



# LINER<sub>LLP</sub>

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## ROBBIN L. ITKIN

### BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS & RESTRUCTURING

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#### BIOGRAPHY

Robbin Itkin is a Partner in Liner's Business Transactions & Restructuring Group and is sought after as an attorney, mediator, trustee and advisor to protect the financial interests of her clients in new and troubled transactions. Her high profile clients include entertainers, producers, directors, writers and athletes to company CEOs and board members, and private and public companies in the entertainment, sports, real estate, hospitality, manufacturing, energy, retail, transportation and other industries. Robbin successfully has restructured billions of dollars of debt in out of court restructurings and in Chapter 11 bankruptcy cases and has been recognized by the Century City Bar Association, which named her "Bankruptcy Lawyer of the Year" for 2013. From advising start-ups on how to remain financially strong to resolving financially distressed situations and opportunistically acquiring assets for clients out of bankruptcies, Robbin advises clients throughout the lifecycle of their businesses and personal journeys. Her compassion for her clients was recognized and written about by the New York Times and her skills have been noted by many leading publications, including Southern California Super Lawyers (among the Top 100 Southern California Lawyers and among the Top 50 Women Southern California Lawyers), and Best Lawyers in America.

Robbin, in her role as the appointed Chapter 11 Trustee in the Ritter Ranch case, in which she successfully sold the largest area of undeveloped property in Los Angeles County, was featured in the Bankruptcy Court Decisions Weekly News & Comment article, "Chapter 11 Trustee's Work Eases California Housing Shortage," as well as other articles.

Robbin has appeared on NBC's Los Angeles affiliate, discussing her representation of season ticket holders in the Los Angeles Dodgers bankruptcy case. She has also offered commentary on other television news outlets, including NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams, the Today Show, where she spoke on women in the workplace, and C-SPAN, where she

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interviewed US Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy.

### **ADMISSIONS**

- State Bar of California
- State Bar of Montana
- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Central District of California
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of California
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of California

### **EDUCATION**

University of Southern California (J.D.)

University of California Los Angeles (B.A., *magna cum laude*)

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### **SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS & PUBLICATIONS**

#### **Speaking Engagements:**

- Panelist, "Powerful Partnerships: Pairs of Women Clients and Their Outside Counsel," The New Girls' Network, September 14, 2016

#### **Publications:**

- "Puerto Rico's Last Stand," *Los Angeles Daily Journal*, June 16, 2016
- "When Sovereigns Default," *Los Angeles Daily Journal*, August 6, 2015
- "Knowing the Ropes," *Caixin*, April 11, 2013
- "Navigating the Minefield: Intellectual Property Licenses in Bankruptcy," *Practising Law Institute Advance License Agreements Conference*, January 2013
- "How to Structure 363 Sales of Assets in Bankruptcy" (quoted), *The National Law Journal*, July 30, 2009
- "California's Wipeout Economy" (quoted), *The Washington*

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Post, March 25, 2009

- "One way Forward for Big Three has Potholes: 'Prepack' Bankruptcy may not Take Carmakers Where They Want to go," *The National Law Journal*, February 16, 2009
- "A Comparison Shopping Guide for 363 Sales," American Bankruptcy Institute, 2009
- "White Paper: Options for Increasing the Protection of Motor Carriers in Bankruptcy Proceedings," American Trucking Association, November 2008
- "The Metamorphosis of Assignment Clauses in Bankruptcy," *Law Journal Newsletters, The Bankruptcy Strategist, Part One*, May, 2005 and Part Two, June, 2005

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## NEWS

- August 15, 2017: Best Lawyers in America© 2018: Feldman, Itkin, Kahan, Kiely, Robinson, Stein, Taylor  
*The Best Lawyers©*
- April 20, 2017: Your Favorite Retailer Has Filed For Bankruptcy; Now What?  
*Forbes*
- January 20, 2017: Liner Super Lawyers 2017  
*Super Lawyers Magazine*
- October 13, 2016: Liner LLP Best Lawyers 2017: Kahan, Itkin, Feldman, Kaufman, Kessler, Robinson, Stein  
*Best Lawyers*
- June 16, 2016: Puerto Rico's last stand  
*Los Angeles Daily Journal*
- April 18, 2016: Liner LLP Partner Robbin Itkin explains how spouse's bankruptcy may affect your credit  
*Credit Card Guide*
- September 25, 2015: With No Bids for Relativity as a Whole, Company Likely to Go to Senior Lenders  
*Variety*
- August 13, 2015: What to Expect as Relativity and Lenders Head Back to Bankruptcy Court  
*The Wrap*
- August 5, 2015: Sovereign debt - not just a foreign problem  
*The Hill*

