

# John P. Sieger

Partner and Chair, Insolvency and Restructuring

Chicago Office

+1.312.902.5294

john.sieger@katten.com



## Practices

FOCUS: Insolvency and Restructuring  
Private Equity and Real Estate Fund  
Formation

## Industries

Finance and Financial Markets  
Private Client Services

## Education

JD, University of Michigan Law School  
BS, University of Illinois

## Bar Admissions

Illinois

## Court Admissions

US Supreme Court  
US Court of Appeals, Third Circuit  
US Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit  
US District Court, District of Colorado  
US District Court, Central District of Illinois  
US District Court, Northern District of  
Illinois, Trial Bar  
US District Court, Eastern District of  
Michigan  
US District Court, Western District of  
Wisconsin  
US District Court, Eastern District of  
Wisconsin

John Sieger is the national head of Katten's Insolvency and Restructuring practice. He has guided clients through hundreds of reorganizations, sales, and liquidations, including related litigation proceedings at all levels up to and including the US Supreme Court. His practice focuses on representing middle-market lenders and owners and acquirers of distressed businesses. John draws on decades of experience to bring parties together to achieve efficient, business-focused results.

## Understanding day-to-day realities

Knowing the day-to-day realities that lenders and business owners face, John respects them in devising legal strategies. His work on bankruptcies throughout a range of industries — including those of the Chicago Tribune, TMST Mortgage, Consec, Vanguard Natural Gas and Sentinel Management Group — has given him a firm grounding in the complexities of high-stakes business challenges.

John identifies the important issues and relationships quickly. That allows him to work efficiently and with a lean team, always ensuring that a senior partner is closely involved and available to clients. While protracted litigation is rarely preferred, John also handles a variety of litigation matters, including appellate matters before the US Supreme Court, where Katten represented the larger of two senior lenders in *In re RadLAX*, a landmark case unanimously endorsing credit-bid rights in bankruptcy plans.

## Recognitions

- *Best Lawyers in America*
  - Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law | Litigation - Bankruptcy, 2011–2021

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- *Chambers USA*
  - Bankruptcy/Restructuring, 2013–2020
- Chicago Turnaround Management Association
  - Transaction of the Year, 2004, 2007
- Turnaround Management Association
  - Transaction of the Year, 2004, 2007
- The Legal 500 United States
  - Recommended Attorney, 2016–2020
- The M&A Advisor
  - “Deal of the Year” Award, 2004
- Super Lawyers
  - Illinois, 2008–2020

## News

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- Michaela Crocker Featured in *Reuters, Law360* (October 1, 2020)
- Katten's Busy Bankruptcy Practice Continues to Draw Top Talent (September 21, 2020)
- Katten's Insolvency Practice Swells as Bankruptcy Work Grows (September 1, 2020)
- Katten Attorneys Distinguished as Top Legal Talent in the 2021 *Best Lawyers in America* and *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch* Lists (August 20, 2020)
- Katten Named Top-Tier Firm in Structured Finance and Securitization by The Legal 500 United States 2020 Guide (June 16, 2020)
- Katten Rated Top Law Firm by *Chambers USA 2020* (April 23, 2020)
- Katten Attorneys Selected to 2020 Illinois Super Lawyers, Rising Stars Lists (January 29, 2020)

