

REITLER



Yann Geron
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Experience

Yann has been practicing bankruptcy law since 1988. With nearly three decades of experience in bankruptcy law, Yann has served a variety of clients and interests in bankruptcies, out-of-court restructurings and assignments for the benefit of creditors. Yann heads the firm's insolvency, restructuring and bankruptcy practice.

Yann's Trustee Practice

Since 1993, Yann has served with distinction as a member of the Panel of Bankruptcy Trustees for the Southern District of New York (Manhattan). In addition to his own cases, Yann has represented a number of other panel and non-panel trustees in New York and other jurisdictions. He has directly handled and supervised numerous litigations in the bankruptcy, district and state courts, from recovery actions to complex fraud cases.

Yann has a robust trustee practice with significant experience in complex wind-downs and liquidations, and in the investigation and prosecution of estate claims, including actions against prior management and recipients of avoidable transfers. He has served as a trustee in Manhattan in thousands of bankruptcy cases, including many cases involving asset values of many millions.

- With a strong track record as trustee and counsel for trustees, Yann has served as:
- Chapter 7 trustee of Thelen LLP, a national law firm, in which he directed all features of the law firm wind-down, and was able to resolve the vast majority of claims against partners and successor firms without litigation.
- General counsel, along with a highly skilled litigation team, to the Chapter 7 trustee of Jeffrey J. Prosser, in which they recovered many millions of dollars from assets and litigation of claims, successfully objected to the debtor's discharge, obtained sanctions of nearly \$1 million against the debtor and his spouse for destruction of estate property and obtained a fraudulent conveyance judgment by jury trial against the debtor's spouse for more than \$14 million.
- Chapter 11 trustee of Rodman & Renshaw, a former broker-dealer, where his successful liquidation efforts led to the recovery of millions of dollars for the benefit of creditors.
- Chapter 11 trustee of Dallek, Inc., and confirmed a plan of liquidation that paid creditors 100 percent of their claims plus interest.
- Chapter 7 trustee of Pali Capital Corp. and Pali Holdings Inc., a former broker-dealer, and successfully prosecuted claims against the debtor's former officers and directors which resulted in a multimillion-dollar recovery for the benefit of these estates.
- Chapter 7 trustee of Third Toro, Inc. (which operated as H&H Bagel) and successfully sold the debtor's building in Manhattan for \$11 million.

Yann's Bankruptcy and Restructuring Experience

Yann is also renowned for his experience as counsel to debtors and other parties in Chapter 11 proceedings. Most recently, he confirmed a Chapter 11 plan in three related cases that resulted in a confirmed plan reorganizing approximately \$18 million in secured and partially-secured debt. Yann has also served as counsel to a creditors' committee under a confirmed plan and as counsel to numerous creditors in Chapter 11 proceedings, from landlords to secured creditors, to plan funders.

Yann is a strong and skilled litigator, focusing on matters relating to bankruptcy cases. In this capacity, Yann has successfully represented countless parties in these litigations.

Yann is a member of the court-approved Register of Mediators for the U.S. Bankruptcy Courts, Eastern and Southern Districts of New York.

Prior to Joining Reitler Kailas & Rosenblatt LLC

Before joining Reitler Kailas & Rosenblatt LLC, Yann was a partner at Fox Rothschild LLP, where, in addition to his practice, he formed and served as the first managing partner of that firm's New York office, then as an elected member of the executive committee, and finally as co-chair of the bankruptcy department. Yann started his career as an associate at Salomon Green & Ostrow, P.C., a bankruptcy boutique firm in New York City. In 1992, he started his own practice, Geron & Associates, which grew significantly until it merged with Fox Rothschild in 2005.

Yann has also served as a court-approved Assignee for the Benefit of Creditors in a complex corporate shut-down and liquidation.

Education

- Hofstra University School of Law (J.D., 1988)
- Bard College (B.A., 1985)

Professional

Collier Bankruptcy Manual (Lexis Nexis)

Yann serves in an ongoing role as a contributing author to "Collier Bankruptcy Manual", the preeminent treatise on bankruptcy law.