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- June 15, 2015: Baker Botts Loses Bankruptcy Fee Argument in High Court  
*National Law Journal*
- June 15, 2015: High Court's Fee Ruling Disarms Debtor Attorneys  
*Law360*
- June 15, 2015: Lawyers React To Justices' Ruling In Baker Botts Fees Case  
*Law360*
- June 1, 2015: 6 Ways Associates Are Falling Short  
*Law360*
- May 28, 2015: A Test Case for Burned Student Borrowers  
*Bloomberg*
- April 27, 2015: VIDEO: Robbin Itkin On Local California Edition (Discusses Bankruptcy)  
*California Edition*
- March 19, 2015: VIDEO: Robbin Itkin on The Rick Amato Show  
*One America News Network*
- January 9, 2015: The Question You Need To Ask Before Jumping Ship  
*Law360*
- November 19, 2014: Liner Picks Up 2 Bankruptcy Pros From Steptoe & Johnson  
*Law360*
- November 18, 2014: Sidley Austin Snags Houston Duo, Plus More Lateral Moves  
*The Am Law Daily*
- October 15, 2014: VIDEO: Robbin Itkin on Good Morning San Diego discussing Financial Abuse  
*KUSI News*

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## **RECOGNITION**

- Martindale-Hubbell, AV Preeminent Status as a Top Rated Lawyer, 2017
- Century City Bar Association "Bankruptcy Lawyer of the Year," 2013
- Legal 500 US, Finance: Corporate Restructuring (including bankruptcy), 2013-2014

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- *Southern California Super Lawyers* - Top 50 Women (2011, 2013-2016) 2017 (Only bankruptcy attorney listed)
- *Southern California Super Lawyers* - Top 100 Lawyers, 2017
- *Southern California Super Lawyers*, Bankruptcy and Creditor-Debtor Rights Law (2005-2017)
- *The Best Lawyers in America*®
  - Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law (2009-2018)
  - Litigation: Bankruptcy (2009-2016 & 2018)
- The United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California has recognized Robbin for several mediation awards, including:
  - Mediator who settled the mediation conference with the most parties in the 2011-2012 term
  - Mediator who conducted the longest mediation conference in the 2011-2012 term
  - Mediator who conducted the conference involving the largest amount of money in the 2011-2012 term
- Corporate Counsel Top Lawyers
- "Top 100" (one of only seven bankruptcy attorneys listed), "Who's Who in LA Law," Los Angeles Business Journal
- "Who's Who in LA Law," Los Angeles Business Journal
- "Women of Achievement" award, Century City Chamber of Commerce
- "Women of Accomplishment" award, Bnai Zion Foundation

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## **COMMUNITY**

- Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy, 2004-present
- International Insolvency Institute, 2013-present
- Insolvency Law Committee of the Business Law Section of the State Bar of California (Previously)
- Certified Mediator: United States District Court, Central District of California (2014 - present); United States Bankruptcy Court, Central District of California (1995-

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present)

- Chair, Lawyer Representatives Coordinating Committee, Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference, 2009-2010
- Chair-elect, Lawyer Representative Committee, Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference, 2008
- Vice chair, Lawyer Representative Coordinating Committee, Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference; former co-chair of Central District of California Lawyer Representatives, 2006-2008
- Los Angeles Bankruptcy Forum Board member, 1995-present
  - Held position as President, 2001-2002
  - Vice president, 2000-2001
  - Program chair, 1999-2000
  - Secretary, 1998-1999
- Board member, Century City Chamber of Commerce, 2007-2010, 2012-present
- Board member, Los Angeles Women's Leadership Council, 2007-present
- Director Emeritus, City of Hope National Medical Center and Beckman Research Institute, 2007-present; board member, 1997-2007

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## **REPRESENTATIONS**

### **Recent High Profile Entertainment Matters:**

- AOG Entertainment, Inc./Core Media Group Chapter 11 bankruptcy cases.
- Relativity Fashion LLC and related entities - Counsel to various high profile producers, directors and writers in negotiating business transaction and protecting their claim.

### **Chapter 15 Matters:**

- Counsel to domestic and international clients in various aspects of foreign ancillary proceedings under Chapter 15 of the Bankruptcy Code, including representing clients in litigation before federal and state courts in the United States.

