

Sydney J. Darling

PARTNER

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WALSH PIZZI O'REILLY FALANGA LLP

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Sydney Darling's practice encompasses both litigation and transactional matters in the areas of business and commercial law, financial services, risk management, insolvency and real estate. Her resourcefulness, problemsolving and interpersonal skills contribute to her effective advocacy and enable her to propose thoughtful and creative solutions to her clients.

Sydney focuses on representing creditors, debtors, chapter 11 trustees, liquidating trustees, asset purchasers, and other interested parties in bankruptcy cases and adversary proceedings, as well as lenders, distressed debt investors and other creditors in connection with the disposition of non-performing loans and assets outside of bankruptcy, including prosecuting real estate, Article 9 and tax sale foreclosures.

Her litigation experience also includes a variety of business and commercial actions, including prosecuting and defending Consumer Fraud Act claims, fraudulent transfer actions, judgment collection matters, breach of contract actions, lender liability claims, construction law matters, and emergent proceedings seeking temporary restraints and injunctions. She has represented numerous clients at the trial and appellate levels of state, federal and bankruptcy courts in New Jersey and New York, including the Third Circuit Court of Appeals and New Jersey Appellate Division.

Complementing her litigation practice, Sydney has experience representing property owners, developers and landlords in a wide range of commercial and real estate transactions, counseling parties in connection with the acquisition, disposition, and improvement of real property, preparing non-consolidation opinion letters, and negotiating and drafting various forms of real estate and construction contracts.

Sydney served a clerkship with the Honorable Raymond T. Lyons (Ret.), United States Bankruptcy Judge, District of New Jersey. She is a 2009 graduate of Rutgers University School of Law-Newark, where she served as Articles Editor of the Women's Rights Law Reporter. While attending law school and for several years prior, she worked in advertising as an agency account executive.

Practice Areas:

- Business & Commercial Litigation
- Commercial Real Estate
- Construction Law
- Financial Services & Risk Management

States Admitted to Practice:

- New Jersey
- New York

Courts Admitted to Practice:

- US District Court for the District of New Jersey
- US District Courts for the Eastern and Southern Districts of New York

Education:

- Rutgers University School of Law-Newark (2009)
- Marist College (2002)

Affiliations:

- New Jersey State Bar Association
- Essex County Bar Association
- American Bankruptcy Institute
- International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation
- Turnaround Management Association
- New York Institute of Credit
- New Jersey Women Lawyers Association



Honors and Awards

- Best Lawyers in America (2021)
- Super Lawyer's Rising Star (2016-2020)
 (This award is not approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey. Selection methodology is <u>available</u>.)
- Emerging Leader Award, Turnaround Management Association (2019)
- Future Leader Award, New Jersey Bankruptcy Lawyers Foundation and Federal Bankruptcy Bar Association of New Jersey (2018)

News and Activities

- Member and Chair of the Local Rules Subcommittee, Lawyers Advisory Committee of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Jersey
- Co-Chair, International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation (IWIRC) New Jersey Network
- Vice Chair, Essex County Bar Association Debtor-Creditor Section
- VP of Membership and Director, NJ Turnaround Management Association
- Global Committee Member, NJ Turnaround Management Association Network of Women
- TMA Mid-Atlantic Regional Symposium Planning Committee (2016-2020)
- Co-Chair, NJ TMA's Annual Rosemary Gambardella Scholarship Competition Committee (2016-2019)
- Volunteer, Volunteer Lawyers for Justice Consumer Law Program
- Panel Coordinator/Co-Moderator, "Landlord Issues in Bankruptcy," 22nd Annual William H. Gindin Bankruptcy Bench Bar Conference (April 2020)
- Panelist, "Advanced Collection Practices and Bankruptcy Implications: A Series," N.J. State Bar Association (January 2020)
- Panelist, "Mock Confirmation Hearing Confirming A Plan Containing Third Party Releases," 21st Annual William H. Gindin Bankruptcy Bench Bar Conference (April 2019)
- Panelist, "Mock Trial Contested Cash Collateral and DIP Financing," 20th Annual William H. Gindin Bankruptcy Bench Bar Conference (March 2018)
- Moderator, "Bankruptcy Basics for the Matrimonial Lawyer," Essex County Bar Association CLE Extravaganza (December 2015)
- Presenter, "Hot Topic: In re Ashley River Consulting, LLC, et al., 2015 Bankr. LEXIS 3819, 2015 WL 6848113, No. 14-13406 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Nov. 6, 2015)," New Jersey Bankruptcy Inn of Court, New Brunswick, NJ (December 2015)
- Moderator, "From Pinstriped Suits to Robes Newly Minted Judges Talk About Transitioning From the Bar to the Bench," 2015 TMA Mid-Atlantic Regional Symposium (June 2015)
- Presenter, "Bankruptcy 101–Common Issues, Risks, and Defense for Dealing with Corporate Bankruptcy," Connell Foley LLP Continuing Legal Education Course (April 2015)

Publications

- "Down the Pipe: No Easy Out for Cannabis-Based Businesses in Distress" NJ Lawyers Magazine, October 2018
- "You Have the Right to Remain Silent, Sometimes: A Primer on the Scope of the Fifth Amendment in Bankruptcy Proceedings" American Bankruptcy Trustee Journal, Summer 2018
- "Appellate Division Again Warns Car Dealers: Beware of Inconsistent Legal Terms in Documents," LinkedIn, June 2016
- "Want to Make a Stand? You May Not Have Standing," American Bankruptcy Institute Journal, August 2015 (co-author)
- "N.J. Supreme Court Fortifies Public Policy Promoting Tax Sale Certificates," New Jersey Law Journal, October 2014