Collier Bankruptcy Practice Guide (Lexis Nexis)

Yann serves in an ongoing role as a contributing author to the "Collier Bankruptcy Practice Guide," a guidebook combining legal analysis with practical procedural and strategic advice.

Beyond Law, Community

Yann serves as chair of the Leadership Council of HEAF, a non-profit education and youth development organization that helps public school students from Harlem and the surrounding communities succeed in school, career and life.

Memberships

- American Bankruptcy Institute
- Association of the Bar of the City of New York
- National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees
- New York County Lawyer's Association
- Turnaround Management Association

Board of Directors

- Harlem Educational Activities Fund (HEAF), Chair of the Leadership Council
- National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees (*ex officio*)

Admissions

- U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit
- Registers of Mediators for the United States Bankruptcy Courts, Eastern and Southern District of New York

Publications

Winter 2018

Cyber Risks for the Trustee, an Introduction

American Bankruptcy Trustee Journal

2017 to Date

Collier Bankruptcy Manual

November 22, 2016

E-Discovery Takes the Chaos Out of Your Bankruptcy Case
Corporate Counsel

2016

Break Through the Barrage of Data with eDiscovery
Association of Insolvency & Restructuring Advisors Journal

April 27, 2015

New York Law's Application of the "Unfinished-Business" Doctrine in the Thelen Liquidation
American Bankruptcy Institute

2014 to Date

Collier Bankruptcy Practice Guide
LexisNexis

December 2, 2013

Analyzing the Post-'Stern' Landscape in New York
New York Law Journal

September 2012

Will Terminating Tenant Interests Unlock Value?
Journal of Corporate Renewal

Recognition

Honors & Awards

- Martindale-Hubbell "AV" rated
- Included in the list of "Super Lawyers" for Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights (2012 - [2019](#))
- Included in "Super Lawyers Business Edition" in the area of Bankruptcy and Creditor/Debtor Rights (2013, 2014)

Events

Cyber Fraud Risk to Trustees and Other Fiduciaries

September 6, 2018

Webinar hosted by the American Bankruptcy Institute

Cybersecurity for the Trustee Practice

February 23, 2018 3:00- 4:00 p.m. (Chair)

Delano, Las Vegas

Host: National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees

Data Retention Concerns for Bankruptcy Trustees

April 20, 2016 at 1:00pm – 2:00pm

Webinar

Hosted by: Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Advisors

Difficult Debtor

April 8, 2016 at 8:30am – 9:45am

Loews Atlanta

Hosted by: National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees

News

October 3, 2018

Cited and quoted as authority in "Sedgwick Ch. 11 Sets Stage for Atty. Payment Battle"

Law360

January 27, 2016

Thelen Trustee Gets Nod On \$4M Settlement Over Terminations

Law360

July 14, 2015

Ex-Thelen Partner Mounts Last Stand Against Clawback Suit

Law360

June 10, 2015

Ex-Thelen Partner Loses Fight Over Cash Advance Clawback

Law360

March 9, 2015

Thelen Trustee Reaches Deal With Holdout Ex-Partners

Law360

January 26, 2015

3rd Circ. OKs Sanctions in Telecom Exec.'s Bankruptcy

Law360

January 21, 2015

Judge Finds Ex-Wall Street Trader Hid Millions From Bankruptcy Court

The Wall Street Journal

January 15, 2015

No Discharge for Former Energy Trader Who Defrauded Merrill Lynch

Reuters

January 12, 2015

Comparing Recent Clawback Rulings in 'Dewey' and 'Thelen'

New York Law Journal

November 24, 2014

Ex-Thelen Attys Lose Bid To Keep Partner Draws

Law360

November 21, 2014

Key Ruling Brings Thelen Bankruptcy Closer to Conclusion

The American Lawyer

July 11, 2014

Law360 Names Attys Who Moved Up The Firm Ranks In Q2

Law360

July 2, 2014

Bankrupt Firm Trustees Lose Bid for 'Unfinished Business'

The Am Law Daily

July 2, 2014

When Law Firms Fail – Who Gets the Unfinished Business?

