

# KANE RUSSELL COLEMAN LOGAN

# #\$@\*&%! MY CUSTOMER JUST FILED BANKRUPTCY — WHAT DO I DO NOW?

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Joseph M. Coleman

KANE RUSSELL COLEMAN LOGAN PC

901 Main Street, Suite 5200 Dallas, Texas 75202

Tel: (214) 777-4280

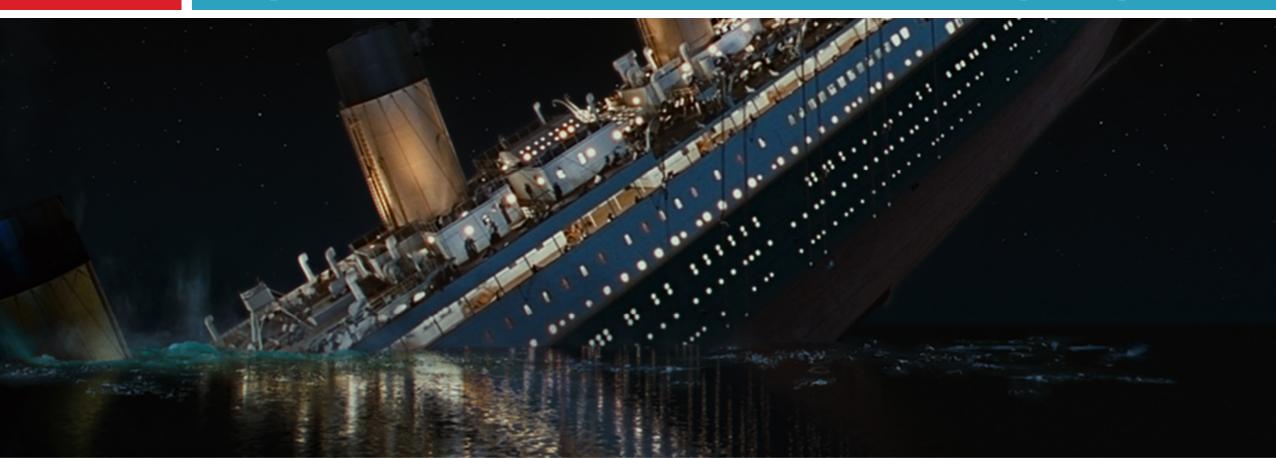
Email: <u>icoleman@krcl.com</u>

### **OVERVIEW**

- My Customer Filed Bankruptcy The KRCL Checklist
- Claims, Claims Proofs of Claim
- Preferences Key Defenses
- Creditors' Committees



# My Customer Filed Bankruptcy







unsecured

creditors +

bankruptcy =







### KRCL Creditor's Checklist

	CREDITOR'S CHECKLIST
1	Do Not Take Any Action to Collect Your Debt Automatic Stay
2	Inform All Sales Reps and Others
3	Open Up New Post Petition Account Number
4	Are we a Critical Vendor?
5	Do we have an Executory Contract?
6	Do we have a Section 503(b)(9) claim? (Goods provided within 20 days prior to bankruptcy filing)
7	Do I want / am I a candidate to serve on the Creditors Committee?
8	Confirm if all recent payments have cleared - payments applied in the past few days may be returned unfunded.
9	Collect and Organize all credit notes, invoices, bills of lading, purchase orders, contracts, agreements, etc.
10	Consider program credits, rebates, etc. when determining amount owed.
11	Prepare and File Proof of Claim
12	Calculate Preference Exposure [Checks: Date Cashed by Debtor's Bank. Merchandise Returns: Date Received by Creditor] Are you able to collect date yourself for Preference Analysis or will you need IT support?
13	Does Bankruptcy actually create opportunity?



### **Automatic Stay**



### **RED ALERT – AUTOMATIC STAY**



- Cease all collection activity
- Halt all lawsuits
- Do not file credit reports
- Automatic stay precludes further extra-bankruptcy action
  - > Can be sanctioned for failure to cease such actions



### Do I Have An Executory Contract?

Executory Contract: Prepetition Agreement between you and the Debtor for which material performance remains to be accomplished by both parties.

### Impact:

- Good News: If your contract is "assumed" by the Debtors they hope to pay the entire prepetition debt.
- <u>Bad New:</u> Non-Debtor party to an executory contract must continue to perform post-petition.





### Critical Vendors

□ WHO? Suppliers are often described as those products that are "needed to facilitate the rehabilitation of the debtor" or "critical to the debtor's reorganization."

