

## **JENNIFER EMENS-BUTLER**

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### **EXPERIENCE:**

1998 to Present: ***OBUCHOWSKI & EMENS-BUTLER, (formerly Obuchowski Law Office -- associate: January 1998 to June, 2003), Bethel, Vermont***  
**Partner**

Areas of practice include all aspects of business law with focus on creditors' rights and bankruptcy law for both consumer and business, debtors, creditors and trustees in both liquidation and reorganization contexts. Experience also includes corporate formation and transactional work, trustee representation, foreclosures and probate. Practice is primarily both transactional with litigation, but also includes solutions for viable and troubled companies by reviewing and analyzing business financials and offering alternative resolutions.

*Worked extensively as debtor counsel for FiberMark, Inc. (local counsel, largest Chapter 11 in District's history, 2004); Bolton Valley Ski Resort (ski area, 2001); Rutland Fire Clay Company and Rutland Inc. (asbestos-related mass tort, 1999); JRL Industries, Inc. d/b/a Williams Machine (machining, 2001); Switchyard Associates (shopping center located on railroad switch yard, 1998) and Commercial Logic, Inc. (computer software, 1998) and as PACE local 41 union counsel in American Paper Mills of Vermont, Inc. (paper mill, 2002).*

1995 to 1997: ***LAW CLERK to the Honorable Francis G. Conrad, United States Bankruptcy Court, District of Vermont: August 1995 to December 1997, Rutland, Vermont***

Researched and wrote Memoranda of Decisions on a wide-range of subjects including burden of proof for new Bankruptcy Code section, usury interest, excise taxes, judgment liens, construction liens, retail installment contracts and exemptions. Prepared files for hearings (read, researched and recommended rulings to Judge). Traveled to and performed similar services in other districts (Southern District of New York, New York City; Eastern District of New York, Westbury; and Southern District of Florida, Miami). Wrote and compiled jury instructions and charges.

## **AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS:**

- ◆ **Chair, Vermont Bar Association, Bankruptcy Law Section, 2006, 2007, 2008 (2008 Section Chair Award)**
- ◆ **2009-11 term VBA Board of Bar Managers** (elected and serving)
- ◆ **Court Approved Mediator, ENE and Mediation Training, October 2001**  
One of six District Court-appointed mediators to serve in Vermont bankruptcy cases
- ◆ **2008, 2009 New England Super Lawyers, Rising Star**
- ◆ **Certificate of Honor, Vermont Bar Association, March 2000**  
For providing *pro bono* representation to clients in the United States Bankruptcy Court
- ◆ **Admitted to Practice**  
State of Vermont, November 1995  
United States District Court, District of Vermont, December 1997

## **MEMBERSHIP:**

- ◆ **WBON, Women's Business Owners Network**
- ◆ **GMEDC, Green Mountain Economic Development Corporation, Board of Directors, 2003 – present, Executive Committee, 2007**
- ◆ **U.S. District Court Advisory Group, 2006-2008**
- ◆ **Vermont Bar Association, Bankruptcy Law Section Chair 2006, 2007, 2008**  
**2009-11 term VBA Board of Bar Managers**
- ◆ **American Bankruptcy Institute**
- ◆ **White River Valley Boys & Girls Club, Board of Directors, 2009**
- ◆ **International Women's Insolvency and Recovery Confederation**

## **ARTICLES, COURSE INSTRUCTION & PRESENTATIONS:**

- ◆ **Adjunct Faculty, Spring 2008, 2009, 2010, Vermont Law School. General Practice IV, Bankruptcy Law.**
- ◆ **November 2008, New England Super Lawyers** featured in spotlight article on small practices.

**Jennifer Emens-Butler**

- ◆ **Author, *Bankruptcy Reform Part II—Chicken Little Still Looking Skyward...* (Vt. Bar Journal, Spring 2007).** Part two in the exploration of the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act and the case law since its inception.
- ◆ **Author, *Bankruptcy Reform—Gather ‘Round Children, Yes, the Sky IS Falling* (Vt. Bar Journal, Spring 2005).** Exploration of newly enacted Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act, with specific focus on means test and attorney liability. Utilized by Georgetown Law Library research guides.
- ◆ **Author, *Times-Argus Strictly Business Magazine*,** quarterly articles on bankruptcy and small business issues for central Vermont business magazine (approx. 7 to date).
- ◆ **Co-Author, *Vermont’s Amended Retirement Account Exemption* (Vt. Bar Journal 1999)**
- ◆ **Presenter, Vermont Bar Association seminars:** 2003 Annual Bankruptcy Case Update; 2005 Consumer Bankruptcy, Moderator, roundtable on Reform Act; 2005 VBA Annual Meeting (bankruptcy reform); 2006 Debtor-Creditor Law Basic Skills course; VBA Bankruptcy Section Holiday CLE 2004-2007; 2007 VBA Basic Bankruptcy Law day (presenter and organizer); 2007 VBA Annual Meeting (future of small practice)
- ◆ **Presenter, VBA Center for Public Education, *The Law and You*,** informational seminars on Adelphia Cable (Bankruptcy law)
- ◆ **Presenter, Lorman Education Services, *Understanding the Bankruptcy Reform Act 2005***
- ◆ **Presenter, 2006 Vermont Law Review Symposium, *Hidden Traps in the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act***
- ◆ **Presenter, 2006 Rutland County Bar Association Annual Meeting (BAPCA and its Effects on the General Practice of Law)**
- ◆ **Vermont Law School Moot Court Competition Judge 2002-2008 (Constitutional Law issues)**
- ◆ **Quoted in June 2007 Entrepreneur Magazine** on expected increase in bankruptcy filings.

**EDUCATION:**

**Vermont Law School, South Royalton, Vermont**

- Juris Doctorate, 1995, *Cum Laude*

**University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin**

- B.A., Political Science, Environmental Studies Certificate, 1992