



ROBERT J. MENDES

Member

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Bob concentrates his practice in the areas of commercial litigation, business bankruptcy and business planning. He represents businesses and business owners in a diverse range of matters including directors' and officers' liability, contract disputes, and general business disputes. Bob is one of Nashville's "go to" lawyers for bet-the-company litigation. When everything is on the line, Bob can lead your team to success.

A portion of Bob's practice is devoted to representing debtors, creditors, creditors' committees, trustees, and purchasers of assets in Chapter 11 bankruptcy cases. He appears in Bankruptcy Court on matters including stay relief motions, cash collateral litigation, valuation litigation, preference and fraudulent conveyance actions, discharge and dischargeability actions, lease disputes, and contested confirmation hearings.

Bob also acts as outside general counsel for a number of companies. He counsels clients in forming and operating businesses and participates in clients' management teams to formulate policy and strategy. Bob also provides guidance to help clients avoid and resolve disputes and navigate through change management challenges.

Bob graduated from University of Illinois and University of Chicago Law School and is licensed to practice law in Tennessee and Illinois. In addition to his law practice, since September 2015, Bob has represented all of Nashville as a Councilmember-At-Large in Nashville's Metro Council.

Education

- University of Chicago Law School, 1991
- University of Illinois, B.A., 1988

Bar Admissions

- Tennessee
- Illinois
- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, M.D. Tenn.
- U.S. District Court, W.D. Tenn.
- U.S. District Court, E.D. Tenn.
- U.S. District Court, N.D. Fla.
- U.S. District Court, N.D. Ill.

Practice Areas

- Arbitration & Mediation
- Bankruptcy & Creditors' Rights
- Business & Commercial Litigation
- Business Transactions
- Crisis Management & Media Relations
- Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- Professional Liability
- Restrictive Covenants & Trade Secrets

Honors

- Woodward/White: *The Best Lawyers in America* 2007-2021 (Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law; Bet-the-Company Litigation; Commercial Litigation; Litigation-Bankruptcy)
- Woodward/White: *The Best Lawyers In America* Lawyer of the Year 2021 (Bet-the-Company Litigation)
- Nashville Business Journal Best of the Bar 2020 (Bankruptcy; Litigation & Dispute)
- 2020 *Nashville Post's* "In Charge" Government/Politics
- Selected for inclusion in Mid-South Super Lawyers 2008-2020
- Woodward/White: *The Best Lawyers In America* Lawyer of the Year 2016, 2018 (Litigation-Bankruptcy)

Professional Activities

- Member, Nashville Bar Association
- Member, Tennessee Bar Association

Civic Activities

- Councilmember-At-Large in Nashville's Metro Council (9/2015 – present)
- Nashville Electric Service (Board Chair (8/2014 – 7/2015), Audit & Ethics Committee Chair (8/2012 – 7/2014), Board (8/2011 – 8/2015))
- Father Ryan High School (Finance Committee Chair (7/2013 – 6/2015), Board of Trustees (7/2008 – 9/2020))
- New Level Community Development Corporation (Board of Directors (6/2016 – present))
- Park Center (Board of Directors (3/2017 – present))

Publications

- [Mendes for Nashville Blog](#)
- Ethics I – E-discovery, The Cloud and Related Ethical Rules, TVPPA Legal Conference, February 2013
- Forecast for E-Discovery: Mostly Cloudy?, Tennessee Business Litigation Newsletter, December 2012
- Differences Between the Federal and Tennessee Rules of Civil Procedure, Nashville Bar Association, November 2012
- The Future of the Practice of Law, Harry Phillips American Inn of Court, September 2012
- Recognizing the Warning Signs of Financial Distress, content originally posted on MGLAW.net, June 16, 2012
- The Lost Art of Negotiation, Harry Phillips American Inn of Court, January 2012
- What Are We Seeing In The Economy?, content originally posted on MGLAW.net, July 18, 2011
- Creditors Can't Directly Sue Officers and Directors of an Insolvent Corporation in Tennessee, content originally posted on MGLAW.net, January 9, 2011
- Cultural Cognition and Its Influence on Lawyers and Judges, Harry Phillips American Inn of Court, November 16, 2010
- Does Hamilton v. Lanning Impact Individual Chapter 11 Cases?, content originally posted on MGLAW.net, July 20, 2010
- Examining Tennessee's Traditional Toolkit as the Deepening Insolvency Debate Subsides, content originally posted on MGLAW.net, January 20, 2010
- Bankruptcy Practice in Tennessee: A Collection of Essays, The Tennessee Journal of Business Law (Transactions, Spring 2009, No.2), 239-258, Spring 2009
- Cramming Down in a Credit Crunch, content originally posted on MGLAW.net, January 27, 2009
- Internet Litigation: The Legalities of Lead Aggregation, content originally posted on MGLAW.net, February 19, 2008
- Is Deepening Insolvency a Recognized Tort in Tennessee?, content originally posted on MGLAW.net, November 6, 2007
- Buy-Sell Agreements: What They Are And Why They Are Important, content originally posted on MGLAW.net, February 23, 2006
- Electronic Discovery Update, content originally posted on MGLAW.net, August 8, 2005
- New SEC Rule Regarding Broker-Dealer Registration May Impact Claims for Mishandling Accounts, content originally posted on MGLAW.net, August 8, 2005
- The Supreme Court's Till Decision and Its Impact on Chapter 11, content originally posted on MGLAW.net, August 26, 2004
- Is Your Handwriting Expert's Testimony Admissible?, content originally posted on MGLAW.net, March 4, 2004