LawFuel

July 1, 2014

Ruling Limits Defunct Law Firms' Claims to Unfinished Business

The Wall Street Journal

June 4, 2014

NY Judges Grill Lawyers on Unfinished Business Profits

Law360

June 1, 2014

New York's High Court Considers Fees From Defunct Law Firms

The Wall Street Journal

May 12, 2014

Amici Briefs From Firms Fault 'Unfinished Business' Doctrine

New York Law Journal

April 3, 2014

Fox Rothschild Picks New Philly Office Managing Partner

Philadelphia Business Journal

April 2, 2014

Fox Rothschild Makes Leadership Changes

The Legal Intelligencer Blog

March 31, 2014

Fox Rothschild To Launch its New Fiscal Year With Practice and Office Leadership Transitions

March 31, 2014

Fox Rothschild Taps New Managing Partner for Philly Office

Law360

March 31, 2014

Fox Rothschild picks new Philly office managing partner

Philadelphia Business Journal

March 13, 2014

Thelen Trustee Seeks Rulings in 4 Partner Clawbacks

Law360

January 23, 2014

Thelen Judge Approves Trustee's Deals with 3 Ex-Partners

Law360

January 22, 2014

Thelen Trustee, Robinson & Cole Settle Clawback Suit

Law360

November 18, 2013

Panel Asks State for Clarity On Unfinished Business Doctrine

New York Law Journal

November 15, 2013

2nd Circ. Sends Thelen Clawback Suit To NY Court

Law360

November 15, 2013

Second Circuit Punts on Unfinished Business Doctrine

The Am Law Daily

October 7, 2013

Thelen Lawyers Urge Second Circuit to Allow Clawbacks

The Am Law Daily

August 26, 2013

Thelen Trustee Hits 6 More Ex-Partners with Clawbacks

Law360

July 1, 2013

Thelen Trustee Settles with Ex-Partner over Unfinished Biz

Law360

June 3, 2013

Prossers Risk Jail Time for Not Paying Contempt Sanctions

St. Croix Source

March 20, 2013

Thelen Trustee Sues Ex-Equity Partner Over Excess Pay

Law360

March 1, 2013

Bankruptcy Judge Blesses Thelen Partner Settlements

Law360

January 16, 2013

Ex-Thelen Partner Clawback Deal Paves Way for More Pacts

Law360

January 15, 2013

W.B. David Case Against De Beers Revived After Appeal

JCK Magazine

December 5, 2012

Thelen Seeks Approval of \$1.4M Citibank Settlement

Law360

November 16, 2012

Gone but Not Forgotten – Bankrupt Firms Pursue Unfinished Business

Daily Report

August 7, 2012

Thelen Trustee Strikes Latest Clawback Deal With Ex-Partner

Law 360

July 16, 2012

Ex-Dewey Attys May Be Liable For Client Privacy Breaches

Law360

June 29, 2012

Bankrupt Thelen Collects More Than \$400K in Clawback Settlement With 4 Firms

The Am Law Daily

May 29, 2012

Dewey Bankruptcy Filing Raises Novel Issues

New York Law Journal

May 10, 2012

Dewey Partners Likely To Face Wrath Of Creditors

Law 360

May 8, 2012

Will Thelen and Coudert save Dewey's poachers?

Thomson Reuters News and Insight

March 23, 2012

Thelen Trustee Reaps \$1 Million From Law Firms

Thomson Reuters News & Insight

March 20, 2012

15 Ex-Thelen Partners Settle Trustee's Contract Claims

Law 360

February 8, 2012

MKF Group Hopes to Fill the Hole Left by H&H Bagels

Real Estate Weekly

October 26, 2011

H&H Bagel Plant Faces New Threats

The Wall Street Journal

September 30, 2011

Thelen Trustee Seeks OK For \$5M Clawback Settlement

Law 360

September 20, 2011

With Spate of Suits, Thelen Trustee Makes Late Push to Collect for Creditors

Am Law Daily

May 25, 2010

Thelen Bankruptcy

New York Law Journal and Law 360

May 17, 2010

People in the News

The Legal Intelligencer

May 12, 2010

Fox Rothschild Attorneys Elected to Firm's Executive Committee

May 1, 2010

We The Pauper

ABA Journal

October 19, 2009

Thelen Creditors Try To Put Trustee To Vote

Los Angeles Daily Journal