

## JOEL L. TABAS



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Joel L. Tabas founded the firm in 1988. His primary practice areas include creditor's rights, bankruptcy litigation and business reorganization. He has been a Chapter 7 Panel Trustee in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Florida since 1992. He also regularly serves as a Chapter 11 Trustee, court-appointed examiner and as receiver in state and federal courts. Mr. Tabas is Board Certified in Business Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification and has been since 1995.

Mr. Tabas received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Rochester in 1979, and a Masters in Business Administration in Finance and Management for the Non-Profit Sector from the University of Rochester in 1980. He received a Juris Doctor degree magna cum laude from the University of Miami in 1985. While at the University of Miami, Mr. Tabas was a member of the Order of the Coif, and served as Editor-in-Chief of the Inter-American Law Review in 1984-1985.

He was admitted to practice in Florida in 1985, and is also admitted to practice in the U.S. District Court for the Southern and Middle Districts of Florida and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. He is a member (and past President) of the Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida.

Mr. Tabas has operated commercial airlines, real estate companies, hotels, restaurants and retailers. In conjunction with his work as a receiver and an examiner, he has been called upon to prepare feasibility studies on the effectiveness of manufacturing and cost accounting controls and determine the viability of going concerns. The report he prepared in one such appointment resulted in one of the only successful bankruptcy criminal prosecutions in the Southern District of Florida. Mr. Tabas has also served as both counsel and as an expert consultant in complex malpractice cases involving allegations of professional malfeasance in bankruptcy against attorneys and accountants.

Since 2007, Mr. Tabas has been named to the "Florida Super Lawyers" list compiled by *Law & Politics* magazine, which recognizes Florida's leading lawyers as chosen by their colleagues. Previously, he had been named to Florida Trend Magazine's "Legal Elite" each year since 1999.

Mr. Tabas was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1957.