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- Katten Praised in The Legal 500 United States 2019 Guide (June 11, 2019)
- Katten Lauded Top Ranked Law Firm by *Chambers USA* 2019 (April 25, 2019)
- Super Lawyers Lists Honor More Than 50 Katten Attorneys in Illinois (January 24, 2019)
- Katten Distinguished by *The Legal 500 United States* (June 14, 2018)
- Katten Rated as Leading Law Firm by *Chambers USA* 2018 (May 3, 2018)
- Katten Attorneys Recognized in 2018 Illinois Super Lawyers, Rising Stars Lists (January 25, 2018)
- Katten Distinguished by *The Legal 500 United States 2017* (May 31, 2017)
- Katten Recognized as Leading Law Firm by *Chambers USA* 2017 (May 30, 2017)
- Katten Attorneys Recognized in 2017 Illinois *Super Lawyers*, Rising Stars Lists (January 13, 2017)
- 79 Katten Attorneys Selected for *Best Lawyers in America*® 2017 (August 15, 2016)
- Eighteen Katten Practices and 70 Attorneys Recognized by *The Legal 500 United States 2016* (June 17, 2016)
- *Chambers USA* 2016 Distinguishes 22 Katten Practices and 50 Attorneys (May 27, 2016)
- Forty-Seven Katten Attorneys Recognized in 2016 Illinois *Super Lawyers* List (January 8, 2016)
- 91 Katten Attorneys Recognized in *Best Lawyers in America*® 2016 (August 17, 2015)
- Katten Attains 22 Practice and 58 Attorney Rankings by *Chambers USA* 2015 (May 20, 2015)
- Fifty-Three Katten Attorneys Recognized in 2015 Illinois *Super Lawyers* List (January 12, 2015)

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- 85 Katten Attorneys Named to *Best Lawyers in America*® 2015 (August 18, 2014)
- *Chambers USA* 2014 Distinguishes 24 Katten Practices and 54 Attorneys (May 23, 2014)
- Fifty-Four Katten Attorneys Recognized in 2014 Illinois *Super Lawyers* List (January 13, 2014)
- 83 Katten Attorneys Lauded in *Best Lawyers in America*® 2014 (August 15, 2013)
- *Chambers USA* 2013 Recognizes 24 Katten Practices and 49 Attorneys (May 24, 2013)
- Sixty-Nine Katten Attorneys Included on 2013 Illinois *Super Lawyers* List (January 4, 2013)
- 80 Katten Attorneys Named to *Best Lawyers in America*® 2013 Guide (August 24, 2012)
- Eighty-Six Katten Attorneys Named 2012 Illinois Super Lawyers (February 28, 2012)
- 75 Katten Attorneys Named to *Best Lawyers in America*® 2012 Guide (September 12, 2011)
- Seventh Circuit Upholds Right of Secured Creditors to Credit Bid Under a Chapter 11 Plan (July 21, 2011)
- 70 Katten Attorneys Named to *Best Lawyers in America*® 2011 (August 9, 2010)

## Publications

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- Second Circuit Adopts Narrow Interpretation of Trust Indenture Act Provision Intended to Protect Bondholders (January 23, 2017)
- District Court Denies Distressed Funds the Right to Vote on Bankruptcy Plan (May 5, 2014)

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- Municipal Bankruptcies: An Overview and Recent History of Chapter 9 of the Bankruptcy Code (July 23, 2013)
- Ninth Circuit Holds That Debt Can Be Recharacterized as Equity (June 5, 2013)
- Promises to Keep—Lender Beware: California Supreme Court Expands Parol Evidence Fraud Exception (February 20, 2013)
- Ninth Circuit Prohibits Bankruptcy Courts from Entering Judgments on Fraudulent Conveyance Claims Against Non-Claimants (December 13, 2012)
- Trademark Licensee's Rights Survive Rejection of License in Bankruptcy in *Sunbeam* Decision (July 17, 2012)
- US Supreme Court Upholds Right of Secured Creditors to Credit Bid Under Chapter 11 Plan (June 5, 2012)
- Delaware Bankruptcy Court Dismisses Chapter 11 Petition of Mezzanine Borrower as Filed in Bad Faith (January 24, 2012)
- TOUSA Fraudulent Transfer Decision Reversed by District Court (February 22, 2011)
- Touse Bankruptcy Case Raises the Specter of Fraudulent Conveyance Challenges (November 16, 2009)
- GGP Opinion Leaves Unanswered Questions (August 28, 2009)
- The GGP Case—What It Means for Lenders (June 3, 2009)

## Presentations and Events

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- Maximizing Possibilities in a Chaotic Environment: Distressed Opportunities in 2010 (February 24, 2010) | *Panelist*
- Recent Bankruptcy Law Developments Affecting Real Estate (June 5, 2008) | *Speaker*
- BCFM/BCCA 2007 Annual Conference (May 22–24, 2007) | *Speaker*