■ HOW? Debtor's filing of a motion to pay prepetition balances to certain "critical vendors," in exchange for the critical vendors' agreement to supply postpetition unsecured trade credit, and to continue to provide goods or services during the debtor's bankruptcy case.





### 20-Day Administrative Claim

- □ 503(b)(9) Administrative Claim
  - Goods delivered within 20 days of BK
  - Paid in full before any general unsecured claim distributions





"I'll handle the jokes, counsellor."







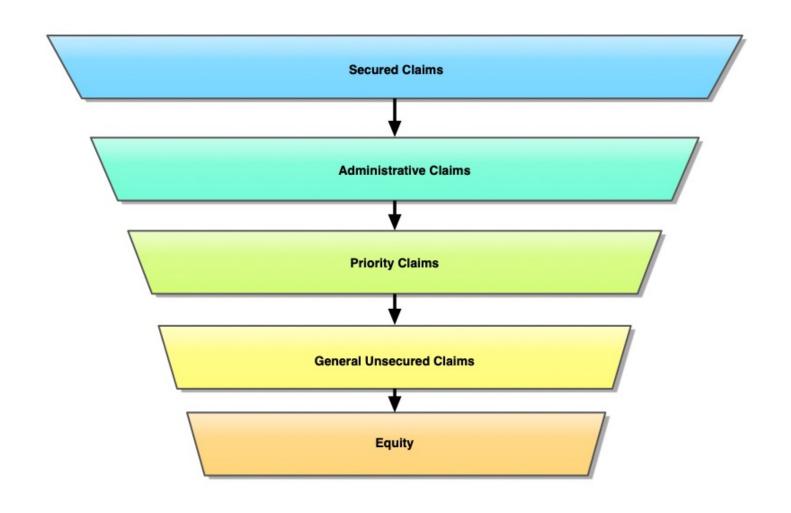
### Types of Claims

- Secured Claims
  - Claims secured by collateral; setoff
- Administrative Expense Claims
  - > Post-petition expenses benefitting the bankruptcy estate; Section 503(b)(9) claims
- Priority Claims
  - Think taxes, unpaid wages, etc.
- Unsecured Claims
  - Everything else e.g, unpaid invoices for pre-petition goods/services





### "Pecking Order" of Claim Distribution







### **Proof of Claim**

- How To Find Out How to File a Claim
  - In-house counsel or bankruptcy attorney
  - The Bankruptcy Court
    - If you know the companies main place of business or State of incorporation, then you can obtain the address and phone number of the bankruptcy court for that region or visit their website (links to U.S. Bankruptcy Court websites at www.uscourts.gov/services-forms/bankruptcy)
  - PACER or similar court website <a href="https://pacer.uscourts.gov/file-case/court-cmecf-lookup">https://pacer.uscourts.gov/file-case/court-cmecf-lookup</a>
  - Third-Party Bankruptcy Claims Agent Websites (i.e. Stretto, Prime Clerk, Epiq, KCC, BMC Group, etc.) this is mainly for big bankruptcy cases





### **Proof of Claim**

- Important details to complete a Proof of Claim form:
  - **Debtor's Information (Top of First Page):** Debtor's Name and the relevant Bankruptcy Case Number. This is especially important if there are multiple debtors in a case.
  - Classification Section of the claim (Part 2.9 and 2.12): Select either Secured, General Unsecured, or Priority Unsecured
  - Amount Owed as of the Petition Date (Part 2.7)
  - Basis of the Claim (Part 2.8)
  - Attach documentation to support the claim: Such as invoices of goods or services purchased, delivery receipts, contracts, loan or credit card balance, legal settlements, etc.
  - Signature of the Creditor or an Authorized Representative (Part 3). Remember the person signing declares under penalty of perjury that the details provided are true, and accurate to the best of their knowledge and belief.



