

Jay H. Ong



Shareholder [Austin](#)
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Education

J.D. from Cornell Law School

- Asian American Law Students Association
- Moot Court

B.A. from The University of Texas at Austin with honors

Bar Admissions

United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan
Texas
United States District Court for the Eastern, Northern, Southern and Western Districts of Texas

Related Practices

Bankruptcy, Restructuring & Insolvency

- Asset Acquisitions
- Committees
- Creditors
- Debtors
- Fraud & Asset Recovery
- Receiverships
- Trustees

Finance

- Distressed Debt

Overview

Jay is an active member of Munsch Hardt's Leadership Team, currently serving on the Firm's Board of Directors and Compensation Committee, as well as Managing Shareholder for Munsch Hardt's Austin office. In his legal practice, Jay concentrates on bankruptcy, reorganization and creditors' rights, with additional experience in corporate finance and commercial litigation.

He has extensive experience representing various parties in bankruptcy and large business reorganizations including senior lenders, trustees, debtors, committees, receivers, trade creditors, bond holders and insurers in addition to commercial defendants. He has served as a Chapter 11 Trustee, and is a frequent speaker, lecturer and course instructor on restructuring and commercial litigation issues including for the State Bar of Texas.

Jay also frequently provides speeches and lectures on topics such as complex business bankruptcy issues, financial management, improving public education and persuasive speaking and writing, and has served as Co-head Coach of The University of Texas School of Law National Bankruptcy Moot Court competition teams since 2006.

Litigation
Insolvency Litigation

Related Industries

Financial Services
Energy
Insurance
Real Estate
Technology & Telecommunications

Achievements

Woodward/White, Inc. – Best Lawyers in America, “Lawyer of the Year” (2024); Best Lawyers in America, Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law (2024); Best Lawyers in America, Litigation – Bankruptcy (2022-2024) *Chambers USA* – Leaders in Their Field, Bankruptcy/Restructuring – Texas (2021-2023)

Duberstein National Bankruptcy Competition (2010, 2012 and 2024 Champions)

The Business Journals – National Influencers in Law (2019)

Turnaround ATLAS Awards – Chapter 11 Restructuring of the Year (2017)

Turnaround Management Association – Large Turnaround of the Year Award (2017)

Thomson Reuters – Texas Rising Stars (2006-2012)

Memberships

American College of Bankruptcy – Fellow

Austin Asian American Bar Association, Bankruptcy Section

National Asian Pacific American Bar Association

State Bar of Texas, Bankruptcy Law Section; 2015 Bankruptcy Bench Bar Planning Committee

The Honorable Larry E. Kelly Bankruptcy Inn of Court (Founding Member / Master; Vice President / Secretary / Treasurer, 2023-2024)

The University of Texas School of Law National Bankruptcy Moot Court Competition Team (Co-head Coach)

The University of Texas Jay L. Westbrook Annual Bankruptcy Conference (Planning Committee, 2009 - Present; 2017 Presiding Officer)

Turnaround Management Association

Experience

Committee Representation

Represented the Official Unsecured Creditors' Committee for Life Partners Holdings, Inc., which filed for Chapter 11 after entry of a \$47 MM judgment in favor of the SEC. Life Partners managed a \$2.4 billion insurance portfolio of "life settlements." The Joint Plan was confirmed after a 5 week contested confirmation hearing, making it the first "life settlement" company to successfully emerge from bankruptcy with a confirmed Chapter 11 Plan.

Creditor Representation

Served as lead counsel for Community National Bank and West Texas National Bank, senior secured bank lenders, in connection with the bankruptcy cases of a major oil and gas supply enterprise (DRM Sales and Supply, LLC / DRM Rental Properties LLC), in which a Chapter 11 bankruptcy plan was successfully confirmed in 2016 based on the structure of the lenders' Court approved bankruptcy settlement.

Debtor Representation

Served as lead Debtor's counsel in the successful restructuring of the U.S.-based, affiliate operations (Reservoir Exploration Technologies, Inc.) of a seismic exploration and drilling technology enterprise based in Norway. The Chapter 11 bankruptcy plan for the debtor was confirmed in 2015, providing for 100% distributions on account of allowed claims.

