

and a growing list of other clients.

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The economy has hit the industry h

It is a move forward

**ROBIN S. TRUPP, PARTNER-IN-CHARGE,
ARNSTEIN & LEHR**

Q: Can the debtor enter into a contract without court approval?

A: Typically in Chapter 11 the debtor is only allowed to pay certain kinds of expenses. The court approves a monthly budget, like rent and insurance, as line items. You don't want to deliver services if the court paperwork doesn't allocate for that particular service.



Q: What are some red flags? **Trupp**

A: If there's any haziness there, you want to have approval before you render any services. It's a shame, but it's very hard for a creditor to do business with a debtor in Chapter 11. Creditors will want cash on delivery or payment in advance to make sure they get paid.

Q: Is it important to be aware of the difference between corporation or a partnership as opposed to a sole proprietorship?

A: The biggest distinction I see is a corporation has shareholders, a pecking order. If you have a corporation, you have equity in stockholders. With a sole proprietorship you don't have the resources of the others.

- Compiled by Jo-Lynn Brown



Bankruptcy attorneys ranked by number of local bankruptcy attorneys

Rank/ Year	Name Address Phone/website	Local bankruptcy attorneys		Total attorneys:		Local partners		Local employees		Local senior executive	
		Rank	Count	Local	Florida	Rank	Count	Rank	Count	Title	Email
1	Trenam Kemker Schert Barkin Frye O'Neill & Mullis PA 101 E. Kennedy Blvd., Ste. 2700, Tampa 33602 (813) 223-7474/trenam.com	16	98	98	98	52	27	200	Harold W. Mullis Jr. President hwmullis@trenam.com		
2	Stichter Riedel Blain & Prosser PA 110 Madison St., Ste. 200, Tampa 33602 (813) 229-0144/srbpp.com	16	16	16	16	10	6	33	Don M. Stichter Managing partner dstichter@srbpp.com		
3	Shumaker Leag & Kendrick LLP 101 E. Kennedy Blvd., Ste. 2800, Tampa 33602 (813) 229-7600/slk-law.com	15	91	91	91	56	33	199	Ernest J. Marquart Managing partner emarquart@slk-law.com		
4	Adams and Reese LLP 101 E. Kennedy Blvd., Ste. 4000, Tampa 33602 (813) 402-2880/adamsandree.com	14	35	35	35	24	11	65	Louis M. Ursini III Partner-in-charge louis.ursini@arlaw.com		
5	McIntyre Panzarella Thanasides Hoffman Bringgold & Todd P.C. 6943 E. Fowler Ave., Tampa 33617 (813) 899-6059/mcintyrefirm.com	13	15	15	15	1	14	43	Richard J. McIntyre Managing member rjm@mcintyrefirm.com		
6	Fowler White Boggs PA 501 E. Kennedy Blvd., Ste. 1700, Tampa 33602 (813) 228-7411/fowlerwhite.com	10	64	140	64	43	21	160	Rhea F. Law CEO, Chair of board rlaw@fowlerwhite.com		
7	Anthony and Partners 201 N. Franklin St., Ste. 2800, Tampa 33602 (813) 273-5616/anthonyandpartners.com	8	8	8	8	3	5	23	John A. Anthony Managing partner janthony@anthonyandpartners.com		
8	Hill Ward Henderson 101 E. Kennedy Blvd., Ste. 3700, Tampa 33602 (813) 221-3900/hwhlaw.com	7	91	91	91	57	31	202	Michael P. Brundage Practice group leader, bankruptcy & creditors' rights mbrundage@hwhlaw.com		
9	Bush Ross PA 1801 N. Highland Ave., Tampa 33602 (813) 224-9256/bushross.com	6	49	49	49	29	20	108	Jeffrey W. Warren President jwarren@bushross.com		
10	Arnstein & Lehr LLP Two Harbour Place, 302 Knights Run Ave., Ste. 1100, Tampa 33602 (813) 574-5000/legalnews.arnstein.com/tampa-office/	6	7	52	7	5	2	17	Robin S. Trupp Partner-in-charge, Tampa rstrupp@arnstein.com		
11	Carlton Fields PA 4221 W. Boy Scout Blvd., Ste. 1000, Tampa 33607 (813) 223-7000/carltonfields.com	5	117	279	117	70	36	283	Gary L. Sasso President, CEO gsasso@carltonfields.com		