



**William T. Russell, Jr.**  
Of Counsel

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Bill Russell is Of Counsel at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP in the Firm's Litigation Department and Head of the Firm's Bankruptcy and Restructuring Litigation Practice. He represents clients in a wide variety of commercial disputes including bankruptcy and reorganization matters, banking litigation, securities litigation, and contractual and transactional disputes, and has tried cases in state and federal courts, as well as in arbitral proceedings. His clients include leading financial institutions, private equity sponsors, corporations and other businesses.

He has handled cases involving derivative transactions, residential mortgage-backed securities, secured lending syndicates, M&A transactions, false advertising claims, maritime disputes, Ponzi schemes, apparel licensing agreements and auction rate securities, among other issues. He recently represented the debtors in *In re Anagram Holdings, LLC, et al.*, *In re Pyxus International, et al.* and *In re Arsenal Resources Development LLC, et al.* He also represented the Unsecured Creditors Committee in *In re Gawker Media LLC, et al.* and represented one of the lead creditors in the *In re Jefferson County* Chapter 9 proceedings that, at the time, were the largest municipal bankruptcy proceedings in U.S. history. He was one of the leaders of the defense group in *Adelphia Recovery Trust v. Bank of America, et al.* and led the negotiations that resulted in a settlement of that litigation for a small fraction of the claimed damages. He also obtained a \$168 million judgment for a large financial institution in a case involving an interest rate derivative transaction with a Brazilian manufacturing concern and is currently representing a number of financial institutions in connection with claims arising out of their issuance of residential mortgage-backed securities.

He maintains an active pro bono practice and served as Co-Chair of the Firm's Pro Bono Committee for almost 10 years. He has represented pro bono clients in a number of areas including housing, voting rights, education and discrimination matters. He represented the Campaign for Fiscal Equity in its successful constitutional challenge to the public

#### Practice Focus:

- Capital Structure Solutions
- Bankruptcy Litigation
- Complex Commercial Litigation
- Insurance and Reinsurance
- Mergers and Acquisitions Litigation
- Securities Litigation
- Financial Institutions
- Private Equity
- Restructuring
- ERISA Litigation
- Intellectual Property Litigation
- International Disputes and Arbitration
- Litigation
- Liability Management and Special Situations
- Latin America
- Appellate

education funding system in New York State. He has been awarded the Legal Aid Society's Award for Outstanding Pro Bono Service and Manhattan Legal Service's Visionary Leadership Award in connection with his pro bono and public service efforts. Bill also co-chaired the Firm's Inclusion Committee for several years.

A leader within the legal community, Bill is an active member of several bar and legal services organizations. He has served as a member of the New York State Bar Association Executive Committee and is a member of the American Law Institute; former Chair of Legal Services NYC's Board of Directors; Chair of the New York State Bar Association's Task Force on Homelessness and the Law; Treasurer of the New York Bar Foundation's Board of Directors; Chair of the New York City Bar Association Board of Directors; member of the Legal Service Corporation's Leadership Council; Co-Chair of the New York State Bar Association's Task Force on the Parole System; former Co-Chair of the New York State Bar Association's President's Committee on Access to Justice; Assistant Treasurer and a member of the Board of The New York Bar Foundation; former member of the New York State Bar Association and New York Bar Foundation Joint Pro Bono Task Force; former Chair of the New York City Bar Association's Committee on Pro Bono and Legal Services and its Special Committee on Legal Services Awards; former Chairman of the Board of Manhattan Legal Services; a member of the Advisory Board of Legal Outreach, Inc.; a member of the Board of the National Center for Access to Justice; a member of the Board of the Center for Community Alternatives; a member of the Judicial Institute on Professionalism in the Law; and a former member of the Board of Directors of the Lawyers Alliance for New York. He was selected as a David Rockefeller Fellow for 2000–2001. He served as a Panel Chair on the Disciplinary Committee for the First Judicial Department and was appointed by former New York State Court of Appeals Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman to the Chief Judge's Attorney Emeritus Council.

Bill was a featured speaker at the 2012 and 2014 Southeastern Bankruptcy Law Institutes. He is co-author of the monthly column "New York Court of Appeals Roundup" appearing in the *New York Law Journal*, which discusses significant decisions by New York's highest court. Bill has been recognized as a National "Litigation Star" in Bankruptcy Litigation and a New York "Litigation Star" by Euromoney's *Benchmark Litigation*. He has also been recognized by *The Legal 500* and named in *New York Super Lawyers*.

Bill joined Simpson Thacher in 1990 and became a Partner in 1999. He received his A.B., *magna cum laude*, from Princeton University in 1987 and his J.D. from New York University School of Law in 1990. He is admitted to practice before the Southern, Eastern and Northern Districts of New York, the United States District of Arizona, the United States Court of Appeals for the First, Second and Fourth Circuits, the United States Supreme Court and all Courts of the State of New York.