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**Representative Debtor Matters:**

- Solutia Inc. – Counsel to Solutia Inc. and its affiliates in their Chapter 11 cases involving more than \$3 billion of funded debt and other obligations and complex liability issues, including environmental, mass tort, retiree, pension, and indemnification issues.
- NRG – Counsel to over 29 related entities comprising one of the largest independent power generation companies in the world, both as debtors out of court and as debtors in a Chapter 11 bankruptcy case, and successfully restructured over \$11 billion in debt in approximately seven months.
- Dividend Development Corp. – Counsel to one of the country's largest home builders as debtor-in-possession. Confirmed plan of reorganization restructuring over \$300 million in liabilities, including \$55 million in unsecured claims.
- Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel – Counsel to landmark hotel located in Hollywood, California, in connection with its restructure through Chapter 11 bankruptcy.
- Santa Barbara Star Motors, Inc., dba Gregg Motors, and Related Entities – Counsel to automobile dealership as debtor-in-possession. Sold all assets, including multiple franchises, in controlled liquidation for benefit of creditors.
- Pharmaceuticals Distributor – Counsel to wholesale distributor of pharmaceuticals in its out-of-court restructuring of over \$12 million in unsecured debt and \$20 million financing.

**Representative Committee Matters:**

- Quantum Fuel Systems Technologies Worldwide, Inc., dba Quantum Technologies - Counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors in the Chapter 11 bankruptcy case.
- CTC Cable Corporation – Counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors in the Chapter 11 bankruptcy case of CTC Cable Corporation, which, with affiliated entities, manufactures and markets innovative energy efficient and renewable energy products for the electrical utility industry.
- Pacific Energy Resources Ltd. – Counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors in the Chapter 11 bankruptcy cases of Pacific Energy Resources Ltd., and certain of its affiliates, which are engaged in the acquisition,

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exploitation, and development of oil and gas properties, primarily in the United States.

- Store of Knowledge – Counsel to committee of creditors in bankruptcy case in which company operated a mall-based nationwide chain of 91 specialty retail stores, located in 26 states, offering educational and intellectually stimulating products geared toward fun and interactive learning.
- Taxi Systems, Inc. – Counsel to committee of unsecured creditors of large taxi company in Southern California. General unsecured creditors included more than 400 personal injury claimants in addition to numerous trade creditors. Extensive negotiations with debtor resulted in confirmed plan of reorganization providing for 100% payout on trade claims, with election offered to personal injury claimants either to continue to litigate their claims or to receive 100% of cash settlement amounts over time, such payments collateralized by assets of debtor, debtor's parent and certain of debtor's principals.
- Babaeian Transportation Co., Inc., dba Checker Cab Company, dba Burbank Taxi, dba Pasadena Taxi, dba San Fernando Checker – Counsel to committee of creditors of taxi company possessing a fleet of taxi cabs in California's San Fernando Valley. Caused appointment of Chapter 11 trustee to preserve estate's assets for sale. Actively participated with trustee who ultimately sold assets and made distributions to unsecured creditors.
- Bell Brand Snack Foods, Inc. – Counsel to committee of creditors of snack food manufacturer and distributor. Negotiated consensual plan of reorganization that provided for immediate 90% payout to general unsecured creditors before any payments on secured or unsecured debts owed to affiliates.
- C&L Properties – Counsel to committee of creditors of owner and operator of fully encumbered commercial property known as the Continental Plaza in Southern California. Negotiated consensual plan of reorganization in extensively litigated case that provided for full payment plus interest within one year of confirmation to general unsecured creditors.
- Maguire Thomas Partners – Counsel to committees of creditors in extremely adversarial Chapter 11 bankruptcy cases of owner and operator of Gas Company Tower Building, a 52-story premier office building in downtown Los Angeles, California. As a result of committee's request for participation in mediation, settlement was reached, and



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plan of reorganization was confirmed that paid unsecured creditors in full plus 7% interest and restructured in excess of \$400 million in debt.

- Pacific EyeNet, Inc. – Counsel to Pacific EyeNet, Inc., A Medical Group, as a creditor in the Chapter 11 (and subsequent Chapter 7) bankruptcy case of its MSO.

**Other Matters:**

- In re Hyo Dong Kim - Appointed by the Office of the United States Trustee to serve as the Chapter 11 Trustee and subsequently the Chapter 7 Trustee
- In re Jose Adolfo Montepeque and Maria Montepeque - Counsel to the Chapter 7 Trustee
- APP Winddown, LLC (f/k/a American Apparel, LLC) - Counsel to the landlord of the corporate headquarters and distribution center, member of Official Creditors' Committee
- RS Legacy Corporation fka RadioShack Corporation - Counsel to landlords
- Chrysler LLC – Counsel to one of the largest general unsecured trade creditors and member of the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors in the Chapter 11 bankruptcy cases of Chrysler LLC and certain of its affiliates in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York and successfully obtained payment in full for client through negotiations with purchaser of the debtors' business operations.
- Cocopah Nurseries, Inc. – Counsel to a national bank in Chapter 11 bankruptcy case of the largest grower and seller of palm trees in the country. Successfully negotiated the \$78 million loan facility secured by farm land located in Arizona and California.
- T-Asset Acquisition Company – Counsel to a secured lender in the bankruptcy case for the owner of the Terminator franchise pending in the Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California with respect to the Debtors' proposed sale of substantially all of the Terminator's future sequel and remake rights.
- Missoula Area Economic Development Corporation (MAEDC) – Counsel to MAEDC in representing its interests in the bankruptcy case of Smurfit-Stone Container Corporation and its affiliates, with particular emphasis on Smurfit's abrupt closure in early January 2010 of its paper

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mill in Missoula County, Montana.

