

# Solomon B. Genet

Partner and Co-Chair, Financial Fraud Group

"Solomon is an excellent attorney. He is always on top of new law and is a very clear communicator." - Chambers USA

Commercial Litigation, Bankruptcy and Restructuring, Financial Fraud, Receiverships and Assignments, and Creditor's Rights



Office: 305.358.6363, 305.375.6090 Fax: 305.358.1221 Email: sgenet@melandbudwick.com

#### **About Solomon B. Genet**

Solomon B. Genet, a partner with Meland Budwick, P.A. and general counsel for the firm, focuses his practice on commercial litigation, corporate insolvency and bankruptcy, and financial fraud. Chambers USA describes him as "very attentive to his clients. He won't just accept what they're asking, he'll try to figure out the real issue at play."

Sol represents debtors, creditors, creditors' committees, equity holders, trustees, and receivers in state and federal insolvency proceedings, often stemming from financial frauds and Ponzi schemes. He also represents high-profile individuals and corporate clients in complex commercial litigation arising from allegations of fraud and bribery.

Sol has been recognized by Chambers USA in both Bankruptcy Litigation (2020-2025) and Bankruptcy/Restructuring (2016-2019). He is particularly known for his experience in Ponzi scheme litigation and fraud claims.

Prior to joining the firm, Sol served as a Judicial Law Clerk for the Honorable Robert A. Mark, then Chief Judge of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida.

In addition to his professional legal experience, Sol was an adjunct professor at the University of Miami School of Law and St. Thomas University College of Law. He has lectured and written on insolvency and real estate issues.

Sol is also involved in professional and community organizations. He is a member of the Board of Directors of Lehrman Community Day School, and is a former: Board member of the Bass Art Museum in Miami Beach, Vice Chair of the Miami Beach Cultural Arts Council, founding member

of the Miami-Dade County Mortgage Fraud Task Force, member of the Bankruptcy Court Local Rules Committee, and Chair of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation Real Estate Speaker Series and its annual "Sunset over Miami" event. Sol has mentored law students through the Kozyak Minority Mentoring Foundation, which supports diversity in the legal profession through mentoring programs, networking, and fellowships.

#### Education

- University of Miami School of Law, J.D., magna cum laude, 1999
- Yeshiva University, B.A., 1996

#### **Bar Admissions**

- Florida
- Southern District of Florida
- New York
- Southern District of New York
- United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

#### Awards/Rankings

- Chambers USA, Bankruptcy Litigation, 2020-2025
- Chambers USA, Bankruptcy/Restructuring, 2016-2019
- The Best Lawyers in America, Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law, 2022-2025
- Lawdragon, 500 Leading Litigators in America, 2025
- The Daily Business Review: Most Effective Lawyer Finalist, Bankruptcy Category, 2016
- Martindale-Hubbell, AV Preeminent Rated
- Florida Legal Elite, Up and Comer
- Super Lawyers, Florida Rising Star
- Business Leader Magazine, Mover and Shaker
- 40 Under 40 Outstanding Lawyers of Miami-Dade County, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (when he was under 40)

#### **Publications and Panels**

- Panelist, "*The Ethical Use of Expert Witnesses*," ABA 2022 Litigation Section Annual Conference, May 2022.
- *"Your Contingency Fee May Be at Risk if Your Client Files for Bankruptcy,"* Daily Business Review, October 18, 2017.
- *"HOAs in Florida: Issues and Analysis for the Real Estate Developer,"* ActionLine, the Florida Bar Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section publication, Summer 2008.
- *"Heter Iska; Does it Make a Loan not a Loan? An Introduction for Lenders and Borrowers,"* ActionLine, Summer 2007.
- "Closing Protection Letters in Florida: A Title Underwriter's Liability to the Commercial Lender," ActionLine, Winter 2006.

- "The Bankruptcy/Divorce Conflict: How Courts Have Used Constructive Trusts to Remedy An Inequitable Situation," Annual Survey of Bankruptcy Law, 2001-02 Ed.
- *"2nd Circuit Review,"* Norton Bankruptcy Advisor, March 2000.

