William B. Freeman

Partner

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Practices

FOCUS: Insolvency and Restructuring Corporate

Distressed and Special Situations Investing Financial Markets and Funds

Financial Markets Litigation and Enforcement Infrastructure and P3

Litigation

Private Credit

Real Estate

Real Estate Finance and Lending

Industries

Finance and Financial Markets
Private Client Services

Education

JD, University of California College of the Law, San Francisco BA, University of Michigan

Bar Admissions

California

Community Involvements

Special Assets Management Association, Board of Directors

For more than 30 years, William Freeman has acted as a trusted advisor in high-stakes bankruptcies, workouts and distressed capital markets transactions. Bill is among a handful of go-to attorneys for the most complex insolvency and restructuring matters on the West Coast and across the nation. Widely respected in the legal community, he represents lenders, borrowers and fiduciaries, with particular experience advising banks and other financial institutions.

High-stakes counsel for financial institutions, lenders and fiduciaries

Bill represents regional, national and international banks and financial institutions in some of their most high-profile and high-value matters. His work spans workouts, Chapter 11 proceedings, commercial litigation, Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) issues and distressed-asset sales. Bill's effectiveness stems in part from his experience and contacts with special assets departments and in-house counsel at financial institutions, and other key players in the capital markets space.

In addition to lenders and financial institutions, Bill is frequently retained by court-appointed receivers, trustees, assignees for the benefit of creditors and other fiduciaries. Bill helps them satisfy their unique obligations while finding practical and strategic solutions to their legal issues. Corporate borrowers also rely on him in bankruptcies and restructurings.

Bill frequently represents parties buying, selling or investing in distressed assets, whether in or outside of bankruptcy proceedings. He is also a commercial litigator who represents parties to commercial disputes involving creditors' rights.

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Partner

"William brings practical and commercially focused advice to complex matters."

- Chambers USA 2022 (California, Bankruptcy/Restructuring) survey response

Recognitions

Recognized or listed in the following:

- Best Lawyers in America
 - Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law, 2016–2024
- Chambers USA
 - o Bankruptcy/Restructuring, 2008–2023
- Practical Law Company
 - 0 2011-2012
- Super Lawyers
 - Southern California, 2006–2019
- The Legal 500 United States
 - o Recommended Attorney, 2022
- Turnaround Atlas Awards
 - Gaming & Hospitality Turnaround of the Year, 2012

News

- Katten Attorneys Distinguished by Best Lawyers® (August 17, 2023)
- Katten Boosts Rankings in Chambers USA Guide 2023 (June 1, 2023)
- Katten Attorneys Recognized by Best Lawyers® (August 18, 2022)
- Katten Awarded Top Ranking in Structured Finance: Securitization in The Legal 500 United States 2022 (June 8, 2022)
- Katten Ranked Leading Law Firm by Chambers USA 2022 (June 1, 2022)
- Katten Attorneys Listed in The Best Lawyers in America® (August 19, 2021)
- Katten Boosts Rankings in Chambers USA 2021 (May 20, 2021)
 - Katten Attorneys Distinguished as Top Legal Talent in the 2021 Best

 Lawyers in America and Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch Lists (August 20, 2020)