- Lehman Brothers – Counsel to a fund that holds a credit linked note of several hundred million dollars issued as part of an integrated transaction with various US and foreign Lehman Brothers entities, as a creditor in the Lehman Brothers US and international insolvency proceedings.
- Hartmarx Corporation – Counsel to the successful purchaser of substantially all of the assets of Hartmarx Corp. and certain of its affiliates, one of the largest manufacturers and marketers for men’s suits and sport coats in the United States, in bankruptcy proceedings in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois.
- Syntax–Brilliant Corp. – Counsel to Taiwan Kolin Co., Ltd., one of the largest manufacturers and sellers of electronic products in Taiwan, in connection with its asserted \$270 million claim against the debtors, Syntax–Brilliant Corp. and certain of its debtor affiliates, in their chapter 11 cases pending in the Delaware bankruptcy court.
- Aloha Airlines – Counsel to Japan Airlines (JAL) in the Aloha Airlines Chapter 11 bankruptcy pending in Hawaii. JAL had service agreements with Aloha Airlines that were put at risk due to Aloha’s bankruptcy filing. The practice structured a successful result for JAL that allowed its contracts to remain fully intact with assignees whom JAL approved.
- Estate of Thomas A. Hantges – Counsel to the Chapter 11 Trustee for the Estate of Thomas A. Hantges, one of the former founding principals of USA Commercial Mortgage Company, a commercial loan underwriting, servicing and funding company whose principals were involved in an alleged fraud in the magnitude of over \$900 million - the largest bankruptcy filing in Nevada.
- Ritter Ranch Development LLC – Appointed by the Office of the United States Trustee, and confirmed by the Central District of California Bankruptcy Court, as Chapter 11 Trustee for the Estate of Ritter Ranch Development LLC and lead counsel as well in all aspects of case involving Mello Roos Bond Financing and including extensively litigated 363 sale proceedings and claims issues of principals and lenders; completed a 363 sale of the then largest available developable property in Los Angeles County (over 6,000 acres) for \$57.2 million after 75 rounds of bidding. Negotiated carve-outs with secured creditors to satisfy administrative claims.
- Inspiris, Inc. – Counsel to Inspiris, Inc., as debtor-in-possession lender, stalking horse bidder and successful

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purchaser of substantially all of the assets of Care Level Management Group, LLC, a provider of in-home healthcare services for chronically ill and elderly patients, in a chapter 11 case pending in the Central District of California.

- Weld Wheels, Inc. – Counsel to American Racing, Inc., in its \$24 million acquisition of the assets of Weld Wheels, Inc., a manufacturer and distributor of premium aftermarket automobile, light truck, racing, and sport wheels to both domestic and international customers. Negotiated stalking horse bidder protections and purchase agreement, and advised client throughout sale process taking place through auction of assets in US Bankruptcy Court, Western District of Kansas. Successfully consummated client's purchase as successful bidder.
- State of California Ex. Rel. Department of Water Resources – Counsel to State of California Ex Rel. Department of Water Resources and handled all bankruptcy aspects regarding State of California in the Chapter 11 bankruptcy case of California Power Exchange, the operator of several types of markets for wholesale electricity who matched suppliers and purchasers of electricity.
- Counsel to a landlord with respect to commercial shopping center leases involved in the Movie Gallery, Inc. and Big A Drugstores, Inc. Chapter 11 bankruptcy cases filed in 2007.
- Counsel to high profile individuals in the entertainment industry in out-of-court workouts and restructurings.
- Counsel to Sun Capital Partners in its acquisition of BMK, Inc. (debtor) through bankruptcy.
- Counsel to Sun Capital Partners in its acquisition of Wickes out of receivership.
- Counsel to American Healthcare Services, Inc. in its acquisition of Plastic Surgery Company.
- Counsel to CEO and President of Fredericks of Hollywood through company's Chapter 11 bankruptcy.
- Counsel to Koo Koo Roo, Inc. in its acquisition of operating restaurants in Hamburger Hamlet Restaurant, Inc.'s Chapter 11 case.