# Proof of Claim (Official Form 410)





Page 1	Fill in this information to identify the case:	OF CLAIM
this Information to Identify the case:  or 2  or	Debtor 2 (Spouse, if filing)  United States Bankruptcy Court for the: District of  Case number Part 1: Identify the Claim	
Normal State   Section	1. Who is the current creditor?  Name of	f the current creditor (the person or entity to be paid for this claim
Ony State Process Ony State Process Content short e Content short e Lustorn over identifier for eachton polymenta in chapter 13 (in to eachton over identifier for eachton	Filed on NAM 7 On 1999Y	
Do you know it anyone else has filled a proof of claim for this date of Claim for this	Number Street  City	State ZIP Code RCL

# Proof of Claim (Official Form 410) Page 2



Does this smooth include int     How much is the claim?  - How much is the claim?	How muc	ch is the claim?	\$	. Does this amount include interest or other charges?  □ No □ Yes. Attach statement itemizing interest, fees, exper
S. Is all or part of the claim  I have been been been been been been been be	clain	t is the basis of the	Attach re	s: Goods sold, money loaned, lease, services performed, personal injury or wrongful dacted copies of any documents supporting the claim required by Bankruptcy Rule 3 closing information that is entitled to privacy, such as health care information.
Make's reducted organized for perfection.  Allocal reducted organized of documents. If any, that show configurate, or grant output or configurate of the configuration of the con	no V sord	9. Is all or part of the secured?		Nature of property:  Real estate. If the claim is secured by the debtor's principal residence, file a Mortgage Proof of Attachment (Official Form 410-A) with this Proof of Claim.  Motor vehicle  Other. Describe:
manufacture of the state of the				



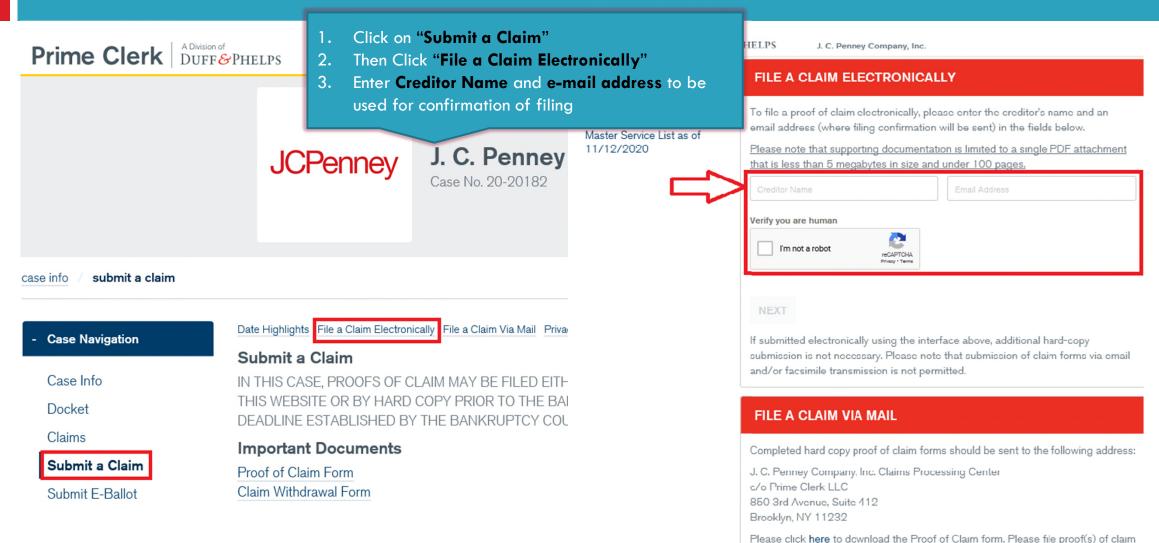
# Proof of Claim (Official Form 410) Page 3



