Kirk B. Burkley

Managing Partner

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OVERVIEW

Kirk is the Managing Partner of WH Burkley, a Partner in the firm's Bankruptcy and Restructuring Group, and Partner-in-Charge of the Wheeling office. He advises secured and unsecured creditors in bankruptcy, financial restructuring and workout situations, including the representation of numerous unsecured creditors' committees, equipment lessors, financial institutions and commercial landlords.

Kirk also advises clients on complex business transactions, drawing upon his experience in various areas of law to create innovative solutions for companies in mergers & acquisitions, real estate, and other corporate matters. He has represented owners, contractors and subcontractors in construction disputes, and regularly advises developers and lenders on large real estate transactions. Additionally, Kirk has developed unique experience in many facets of shareholder and board of directors litigation in different industries.

He has lectured for the Commercial Law League of America, the American Bankruptcy Institute, National Association of Credit Management (NACM), and the Pennsylvania Bar Institute, and is a regular panelist for NBI and Lorman Educational Services on various legal topics.

EXPERIENCE

- Represented Committee of Unsecured Creditors in large nursing home bankruptcy case
- Represented large shareholder and DIP lender acquisition of large metallurgical coal company through bankruptcy

RECOGNITION

- *Super Lawyers* – “Top 50 Attorneys” (Pittsburgh) | 2020-present
- *Super Lawyers* – “Top 100 Attorneys” (Pennsylvania) | 2023-present
- *American Board of Certification* – Creditors’ Rights Law Attorney of the Year | 2026
- *Best Lawyers* – Bankruptcy | 2011-present
- *Super Lawyers* – Bankruptcy (Pennsylvania) | 2013-present
- *Super Lawyers* – Business Litigation (Pennsylvania) | 2013-present
- *Super Lawyers* – Business & Corporate (Pennsylvania) | 2013-present
- *Super Lawyers* – “Rising Star” | 2005-2009, 2010-2012
- *Center for Forensic Economic Studies Award for Excellence in Litigation* (University of Pittsburgh School of Law) | 2002

ASSOCIATIONS

- Allegheny County Bar Association | Member
- Turnaround Management Association | Board Member, Past President of Pittsburgh Chapter
- Commercial Law League of America | Member and Bankruptcy Section Executive Counsel President
- American Board of Certification | Past President and Emeritus Board Member
- American Bankruptcy Institute | Member
- Equipment Leasing Finance Association | Member
- Pittsburgh Regional Alliance (an affiliate of the Allegheny Conference) | Former Steering Committee Member
- Pittsburgh Downtown Development Corporation | Emeritus Board Member
- City of Pittsburgh Planning Commission | Secretary | 2009-2014
- City of Pittsburgh Zoning Board of Adjustment | Member | 2009-2014

EDUCATION

- University of Pittsburgh School of Law, J.D.
- Ohio University, B.S.
- American Board of Certification – Business Bankruptcy Specialist
- American Board of Certification – Creditors’ Rights Specialist

FOCUS

- Bankruptcy & Restructuring
- Litigation
- Real Estate

NEWS

- Kirk Burkley and George Fitting Provide CLLA Bankruptcy Case Law Update in Commercial Law World
- WH Burkley Awarded 2026 TMA Turnaround & Transaction of the Year
- WH Burkley Attorneys Named to Best Lawyers 2027 Edition
- Super Lawyers Recognizes WH Burkley Attorneys in 2027 Ohio Edition
- WH Burkley Recognized in 2026 Edition of Chambers USA
- Super Lawyers Recognizes WH Burkley Attorneys in 2026 Pennsylvania Edition
- Kirk Burkley Named 2026 ABC Certified Creditors’ Rights Attorney of the Year

LICENSED

- Pennsylvania
- West Virginia
- United States District Court for the Western, Middle and Eastern Districts of Pennsylvania
- United States District Court in the Northern and Southern Districts of West Virginia
- United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit

OFFICE

- Pittsburgh
- Wheeling