Creditor Representation

Represented the property owners association for a major, luxury golf course, country club and residential community in the bankruptcy case of the private club (In re Crosby Golf Club). Munsch Hardt successfully litigated a request by the association to transfer the venue of the case from North Texas to the Central District of California. Munsch Hardt believes that it is the sole firm in the entire United States to feature two bankruptcy attorneys, including Mr. Ong, who have successfully transferred the venue of more than one golf course business bankruptcy case across the country.

Creditor Representation

Represented a quasi-state agency and statutory association (Texas Property and Casualty Insurance Guaranty Association) in the jointly administered bankruptcy cases of affiliated debtors implicating substantial allegations of fraud. Through Mr. Ong's efforts, a single Chapter 7 trustee was installed for all of the debtors' estates, and the client prevailed upon the trustee to engage the client's co-counsel as the trustee's special litigation counsel. Thereafter, Mr. Ong worked with co-counsel in order to successfully negotiate a global settlement providing for substantial distributions to creditors of all of the debtors' estates.

Trustee Representation

Represented the Chapter 11 Trustee of a holding company for a technology enterprise, and for a bankruptcy estate involving substantial claims for theft of corporate opportunity. Mr. Ong successfully negotiated, formulated, obtained confirmation of and implemented a Chapter 11 plan providing for 100% distributions on account of allowed claims.

Newsroom

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Attorneys Coach Two Moot Court Teams to Victory

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Speech: Austin Bar Association Real Estate Section CLE

Press Release: 'Best Lawyers in America®' Names 54 Munsch Hardt Attorneys to its 2024 List and Two as 'Lawyers of the Year'

Press Release: Chambers USA 2023 Directory Highlights Munsch Hardt Practices + Attorneys

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Attorneys Honored as 2023 'Best Lawyers in America®,' 'Ones to Watch', and 'Lawyer of the Year'

Press Release: Six Munsch Hardt Practice Groups and 12 Lawyers Ranked by Chambers USA 2022

Press Release: Jay Ong Inducted Into American College of Bankruptcy

Speech: SBRA and Sub Chapter V Update

Speech: The World is Trying to Get Back to Normal, but is Your Business? What to Do Now

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Attorneys Honored as 2022 'Best Lawyers in America', 'Ones to Watch' and 'Lawyer of the Year'

Press Release: Chambers USA 2021 Rankings Include Six Munsch Hardt Practice Groups and Ten Attorneys

Speech: Diversity & Inclusion Panel: Career Opportunities in Bankruptcy Law

In The News: Alamo Drafthouse Files For Bankruptcy, Permanently Closes Downtown Austin Theater

Speech: Virtual CLE Program: A Bankruptcy Pandemic?

In The News: Munsch Hardt in Law360: Oil & Gas Bankruptcies May Drag As Secured Debt Swells

In The News: 2020 Oil & Gas Bankruptcy Trends: Midyear Report

In The News: After Bankruptcy Mr. Gatti's Plans Expansion

In The News: 3 Austinites Selected to National List of Influential Attorneys

In The News: Journal Profile: Bankruptcy Expert Jay Ong Racks Up National Championships for UT

In The News: Ong Quoted In ABJ On Recent Appointment To Austin's Managing Shareholder

Press Release: Jay Ong Appointed New Managing Shareholder of Munsch Hardt's Austin Office

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Announces 2018 Promotions to Equity Shareholder and Shareholder

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Attorneys Win 2017 Turnaround of the Year Award

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Honored at 2017 Turnaround Atlas Award

In The News: SEC Cites 'Misleading' Life Partners Release In Trustee Bid

In The News: Reservoir Exploration Files for Chapter 11 with Plan

Press Release: Thomson Reuters Names Munsch Hardt Attorneys 2013 Rising Stars

Article: Five Things Every Young Business Lawyer Needs to Know About Bankruptcy

Speech: Involuntary Petitions: A Weapon in the Right or Wrong Hands

Article: Texas Law Schools Flourish at Annual Conrad B. Duberstein National Bankruptcy Moot Court Competition

Press Release: Four Munsch Hardt Attorneys Named Texas Rising Stars

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Attorneys are Named Rising Stars

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Attorney Ong Coaches Winning Moot Court Teams

Press Release: Five Munsch Hardt Attorneys Named Texas Rising Stars 2010

Press Release: Munsch Hardt Announces Attorney Promotions

Press Release: Five Munsch Hardt Attorneys Achieve Texas Rising Stars Honors

Article: Claims Trading: New York District Court Gets Bullish on Bankruptcy Claims Market