



## Sallie B. Armstrong

sarmstrong@mcdonaldcarano.com

D: 775.398.7418; O: 775.788.2000

### Areas of Practice

Bankruptcy, Insolvency & Financial Restructuring  
Commercial & Complex Litigation

### Bar Admissions

Nevada, Arkansas

### Education

- LL.M. Taxation, New York University School of Law, 1980
- J.D., University of Arkansas School of Law, 1979
- B.A. *magna cum laude*, Sweet Briar College, 1976

A distinguished bankruptcy lawyer with over four decades of experience which began with her clerkship for the Honorable Bertram Goldwater at the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nevada, Reno Division, Sallie Armstrong represents clients throughout Nevada in all areas of bankruptcy, financial restructuring, corporate reorganization, creditor rights, debtor rights, insolvency counseling, receiverships, and related litigation.

Sallie practices regularly in the United States Bankruptcy Court in Reno, and during her career has practiced in Las Vegas, as well as in state court. Her bankruptcy practice includes a wide range and diversity of practice experiences comprising the representation of a wide range of stakeholders, including debtors in complex Chapter 11 cases, equity security holders, secured and unsecured creditors, including financial institutions, lenders, committees, purchasers, and adversary litigation defendants, parties to executory contracts, receivers, and commercial litigants. Sallie often serves as local counsel to national firms with clients in Nevada, and, as a result, has been able to participate in some of the largest and most significant Chapter 11 cases filed in Nevada, several of which are detailed below.

Working with various stakeholders, Sallie helps navigate the complexities of business insolvencies whether in formal bankruptcy proceedings, litigation, receiverships, or informal out-of-court workouts. Whatever the nature of her representation, Sallie works closely with clients to help them find and develop the most appropriate business solution. Known for her thoroughness and insight, Sallie is recognized as one of Nevada's leading bankruptcy lawyers.

### Representative Local Counsel Experience

- Served as local counsel to Covington & Burling, LLP, and, in that capacity, represented the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors in the Ahern Rentals, Inc., Chapter 11 case filed in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nevada (Northern Division) in December 2011. The Committee's goal and counsel's task was to obtain the best treatment for all unsecured creditors, and a fair and cost-effective procedure for

the liquidation of personal injury claims. The case was a success – all unsecured creditors in the case were to receive 100% of their allowed claims, plus interest, within one year of the effective date of the plan, and all personal injury claims were to be cost-effectively liquidated with all allowed personal injury claims receiving 100% of the allowed claim, plus interest, within one year of the effective date of the plan.

- Served as local counsel to Milbank, Tweed, Hadley, & McCloy, LLP, and, in that capacity, represented the Debtors in the jointly administered cases of Circus and Eldorado Joint Venture, dba Silver Legacy Resort Casino and Silver Legacy Capital Corp., filed in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nevada (Reno Division) in May 2012. The case was a tremendous success with the Debtors' reorganization plan becoming effective within approximately six months after their Chapter 11 filings.
- Served as local counsel to Milbank, Tweed, Hadley, & McCloy, LLP, in the Chapter 11 cases filed by Rodeo Creek Gold, Inc., and its affiliated debtors in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nevada (Las Vegas Division) in February 2013, and, in that capacity, represented Credit Suisse AG as the Debtor In Possession agent and Debtor In Possession lender. Credit Suisse supported a structured dismissal of the cases, which represented an efficient resolution of the cases.
- Served as local counsel to Graves, Dougherty, Hearon & Moody, P.C., in the Chapter 11 cases filed by America West Resources, Inc., and its affiliated debtors in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nevada (Las Vegas Division) in February 2013, and, in that capacity, represented the largest creditor who also served as the Debtor In Possession lender.

