



**John H. Small**  
PARTNER

Greensboro  
t: 336.271.3124  
f: 336.232.9124  
jsmall@brookspierce.com

John Small has more than 35 years of experience representing both creditors and debtors in business bankruptcies, and is a Board Certified specialist in Business and Consumer Bankruptcy Law. He also counsels small businesses and religious organizations on a wide range of legal issues. He thrives on solving clients' most complex problems.

### **BUSINESS BANKRUPTCIES REPRESENTING NON-DEBTORS**

John represents secured creditors in bankruptcies for business and real estate loans. He also has experience working with landlords, equipment lessors, trade creditors and Chapter 11 and Chapter 7 trustees in bankruptcy cases, as well as individuals who may be purchasing assets out of the bankruptcy.

"In the 15 years that I have known John, I have found that his judgment, legal expertise and business acumen are outstanding and highly valuable. His commitment to service and his ability to meet clients' needs and deadlines are unmatched." - Bill Vasaly, EVP/Chief Credit Officer, Bank of Oak Ridge

### **BUSINESS BANKRUPTCIES REPRESENTING DEBTORS**

John represents businesses experiencing financial difficulties, many of which are going through Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings. He has represented a variety of businesses, including manufacturing companies, retailers, and real estate companies.

### **SMALL BUSINESS**

John represents both principals and small businesses, including corporations, LLCs, and partnerships, on entity formation, mergers and acquisitions, financing and contract issues.

## RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

John serves as general counsel for the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, and represents other churches and religious organizations both inside and outside the Baptist denomination. He helps religious organizations navigate their unique legal landscape, including structure, governance issues and the impact of the First Amendment on general laws and regulations applicable to religious organizations.

## EXPERIENCE

### Client Success

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

## SERVICES

Bankruptcy, Restructuring & Creditor's Rights

Corporate & Business

Construction & Development

Entity Formation

Financial Services and Banking

Manufacturing

Media, Publishing & Communications

Mergers & Acquisitions

Not-for-Profits

Real Estate

Transportation

## CREDENTIALS

### Honors & Recognitions

Selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*® in Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law, Bet-the-Company Litigation and Bankruptcy Litigation (2003-2022); Greensboro "Lawyer of the Year" for Bankruptcy Litigation (2016, 2020), for Bet-the-Company Litigation (2018, 2020) and for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law (2021)

Recognized in *North Carolina Super Lawyers* (Thomson Reuters) in Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights (2006-2014), Bankruptcy: Business (2015-2021), and Top 100 (2009)

Recognized in *Super Lawyers Business Edition* in Bankruptcy: Business (2015)

Recognized by *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* for Bankruptcy/Restructuring Law (2009-2021)

Recognized by his peers for inclusion in *Business North Carolina's "Legal Elite"* in Bankruptcy Law (2005-2015, 2017-2018)

### Education

**Yale University**, J.D., 1979; Editor, *Yale Law Journal* **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**, B.A., 1976, Phi Beta Kappa

### Certifications

Certified by the North Carolina Board of Legal Specialization as a specialist in Bankruptcy Law-Consumer and Bankruptcy Law-Business, 1988 to present

### Admissions

North Carolina

U.S. Supreme Court

U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit

U.S. District Court for the Western, Middle, and Eastern Districts of North Carolina

### PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC

Vice-Chair (2018-2019), Member (1986-89, 2015-present), Bankruptcy Section Council, North Carolina Bar Association

Chair (2008--2009) and Member (2004-2009), Bankruptcy Law Specialty Committee of the Board of Legal Specialization, North Carolina State Bar

Member, Bankruptcy and Business Sections, North Carolina State Bar

Member, American Bankruptcy Institute

Member, Turnaround Management Association, Carolinas Chapter

Member, Board of Directors, (2001-04), Chairman of the Board (2002), Fruitland Baptist Bible College

Executive Committee Member (1997-98), General Board Member (1995-98), Baptist State Convention of North Carolina

Chairman (1997-98) and Member (1995-98, 2000-03), Business Services Committee, Baptist State Convention of North Carolina

Chairman (1998) and Member (1997-98, 2002-03, 2005), Constitution Committee, Baptist State Convention of North Carolina

Parliamentarian, Alaska Baptist Convention Annual Meeting (2001, 2002); Baptist State Convention of North Carolina Annual Meeting (2020); Special Meeting (2021)

## NEWSROOM

### News

72 Brooks Pierce Attorneys Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2022 Guide  
*The Best Lawyers in America*®, 08.19.2021

Brooks Pierce Practice Areas, Attorneys Receive Top Honors from Chambers USA  
*Chambers USA*, 05.20.2021

Thirty Brooks Pierce Attorneys Recognized by 2021 North Carolina Super Lawyers  
*North Carolina Super Lawyers*, 01.14.2021

73 Brooks Pierce Attorneys Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2021 Guide  
*The Best Lawyers in America*®, 08.20.2020

Brooks Pierce Attorneys Win Purchase for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
05.04.2020

### Speaking Engagements

Twenty Brooks Pierce Attorneys to Speak at the 2015 Festival of Legal Learning  
02.09.2015

### Publications

Faith-Based Organization Eligibility for SBA Loans Under CARES Act

*COVID-19 Response Resource Center: Timely Counsel for your Business, 04.26.2020*