	12. Is all or part of the claim entitled to priority under 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)?  A claim may be partly priority and partly nonpriority. For example, in some categories, the	□ No □ Yes. Check one: □ Domestic support obligations (including 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(1)(A) or (a)(1)(B). □ Up to \$3,025* of deposits toward pure personal, family, or household use. 1	chase, lease, or rent Par	port) under \$_	nount entitled to priority				
12. Is all or part of the claim exitite do priority under 11U.S.C. § Set [a]?  A daim may be parkly ponorpriority, log parkly ponorpriority, log parkly nonpriority, log parkl	law limits the amount entitled to priority.	☐ Wages, salaries, or commissions (up bankruptcy petition is filed or the debt 11 U.S.C. § 507(a)(4). ☐ Taxes or penalties owed to governme ☐ Contributions to an employee benefit ☐ Other. Specify subsection of 11 U.S.C. * Amounts are subject to adjustment on 4/01/.	to \$13,650*) earned this sign FRI ental units. 11 U.S.C. § 50 C. § 507(a)() that	BP 9011(b). ou file this claim ctronically, FRBP 05(a)(2) authorizes courts establish local rules ecifying what a signature	☐ I am a guarantor, I understand that an a	s attorney or authorize or the debtor, or their , surety, endorser, or o	authorized agent. Bankruptcy Fother codebtor. Bankruptcy Rulenthis Proof of Claim serves as	e 3005. an acknowledgment that when calculating	g the
The person completing this proof of claim must signed on the claim of cl	re Tunderstand that is, the creditor gave that developed amount of the Calam, the creditor gave that developed and correct.  I have externined the information in this Proof of Claim and has and correct.  I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true as Executed on date.	to serves a sea so, conceedings, the control of the	frau fine imp	person who files a udulent claim could be ed up to \$500,000, prisoned for up to 5 ars, or both. U.S.C. §§ 152, 157, and	I have examined the ir and correct.  I declare under penalty Executed on date	nformation in this <i>Proc</i>	ebtor credit for any payments not of Claim and have a reasona oregoing is true and correct.	ble belief that the information is true	
	Print the name of the person who is completing and a  Name Fruit have Middle  Tile  Company Usefully the corporate servicer as the core  Address Namoer Street  City  Contact shows	pany film autorized agentin a servicer.  State ZP Cude  Ental			Name	e person who is com st name	pleting and signing this clain  Middle name	m; Last name	
Official Form	Proof of Ctaim							KKUL	15

# Proof of Claim – Larger Bankruptcies Have Claims Agents





# PROOF OF CLAIM

### **Proof of Claim**

- □ Filed to preserve claim against debtor
- Watch for notice of deadline!
  - Varies by case
- □ Claims are filed under penalty of perjury!
- □ Include "Adequate Documentation" Rule 3001(c)
  - Summary (synopsis of claim, breakdown of P&I)
  - Supporting documentation invoices, instruments





### **Proof of Claim**

Include copies of invoices, promissory notes from customers













# Preferences







### Equitable means of redistributing Debtor funds





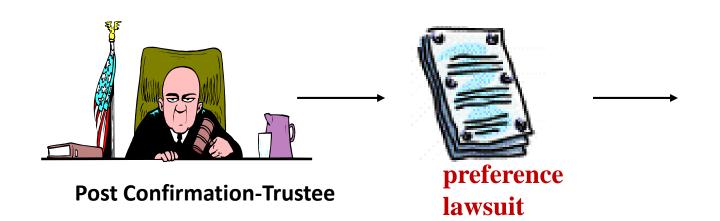




- □ Debtor's claim to recover payments made:
  - > To satisfy antecedent debts
  - During 90 days pre bankruptcy
  - While the debtor was insolvent
  - That enable a creditor to receive more than it would under a Chapter 7 liquidation

# **Debtor** 90 days

# **BANKRUPTCY**



#### **Creditor**





**Creditor** 





- New Value
- Ordinary Course of Business ("OCB")
- Ordinary Business Terms ("OBT")





### 1<sup>st</sup> Defense: The New Value Defense

- Subsequent New Value
  - Continued Performance & Reduced Exposure
    - Defense eliminates liability for receiving a payment if, after receiving that payment, you provide
    - Unsecured new value; and
    - On account of the new value, debtor did not make an otherwise unavoidable transfer to or for the benefit of such creditor.



### 1<sup>st</sup> Defense: The New Value Defense



### Subsequent New Value

- Overview of what it means:
  - Check comes in for \$100 ← Preference Exposure!
  - You send \$120 of goods on invoice ← New Value!
  - Check comes in for \$100 ← Preference Exposure!
  - You send \$150 of goods on invoice ← New Value!
  - Bankruptcy
  - \$200 of Preferential Payments \$50 of real exposure







### Subsequent New Value

#### > TIMING OF PAYMENTS IS CRITICAL!

■ The application of the New Value defense comes down to

timing.

