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## MICHAEL G. ABELOW

Member

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Mr. Abelow represents clients in complex [commercial litigation](#) and bankruptcy, including contract claims, business torts, loan restructuring, lender liability, and guaranty disputes.

Prior to coming to the firm, Mike served as a litigator in the Federal Trade Commission's Bureau of Consumer Protection in Washington, D.C. Prior to that, he represented clients in complex commercial litigation, [bankruptcy](#), insurance coverage, and government contract disputes at Heller Ehrman, LLP and Crowell & Moring, LLP in Washington, D.C.

Mike graduated *summa cum laude* from Washington & Lee University School of Law in 2000, where he was a member of the Law Review. After graduation, Mike was a law clerk for the Honorable E. A. Van Graafeiland of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit in New York.

Mr. Abelow's representative engagements include:

- Bankruptcy counsel for buyer of assets at § 363 sale; successfully moved to enforce Sale Order against Debtor and obtained Court Order permitting auction of assets.
- Lead trial counsel on behalf of lender for borrower's failure to obtain life insurance to secure the debt; obtained summary judgment on liability and prevailed at trial on damages.
- Lead trial counsel on multi-million dollar lender liability claim.
- Lead trial counsel in multi-million dollar breach of fiduciary duty claim; successfully settled case after trial.
- Lead counsel for secured creditor in Chapter 11 bankruptcy. Deposed Plaintiff's interest rate and feasibility expert and organized defense group's engagement of interest rate and feasibility expert.
- Obtained summary judgment against multi-million dollar claim for supposed engineering improvements to jointly-owned property.
- Mike has taught continuing legal education courses on drafting a commercial law complaint, remedies to obtain control of defendants' property before a final judgment, and litigation budgeting.

Mike is active in the community and legal community. In the community he serves on the board of the Nashville Urban Debate League, a non-profit that brings the proven academic benefits of debate to schools and students who otherwise could not participate in this activity. He also serves as Vice President of the Seven Hills Swim and Tennis Club.

In the legal community, he serves on the boards of the Nashville Bar Association and the Mid-South Commercial Law Institute. He was previously chair of the board of the Tennessee Justice Center and currently chairs its nominating committee. Mike is a past recipient of the Tennessee Bar Association's Harris Gilbert Pro Bono Volunteer of the Year Award for his work on the *Crabtree* case, helping people with disabilities stay in their homes and communities and out of institutions.

Mike and his wife Cynthia live in Nashville and have four children. In his free time, Mike is an avid squash and tennis player, and enjoys playing board games.

### Education

- J.D., Washington and Lee University, 2000
- B.A., James Madison University, 1996

### Bar Admissions

- Tennessee
- District of Columbia
- United States District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee
- United States Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Tennessee
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee

### Practice Areas

- Bankruptcy & Creditors' Right
- Business & Commercial Litigation
- Government Compliance & Investigations
- Healthcare Litigation
- Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- Professional Liability
- Real Estate Litigation

## Honors

- Nashville Bar Association President-Elect 2020
- Woodward/White: *The Best Lawyers In America* 2016-2021 (Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law; Commercial Litigation; Litigation-Bankruptcy)
- Woodward/White: *The Best Lawyers In America* Lawyer of the Year 2021 (Litigation-Bankruptcy)
- Attorney for Justice Tennessee Supreme Court Pro Bono Service Award 2020
- Nashville Business Journal Best of The Bar 2016, 2018
- *Benchmark Litigation* 2013-2021 ("Future Star")
- Super Lawyers 2013-2020 (Business Litigation) (Tennessee Top 100, 2018) ("Mid-South Rising Star" 2013-2016)
- Tennessee Bar Association, 2009 Harris Gilbert Pro Bono Volunteer of the Year Award