

## JENNIFER EMENS-BUTLER

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### EXPERIENCE:

2009 to Present

**VERMONT BAR ASSOCIATION: President.** Serving on the Board of Managers since 2009, Current President 2015-16. Attend monthly meetings and conferences, acting as an advisory board and think-tank to address issues facing the membership and legal profession generally. Advise on legislative and rule changes, bar association services, membership needs and issues affecting court system and access to justice. Member of Vermont Bar Foundation and IOLTA Committee, involved in fundraising. Assisted with technology committee of the Joint Commission on the Future of Legal Services.

1998 to Present:

**OBUCHOWSKI & EMENS-BUTLER, PC (formerly Obuchowski Law Office -- associate: January 1998 to June, 2003): Law Partner.** Areas of legal practice include all aspects of business law with focus on creditors' rights and bankruptcy law for both consumer and business debtors, creditors and trustees in both liquidation and reorganization contexts. Experience also includes mediation, corporate transactions, acquisitions and foreclosures. Practice is primarily transactional, with some litigation, and includes solutions for viable and troubled companies by reviewing and analyzing business financials and offering alternative resolutions. Chosen to serve as mediator in over 150 Vermont foreclosure cases. Served as local counsel for the largest Chapter 11 case in district' history, and counsel for many other complex Chapter 11 reorganization cases.

Co-Manager of a small law office: administration, finance, marketing and technology, exploring solutions for efficiency, best practices and cost-savings. Demonstrated strong communication skills with public speaking, office training, court appearances, volunteer boards.

Created and maintain law office website, facebook page and periodic blog, including all content and security.

2008 to Present:

**VERMONT LAW SCHOOL: Adjunct Professor.** Taught bankruptcy law as adjunct professor for the General Practice Program from 2008 to 2014. Contracted to teach Bankruptcy, Collections and Foreclosure for the 2016 Spring Session Experiential Program. Small seminar classes to explore the basics of bankruptcy, focusing primarily on consumer bankruptcy law, now to include foreclosures and collection.

1995 to 1997:

**Law Clerk to the Honorable Francis G. Conrad, United States Bankruptcy Court, District of Vermont: 3 Year Law Clerk.** Researched and wrote Memoranda of Decisions on a wide-range of subjects including burden of proof for new Bankruptcy Code section, usury interest, excise taxes, judgment liens, construction liens, retail installment contracts and exemptions. Prepared files for hearings (read, researched and recommended rulings to Judge). Traveled to and performed similar services in other districts (Southern District of New York, New York City; Eastern District of New York, Westbury; and Southern District of Florida, Miami). Wrote and compiled jury instructions and charges.

## **AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS:**

- \* **Certified in consumer bankruptcy by the American Board of Certification**
- \* **“AV – Preeminent” rating by Martindale-Hubbell**
- \* **Vermont Bar Association, Board of Managers, current President**
- \* ***New England Super Lawyers, Rising Star 2009, Super Lawyer 2010--present***
- \* ***Vermont Business Magazine, Top Business Lawyers, 2012***
- \* **Mediator for Vermont Foreclosure Mediation Program** (trained under statute, 2010 to present)
- \* **Chair, Vermont Bar Association, Bankruptcy Law Section, 2006, 2007, 2008; --Section Chair Award, 2008.**
- \* **Court Approved Mediator, ENE and Mediation Training, October 2001**  
One of six District Court-appointed mediators to serve in Vermont bankruptcy cases
- \* **Certificate of Honor, Vermont Bar Association, March 2000**  
For providing *pro bono* representation before the United States Bankruptcy Court

### **Admitted to Practice:**

State of Vermont, November 1995

United States District Court, District of Vermont, December 1997

## **MEMBERSHIP AND COMMUNITY SERVICE:**

- \* **Northfield Savings Bank, Corporator, 2010 to present**
- \* **GMEDC, Green Mountain Economic Development Corporation, Board of Directors, 2003 – 2011**
- \* **US District Court Advisory Group, past member**
- \* **Vermont Bar Association, Bankruptcy Law Section Chair 2006, 2007, 2008**
- \* **Vermont Bar Association, Board of Managers, 2009 – present**
- \* **Vermont Bar Foundation, Board 2015; IOLTA Committee (fundraising efforts)**
- \* **American Bankruptcy Institute, 2005 to present**
- \* **International Women’s Insolvency and Recovery Confederation**
- \* **Grantham Indoor: Formed and manage indoor soccer teams for Bethel youths**

## ARTICLES & PRESENTATIONS:

- \* **Presenter, Vermont Bar Association** various seminars including: 2003 Annual Bankruptcy Case Update; 2005 Consumer Bankruptcy, Moderator, roundtable on Reform Act; 2005 VBA Annual Meeting (bankruptcy reform); 2006 Debtor-Creditor Law Basic Skills course; VBA Bankruptcy Section Holiday CLEs, all years, 2004-2012; 2010 VBA Mid-Year Meeting; 2010 VBA Mid-Winter Thaw, 2012 VBA Mid-Year Meeting, 2012 Foreclosure Mediator training; 2012 VBA Basic Skills Debtor-Creditor; 2013 Vermont Foreclosure Mediation training; 2015 VBA Bridge the Gap.
- \* **Presenter, American Bankruptcy Institute**, Winter Leadership Conference, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA, 2013 (consumer track on BAPCPA).
- \* **Presenter, National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges**, San Diego Annual Conference 2012 (mock hearing).
- \* **Presenter, Vermont Banker's Association** mock bankruptcy trial, 2011.
- \* **Presenter, VBA Center for Public Education, *The Law and You***, informational seminars on Adelphia Cable (Bankruptcy law).
- \* **Presenter, Lorman Education Services, *Understanding the Bankruptcy Reform Act 2005***
- \* **Presenter, 2006 Vermont Law Review Symposium, *Hidden Traps in the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act***
- \* **Presenter, 2006 Rutland County Bar Association Annual Meeting** (BAPCA and its Effects on the General Practice of Law).
  
- \* **Vermont Law School Moot Court Competition Judge** 2002-2015 (Constitutional Law issues).
- \* **Author, *Bankrupt-C Y-Blawg***, periodic blog segments on the practice of bankruptcy law in Vermont.
- \* **Author, *Tales from the Crypt (Vault)*, (Vt. Bar Journal, 2015)** (town clerk stories).
- \* **Author, *Bankruptcy Reform II – Chicken Little Still Looking Skyward... (Vt. Bar Journal 2007)***. Follow up and update on the effects of bankruptcy reform.
- \* **Author, *Bankruptcy Reform—Gather 'Round Children, Yes, the Sky IS Falling (Vt. Bar Journal 2005)***. Exploration of newly enacted Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act, with specific focus on means test and attorney liability. Utilized by Georgetown Law Library research guides.
- \* **Author, *Times-Argus Strictly Business Magazine***, quarterly articles on bankruptcy and small business issues for central Vermont business magazine (5 in series).
- \* **Co-Author, *Vermont's Amended Retirement Account Exemption (Vt. Bar Journal 1999)***

## EDUCATION:

**Vermont Law School, South Royalton, Vermont**

- Juris Doctorate, 1995, *Cum Laude*

**University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin**

- B.A., Political Science, Environmental Studies Certificate, 1992