### Languages

Rights

• Hebrew (conversational)

## **Representative Matters**

Practice Area	Representative Matters
Alternative Dispute Resolution	Solomon B. Genet was selected by the parties to mediate the adversary proceeding of J. Stuart Baker v. Howard Storfer and Elida Storfer, Adv. Case No. 12-1236-BKC-JKO. The mediation resulted in a settlement of all disputes.
Alternative Dispute Resolution	Solomon Genet served as mediator in an adversary proceeding filed in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the S.D. Florida, where a creditor challenged whether the debtor was entitled to receive a bankruptcy discharge. The plaintiff alleged criminal acts and fraud committed by the debtor, as well as the concealment of assets. The matter was successfully, consensually resolved at mediation.
Bankruptcy and Restructuring, Financial Fraud, Commercial Litigation, Creditors' Rights	Representation of bankruptcy trustee for two South Florida-based hedge funds that suffered \$1.1 billion in losses in connection with the \$3.5 billion Ponzi scheme perpetrated by Thomas J. Petters in Minneapolis, the third-largest financial fraud in U.S. history. Prosecuted more than 140 adversary proceedings, including claims for accountant and attorney malpractice and clawback of fraudulent transfers, as well as a \$1.1 billion conspiracy claim against one of the nation's largest financial institutions. Successfully prosecuted common law tort and novel fraudulent transfer claims against BMO Harris Bank, N.A. resulting in a recovery of \$16,000,000. Representation of client as one of three members of the Petters Company, Inc., Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors in Minnesota.
Bankruptcy and Restructuring, Financial Fraud, Commercial	Puig, Inc representation of the Official Joint Committee of Unsecured Creditors and then the Plan Administrator in connection with 26 debtor affiliates in the business of condominium conversions. The asserted

Litigation, Creditors' Fraud, Commercial affiliates in the business of condominium conversions. The asserted unsecured claims exceeded \$100 million. Prosecuted claims against third parties include actions for avoidance of transfers, professional malpractice, usury, fraud and breach of fiduciary duty.

Bankruptcy, FinancialRepresentation of a California-based fund, handled bankruptcy-relatedFraudissues and worked with state court counsel to successfully obtain \$60million judgment against an entity who operated a financial fraud. Also,<br/>obtained a \$17.5 million non-dischargable judgment against the entity's<br/>principal in his individual chapter 7 bankruptcy case.

- Bankruptcy, Successfully represented note purchaser in bankruptcy filing of obligor-debtor, a commercial real estate owner, resulting in full payment (including interest and attorney's fees) to the client in the millions of dollars.
- Bankruptcy,Successfully reorganized a Miami-based international freight-forwarding<br/>company through the chapter 11 bankruptcy process. For various<br/>strategic reasons, speed was of upmost importance. The Plan of<br/>Reorganization was confirmed approximately 120 days from the Petition<br/>Date.

Commercial Litigation Representation of high net worth individuals in navigating their business and financial interests, including through judicial proceedings, as they arise.

Commercial Litigation Representation of the defendant in \$20 million fraud action in the Southern District of Florida stemming from a complex corporate transaction which took place in Eastern Europe.

Receiverships and A Florida District Court appointed MRB partner Peter Russin as Receiver over entities located in Wisconsin and Florida. The action was brought by the Federal Trade Commission and alleged that the bad actors operated a scam that lured consumers with promises of affordable health insurance but actually provided nearly valueless "medical discount" cards. The Firm is representing and assisting the Receiver in taking control of the receivership entities, investigating their operations and shutting certain of them down while allowing others to operate, and gathering assets for eventual distribution for the benefit of creditors.

Receiverships andRepresented a Florida District Court-appointed receiver in a FederalAssignmentsTrade Commission action against bad actors involved in a bogus health

insurance scheme, which included deceptive practices that harmed
consumers across the country. Assisting the Receiver, the Firm took
control of, and evaluated the business operations, determined they
should be shut down and did so, and gathered assets for the benefit of
creditors. The receivership was transferred to a Texas District Court,
where the Firm, assisting the Receiver, worked with a Texas receiver
over affiliated entities and eventually terminated the receivership with a
distribution made to priority creditors.

- Receiverships and Represented John Arrastia, as FTC Receiver in the U.S. District Court for the S.D. Florida. This court-ordered receivership took control over Florida and Texas-based entities that had perpetrated a telemarketing scheme preying on vulnerable consumers, including the unemployed and uninsured. The Firm represented Mr. Arrastia as he coordinated with the Texas receiver and law enforcement to (among other things) secure the physical and electronic books and records, terminate the fraudulent operations and gather (and eventually distribute) assets for the benefit of creditors.
- Financial FraudAppointed by the Miami-Dade County Circuit Court as Receiver for<br/>various entities involved in a financial fraud.

Financial Fraud,Representation of the chapter 7 bankruptcy trustee of an entity throughBankruptcywhich its principal operated a \$40+ million ponzi scheme. The principal<br/>has been sentenced to more than 15 years in prison.

 Financial Fraud,
Bankruptcy and
Restructuring
Court appointed Mark S. Meland as Receiver for Innovida Companies run by Claudio Osorio. After discovering an approximately \$50 million fraud, ceased operations and filed Chapter 11 for numerous entities. Mark S. Meland was appointed the Chapter 11 Trustee and liquidated tangible assets. Firm serves as litigation counsel to the Chapter 7 trustee in numerous avoidance and tort actions seeking to collect funds for defrauded investors.