Raymond T. Lyons, United States Bankruptcy Judge for the District of New Jersey. Tara earned her law degree, *magna cum laude*, from Widener University School of Law in 2007. While pursuing her degree, Tara served as Editor-in-Chief of the *Widener Law Journal* and received the Widener Law Journal Award for Distinguished Legal Scholarship. She was also the recipient of the 2007 American Bankruptcy Institute Medal of Excellence for outstanding performance in her

bankruptcy coursework. Tara received her undergraduate degree, *magna cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa, from Gettysburg College in 2004.

Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business has included Tara in its 2020 publication in the field of Bankruptcy/Restructuring. Chambers noted that Tara has "impressed both clientele and the market with her technical competence and responsiveness to the changing needs of cases," as well as her "availability to ensure smooth case management." In 2019, the American Bankruptcy Institute honored Tara as one of their "40 Under 40," a list recognizing emerging leaders in bankruptcy and insolvency practice. In 2017, Tara was named a "New Leader of the Bar" by the *New Jersey Law Journal*. A high honor, the *Law Journal* selects for this recognition attorneys in their second decade of practice whose achievements in the workplace and public service involvement distinguish them from their peers. Tara was named to *Morris/Essex Health & Life* magazine's "Top Lawyer" list for 2020 for her work in Bankruptcy Law. Attorneys were selected for inclusion on the list by an online peer-voting process. The top vote-getters in selected areas were included on this list. In 2013, Tara was selected as the first attorney from New Jersey to participate in the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges (NCBJ) Next Generation Program, an exclusive program designed for up-and-coming bankruptcy attorneys from across the country. *Best Lawyers in America*®, a peer review of U.S. lawyers, has included Tara on its Best Lawyers list in the field of Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights Law for 2020 and 2021. Tara has been included on the Super Lawyers "Rising Star" list for Bankruptcy Law since 2011 by Thomson Reuters. See [Awards and Honors Methodology](#).

No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey.

Education

Widener University School of Law - Harrisburg, J.D., *magna cum laude*, 2007

Gettysburg College, B.A., *magna cum laude*, 2004

Bar Admissions

New Jersey

United States District Court, District of New Jersey

New York

United States District Court, Southern District of New York

Pennsylvania

United States District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania

Professional Activities

Co-Chair, International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring
Confederation (IWIRC) - New Jersey

U.S. Program Committee Co-Director, IWIRC International Board

Co-Chair, American Bankruptcy Institute Young & New Members
Committee

Co-Chair, Morris County Bar Association's Women Lawyers Committee

Member, Turnaround Management Association

Member, New Jersey Women Lawyers Association

Member, Board of Advisors of the Widener University Commonwealth
Law School

Member, Chester Township Environmental Commission

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