



BERNICE C. LEE

Partner

✉ blee@kttlaw.com

☎ 305-372-1800

PRACTICE AREAS

Appeals
Assignments for Benefit of
Creditors and Receiverships
Creditors' Rights
Commercial Bankruptcy
Complex Litigation
Corporate Restructuring
Fraud & Insolvency Related
Litigation

EDUCATION

J.D., Northeastern University
School of Law
B.A., Communications,
California State University
Fullerton

KOZYAK
TROPIN
THROCKMORTON

2525 Ponce de Leon, 9 FL
Miami, Florida 33134

—
kttlaw.com

Bernice Lee is a Partner at Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton, and focuses her practice on bankruptcy, receiverships, and complex commercial litigation. She has extensive experience in all aspects of reorganizations, liquidations, receiverships, and fraudulent and preference transfer litigation. She regularly represents creditors, investors, receivers, trustees and business debtors, and serves as a court-appointed fiduciary in federal and state cases.

Most recently, in January 2024, Bernice was appointed receiver by the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida over Location Ventures, LLC and 21 related companies alleged to have been improperly used to obtain \$93 million from investors through material misrepresentations. The receivership involves eight substantial real estate projects at various stages of development. Bernice has administered approximately \$40 million in real property in Coconut Grove, Coral Gables and Miami Beach through free and clear receivership sales. Bernice also serves as a federal equity receiver over MJ Capital Funding, LLC and three related companies used to operate a \$200 million Ponzi scheme that defrauded thousands of investors. She has recovered millions in receivership funds from third parties, worked with investor class representatives to obtain a \$26.625 million settlement with Wells Fargo Bank, and managed a claims process with over 14,000 filed claims.

As reflected in Chambers USA, Bernice has notable experience in both Bankruptcy Litigation and Bankruptcy Restructuring. She is a top-rated bankruptcy lawyer by Super Lawyers (2019-2025, Rising Star 2015-2018). Bernice's work and dedication to the community has been recognized by the Miami-Dade Bar Association as a 2024 Circle of Excellence Bankruptcy Award recipient, the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of South Florida as the 2024 President's Award recipient, the Daily Business Review as a 2023 Unsung Hero awardee for her work on the MJ Capital Funding receivership, and the Florida Trend as one of the 2023 Notable Women Leaders in Law.

Bernice serves as Vice Chair of the Florida Bar's Federal Court Practice Committee (2023-25, Education Subcommittee Co-Chair 2022-23, and Judicial Roundtable Subcommittee Co-Chair 2021-22), and Co-Chair of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association's Bankruptcy and Restructuring Committee (2024-25).

She is a fellow of the American Bar Foundation, the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association's 2019 Leadership Advancement Program, the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges' 2016 NextGen Class, and the Florida Bar Wm. Reece Smith, Jr. Leadership Academy, Class IV. Bernice is a past president of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of South Florida.

Bernice received her Juris Doctor from Northeastern University School of Law in

Boston, and Bachelor of Arts in Communications and minor in Business Administration from California State University Fullerton. In 2008 to 2009, Bernice was a law clerk for U.S. Bankruptcy Court Judge Paul G. Hyman for the Southern District of Florida. Prior to joining Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton, Bernice was a partner at a Boca Raton law firm.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Panelist, Equality and Empowerment Summit, Complex Litigation and Receiverships Panel, Federal Bar Association South Florida Chapter (April 2, 2024)
- Moderator, Federal Court Settlement Conferences, Florida Bar's Federal Court Practice Committee (May 19, 2023)
- Panelist, AAPI Heritage Event, Bankruptcy Bar Association of South Florida (May 12, 2023)
- Panelist, Effective and Persuasive Legal Writing for Bankruptcy Lawyers, 32nd Annual Bankruptcy Skills Workshop at the University of Miami School of Law (June 3, 2022)
- Panelist, No Releases for You! Purdue Pharma, the 'Texas Two-Step' and Other Recent Developments in Bankruptcy and Mass Tort Liabilities, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (March 9, 2022)
- Moderator, Receiver and Trustee Appointments, American Inns of Court's Bench & Bar Conference Miami (February 18, 2022)
- Panelist, Virtual Conversation about Practicing Bankruptcy Law, Kozyak Minority Mentoring Foundation (April 6, 2022 and February 25, 2021)
- Panelist, Notable Recent Supreme Court Bankruptcy Cases, Bankruptcy Bar Association of South Florida, Brown Bag Series Fort Lauderdale (June 27, 2018)
- Co-Author, Pssst, Can you Keep a Secret? Unperfected "Secret" Liens as a Preference Defense Vol. XXXVI, American Bankruptcy Institute Journal No. 6 (June 2017)

KOZYAK
TROPIN
THROCKMORTON

2525 Ponce de Leon, 9 FL
Miami, Florida 33134

kttl.com