Creditor receives payment

					NV	
Check	Check	Payment		NV Invoice	Invoice	NV Invoice
Number	Receipt Date	Amount	EXPOSURE	Amount	Date	No.
5109511	3/19/2013	\$88,483.33	\$88,483.33			
			\$85,466.49	\$3,016.84	3/19/2013	1132625306
			\$84,543.49	\$923.00	3/19/2013	1132638907
			\$83,527.99	\$1,015.50	3/19/2013	1132641756
			\$82,961.75	\$566.24	3/20/2013	1132653232
			\$69,584.92	\$13,376.83	3/20/2013	1132661409
			\$43,501.24	\$26,083.68	3/20/2013	1132663049
			\$37,610.92	\$5,890.32	3/20/2013	1132664179

New value reduces exposure







- □ The "Subjective Test" (Dealings B/W You and Debtor)
  - The defense commonly referred to as the Ordinary Course of Business is the "Subjective" ordinary course defense:
    - Considers the parties' status quo;
    - Looks to historical dealings between the parties for a baseline of transactions;
    - Considers quantifiable factors to analyze the 90-day pre-bankruptcy period against the historical period
    - Looks to non-quantifiable factors such as manner of payment, collection efforts, changes to credit terms and circumstances surrounding transfers.







#### Historical Period Analysis

-- OCB Analysis--

Check No.	Check Date	Check Amount	Paid Invoice Number	Invoice Date	Invoice Amount	Payment Applied to Inv	Payment Due Date	Payment Receipt Date	Days From Due Date to Payment
				Histori	ical Period				
280371	04/30/10	18,700.32	120971	12/1/2009	224.28	224.28	12/31/09	05/06/10	120
			121927	2/9/2010	18,476.04	18,476.04	03/11/10	05/06/10	5
280435	5/4/2010	24,925.84	122328	3/5/2010	24,925.84	24,925.84	04/04/10	05/10/10	3
280686	5/26/2010	23,673.44	122440	3/12/2010	3,634.50	3,634.50	04/11/10	06/01/10	5
			122665	3/24/2010	489.45	489.45	04/23/10	06/01/10	3
			122666	3/24/2010	6,369.56	6,369.56	04/23/10	06/01/10	3
			122712	3/29/2010	401.00	401.00	04/28/10	06/01/10	3
			122795	3/31/2010	12,117.03	12,117.03	04/30/10	06/01/10	33
			122796		527.50	527.50	04/30/10	06/01/10	3:
			123021	4/13/2010	134.40	134.40	05/13/10	06/01/10	19
281308	7/15/2010	71,309.29	122382	3/9/2010	1,028.80	1,028.80	04/08/10	07/19/10	103
			122892		5,295.94	5,295.94	05/06/10	07/19/10	7.
			122893	4/6/2010	2,288.20	2,288.20	05/06/10	07/19/10	7.
			123167		723.10	723.10	05/20/10	07/19/10	60
			123168	4/20/2010	489.00	489.00	05/20/10	07/19/10	6
			123310	4/28/2010	17,387.85	17,387.85	05/28/10	07/19/10	5
			123471	5/6/2010	39,183.78	39,183.78	06/05/10	07/19/10	4
			123549	5/11/2010	1,914.87	1,914.87	06/10/10	07/19/10	39
			123550	5/11/2010	2.997.75	2,997.75	06/10/10	07/19/10	30







#### The "Subjective Test"

Historical Period OCB Analysis		DELTA	Preference Period OCB Analys is		
Average Days - Invoice Print Date to Payment:	54	1 day	Average Days - Invoice Print Date to Payment:	55	
Range of Days - Invoice Print Date to Payment:	23-105	4 to 14 days on min-max	Range of Days - Invoice Print Date to Payment:	19-91	
Standard Deviation - Print to Payment:	15	1 day	Standard Deviation - Print to Payment:	16	
Average Days - Activity Date to Payment: 68		2 days	Average Days - Activity Date to Payment:	<b>7</b> 0	
Range of Days - Activity Date to Payment:	29-135	20 to 9 days on min-max	Range of Days - Activity Date to Payment:	49-144	
Standard Deviation - Activity to Payment:	22	4 days	Standard Deviation - Activity to Payment:	18	
Number of Invoices over 90 days - Activity to Payment:	18 of 124	1% difference	Number of Invoices over 90 days - Activity to Payment:	<b>7</b> of 52	

<u>Goal</u>: Create a convincing quantitative and qualitative argument that little, if anything, changed during the debtor's slide into bankruptcy. Credibility is key.







