



Christopher N. Coyle

PARTNER

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My Assistant

Amy Sinclair 503.972.9596 x161

Christopher is an experienced attorney who dedicates his practice on representing both individuals and businesses, as debtors or creditors, when addressing financial difficulties. He is skilled in navigating legal solutions such as work-out agreements or bankruptcy, ranging from straightforward Chapter 7 liquidation cases to complex Chapter 11 reorganizations. He has provided representation for individuals, family enterprises, agricultural entities (including farmers, ranchers, and fishers), as well as larger businesses.

After growing up on U.S. Air Force bases across the country and attending college in South Carolina, Christopher moved to Portland in 2004.

“I know we are just beginning this filing, but I just wanted to thank you. The plan and direction have relieved an enormous stress on me. Your caution and counsel have established confidence with me that the outcome will be the best any attorney could provide.”

THE ADVANTAGE OF WORKING WITH ME

Working with both consumer and business clients, I have focused on achieving cost-effective outcomes for clients. I strive to

Practices

**Business Restructuring and
Bankruptcy**

Consumer Bankruptcy

Education

J.D., Northwestern School of Law of
Lewis & Clark College, cum laude
Environmental Law Review,
Managing Editor

B.A., University of South Carolina,
cum laude
South Carolina Honors College,
Journalism and Mass Communication

Admissions

- Oregon State Bar
- Washington State Bar
- United States Tax Court
- United States District Court for the District of Oregon
- United States District Court for the Western District of Washington
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Washington

Honors

- Oregon Super Lawyers® (2023 – 2024)

understand the outcomes desired by my clients and to advise problem-solving strategies to achieve those goals and objectives.

- Oregon Super Lawyers® Rising Star (2013 – 2021)

REPRESENTATIVE WORK

- Represented individual debtor in strategically-filed successive bankruptcy cases to discharge majority of nearly \$1 million in income tax obligations and force repayment plan, without interest or penalties, of remaining balance.
- Represented plaintiffs against defendant who filed a bad faith bankruptcy to stay a pending trial, obtaining a dismissal and two-year bar to re-filing against individual debtor.
- Represented individual Chapter 11 debtor in subchapter V bankruptcy case to address significant debts, including hundreds of thousands of dollars of unpaid tax obligations.
- Won motions for monetary sanctions, dismissal with prejudice, and a five-year bar to re-filing against individual Chapter 13 debtor for bad faith filing and failure to comply with discovery obligations.
- Represented individual small business seller against purchaser in subsequent bankruptcy filing, obtaining an approximate 250% increase in monthly payments on unpaid obligation, provisions requiring payment in full a year earlier, and a market interest rate on unpaid balance.
- Represented individual against to-be-former spouse in bankruptcy to allow dissolution proceedings to proceed without further interference from bankruptcy proceedings, including sale of real estate and distribution of proceeds to client.

PUBLICATIONS

- "Conduit: A Solution in Need of a Problem" with Theodore Piteo, *Debtor-Creditor Section Newsletter* (2018)
- "Substitutes for Return & Non-Dischargeability: The Ninth Circuit Adds Substitute for Return Assessments to Tax Evasion and Fraudulent Returns as Reasons for Non-dischargeable Tax Obligations." *Debtor-Creditor Section Newsletter* (Fall 2016); republished with changes *Tax Section Newsletter* (2018)

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- "Bankruptcy Basics for Business Lawyers," *OSB Business Law Annual meeting and CLE* (November 2024)

- ["Maximizing Creditor Rights,"](#) *NACM Credit in the West Conference* (October 2024)
- ["Tax Reporting, Tax Return Filing Requirements, and other Tax Issues Arising in Bankruptcy,"](#) *OSB Debtor-Creditor Section Annual Meeting and CLE* (September 2024)
- ["Bankruptcy Basics for the Non-Bankruptcy Practitioner,"](#) *MBA CLE Bankruptcy 101* (September 2024)
- "Implementation of the New Chapter 13 Form Plan" with Wayne Godare and Karen Oakes, *Debtor-Creditor Section CLE and Annual Meeting* (October 2017)
- Local Bankruptcy Rules Committee Presentation re: National Chapter 13 Plan and Conduit Administration, Saturday Session (February 2017)

ORGANIZATIONS

Professional Organizations:

- Local Bankruptcy Rules and Forms Committee (2016-present)
 - Chair
- Oregon State Bar (2007-present)
- Washington State Bar (2014-present)
- Oregon Debtor-Creditor Section (2007-present)
- Oregon Taxation Section (2007-present)
- Washington Debtor-Creditor Section (2014-present)
- Multnomah Bar Association (2007-present)
- Oregon State Bar New Lawyer Mentoring Program (2014-present)
 - Volunteer Mentor
- Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition (2012-present)
 - Volunteer Judge
- Lewis & Clark College Law School International Law Moot Court Team (2012-present)
 - Volunteer Coach
- Multnomah County Search and Rescue Unit (2013-present)

PERSONAL INTERESTS

Outside of the office, Christopher enjoys flying, sailing, and woodworking.