

Mary Gilmore

Chicago
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Overview

Mary helps clients navigate out-of-court restructurings as well as Chapter 7 and 11 bankruptcies. A former law clerk to the Honorable LaShonda A. Hunt, first on the Bankruptcy Court and then the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Mary brings exceptional insight into navigating court proceedings and litigating cases strategically.

Mary analyzes statutes and case law in order to advise clients on all of their options and excels both in motion practice and out-of-court negotiations. She is well versed in the laws regarding fraudulent transfers, preferential transfers, executory contracts, personal guaranties, waivers, consent judgments, and self-insured retention agreements. Her experience further extends to investigating potential claims against directors and officers of companies in bankruptcy and those facing financial distress.

Working closely with her clients, Mary gains a clear picture of their overall goals and concerns. Then, she focuses on creative problem-solving to meet their needs and advance their objectives.

Credentials

EDUCATION

- University of Illinois College of Law, 2022, J.D., *magna cum laude*
  - CALI Award for Future Excellence (highest grade): Constitutional Law
  - Finalist, College of Law's 2020 ABA Client Counselling Competition
  - Champion, College of Law's 2019 ABA Negotiation Competition
  - Winner, Paul M. Lisnek Award for Excellence & Ethics in Trial Advocacy (2022)
  - Member, Criminal Law Society
  - Rule 711 Extern, Champaign County State Attorney's Office (2022)
  - Participant, Evan A. Evans Moot Court Competition (2021)
- Marlboro College, 2016, B.A.
  - High honors
  - Recipient, Lilian Farber Scholarship, awarded for plans of concentration reflecting a commitment to social justice
  - Recipient, Dean's Merit Scholarship

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

- Illinois
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

Memberships

- Member, Chicago Bar Association
- Member, American Bankruptcy Institute
- Member, Turnaround Management Association, Chicago/Midwest Chapter
- Member, International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation
- Member, Benesch Women's Initiative Committee – Mentoring Subcommittee
- Volunteer, Legal Aid Chicago
- Volunteer, Credit Abuse Resistance Education (C.A.R.E.)

Clerkships

- Law Clerk for the Honorable LaShonda A. Hunt, United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois
- Law Clerk for the Honorable LaShonda A. Hunt, United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

News & Insights

- Supreme Court Clarifies Judicial Estoppel Standard in Bankruptcy Nondisclosure Cases
  June 26, 2026 | Client Alerts & Insights
- The Cloud Over Third-Party Releases in the Southern District of New York
  January 13, 2026 | Client Alerts & Insights
- Benesch Secures Major Trial Victory for Professional Bull Riders in High-Profile Bankruptcy Dispute
  November 3, 2025 | Press Releases
- Mary Gilmore Mentioned in Crain's Chicago People on the Move
  February 25, 2025 | Media Mentions