### Representative Cases

- Successfully represented and continues to represent a bank creditor (with a claim of \$74,000,000) in the Chapter 7 cases filed by Double Jump, Inc. and related substantively consolidated entities in the District of Nevada (Northern Division) in 2019, in what is alleged to be a massive, nation-wide Ponzi scheme involving mobile solar generators.
- Successfully obtained a judgment of non-dischargeability in a Chapter 13 case filed in the District of Nevada (Southern Division) in 2022.
- Successfully represented a creditor in one of the earliest filed Subchapter V cases in the District of Nevada in 2020.
- Successfully defended and obtained summary judgment and prevailed in upholding that judgment at the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel in an adversary proceeding brought by a trustee in bankruptcy for breach of contract.
- Successfully represented a creditor and served on the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors in the case of *In re New Cal Neva Lodge, LLC* filed in the District of Nevada

(Northern Division) in 2016, working with the Committee to effectively negotiate a consensual, liquidating plan of reorganization to address complex mechanics' lien/priority issues on an unfinished hotel/casino situated in both California and Nevada.

- Successfully represented a co-proponent with the Debtor and obtained confirmation of a plan in a case filed in the District of Nevada (Northern Division) in 2015 where the co-proponent provided new value, which enabled the Debtor to continue providing extensive mail handling services to the US Postal Service.
- Successfully represented a landlord who was also a significant creditor in the Chapter 11 case filed by Tropicana Entertainment, LLC, in the District of Delaware in 2008.
- Successfully represented the Debtor in the case of *In re Sagewood Manor Associates Limited Partnership*. The opinion of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nevada (Reno Division), which appears at 223 B.R. 756 (Bankr. D. Nev 1998), remains a frequently cited case for issues involving plan confirmation.
- Successfully represented the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors in the case of singer and entertainer Wayne Newton in negotiating a consensual plan which was consummated. As part of the case, after a trial under 11 U.S.C. Section 541(a)(6), the Committee obtained a pivotal decision from the Court declaring part of Mr. Newton's post-petition earnings to be property of the bankruptcy estate.
- Successfully represented the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors in the largest Chapter 11 case then ever filed in Nevada, a mortgage brokerage with over \$76 million in investor liability. Published decision: *In re Lemons & Associates, Inc.*, 67 B.R. 198 (Bankr.D.Nev. 1986).

### Awards and Recognition

- *Martindale-Hubbell* – AV Preeminent Peer Review Rating (since 2000)
- *The Best Lawyers in America* – Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law (1989-2024)
- *The Best Lawyers in America* – Commercial Litigation (2021-2024)
- *The Best Lawyers in America* – Bankruptcy Litigation (2024)
- *The Best Lawyers in America* – “Lawyer of the Year” in Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law (2012)
- *Mountain States Super Lawyers Magazine* – Super Lawyer (2007-2018)
- *Nevada Business Magazine* – “Legal Elite/Top Rank Attorneys” (2020)
- Clerkship, the Honorable Bertram M. Goldwater, United States Bankruptcy Court, 1981-1982
- Member and Citations Editor, *Arkansas Law Review* (membership by invitation to top 14% of the class)

## Professional & Community Engagement

- Investment Committee Chair, Community Foundation of Western Nevada
- Executive Committee Member, Community Foundation of Western Nevada
- President of the Board of Trustees, Sage Ridge School, 2018-2023
- Member of the Board of Trustees, Sage Ridge School, 2009-2023
- Vice President and Secretary, Member of the Executive Committee, Sage Ridge School, 2010-2018
- Chair and Member of the Parish Finance Council, Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church
- Mentor, State Bar of Nevada Transitioning into Practice Mentoring Program
- Former Committee Member, Bar of Nevada Standing Committee on Judicial Ethics and Election Practices
- Member, American Bankruptcy Institute
- Member, Washoe County Bar Association

**McDonald Carano LLP** ([www.mcdonaldcarano.com](http://www.mcdonaldcarano.com))

**Reno Office:** 100 West Liberty Street, Tenth Floor, Reno, NV 89501, P: 775.788.2000

**Las Vegas Office:** 2300 West Sahara Ave., Suite 1200, Las Vegas, NV 89102, P: 702.873.4100