### □ The "Subjective Test"

- Quantitative Considerations:
  - Average Lateness
  - Range from Invoice to Payment
  - Standard Deviations
  - Size of Invoices & Payments







- □ The "Objective Test" (Comparing You and Industry)
  - The defense commonly referred to as the Ordinary Business Terms defense is the "Objective" ordinary course defense:
    - Considers the creditor's industry standards
    - Analyzes industry forces at time of transfers
    - Considers quantifiable factors to analyze the 90-day prebankruptcy period
    - Ignores the parties' relationship and past payment history, course of dealing







# ☐ The "Objective Test"

- > To Prove the Defense, a Creditor Must:
  - Define the relevant industry (their industry);
  - Establish the business practices in their industry;
  - Demonstrate the transfers fell within the ordinary business practices common in the industry





# ☐ The "Objective Test"

- Brief Summary
  - Alternative to Subjective OCB
  - Ignores changes in course of dealing with debtor
  - Low factual burden
  - Sources of persuasive information readily available
  - Possible in-house expertise







#### □ The "Objective Test"

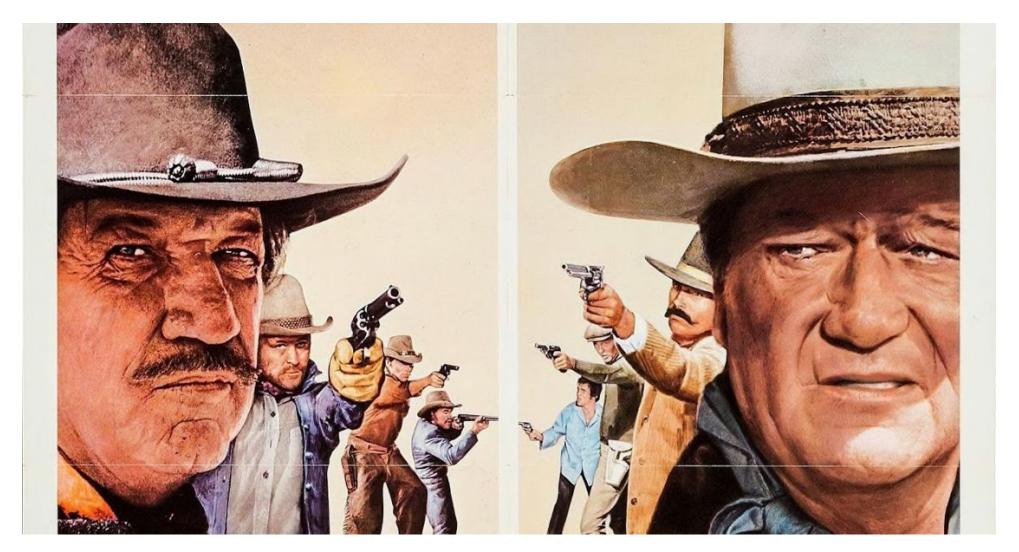
- Sending A Signal
  - OBT Defense is underused
  - Hiring expert sends message not typical defendant
  - Overcome adverse OCB facts
  - Place Trustee plaintiff on heels
  - Great means of leveraging early exit from litigation
  - Remember, experience or education make the expert
  - Experts may be cheap and closer to home than expected





"Lately I've been feeling ethical. Can you prescribe something for that"





GOOD GUYS IN WHITE HATS



- □ The Official Unsecured Creditors' Committee –
   Maximizing Distributions to Unsecured Creditors
  - Congress's goal realized: Give creditors a powerful voice!
  - "White Hat" One Bankruptcy Judges' view
  - > Make presence felt, create value for unsecured creditors





#### ☐ The Committee - Resources

- Committee often possesses industry information that may be very helpful to the reorganization process (Judge Drain)
- Committees may also be able to provide post-petition financial support (Letter of Credit)
- Committees may be able to locate industry buyers (Several Cases)





#### □ Committees' Tools of Aggression

- Equity rarely has any value "it's your case"
  - Hit the ground running
  - Object to DIP Financing/Cash Collateral
  - Take over "Debtor's lawsuits"
  - Develop competing plan
- Committee Members Fiduciary Duty





#### □ Committee Member Resources

- Attack Bank
- Depositions and 2004 Examination
- File competing plan of reorganization
- Commence adversary proceedings on behalf of the debtor-inpossession
- Investigate D&O issues
- > Force a Concurrent Sale Process/Slow Down Debtor's Sale Process
- Object to motions, initiate actions: PIA factor





- □ Top 20 Receive Committee Questionnaire
- Express Interest to UST (even if not in the top 20)
- Complete Application
- □ Interview with UST
- □ Committee Formation

# Your KRCL Team

Joseph M. Coleman

John J. Kane

Kyle Woodard

Theresa Garcia

#### KANE RUSSELL COLEMAN LOGAN PC

PHONE: 214.777.4280

**EMAIL: JCOLEMAN@KRCL.COM** 

