

Bankruptcy Partner Joins Saul Ewing In LA From Danning Gill

By **Madison Arnold**

Law360 (March 28, 2024, 3:17 PM EDT) -- Saul Ewing LLP has picked up a complex business bankruptcy, restructuring and insolvency partner for its Los Angeles office who spent much of his legal career with Danning Gill Israel & Krasnoff LLP.

Zev Shechtman joined Saul Ewing with more than 15 years of experience, the firm announced Wednesday. In an interview with Law360 Pulse on Thursday, he said the move was mutually beneficial because his practice is growing more nationally and Saul Ewing didn't have a major bankruptcy presence in Los Angeles yet.

"I was looking for a place that could help me improve client services or grow in my ability to provide outstanding services to clients. The idea of having attorneys down the hall who can provide services that are beyond my scope is really great. And by down the hall, obviously, that could be virtual or literal," Shechtman said. "Everybody here and everyone who I've met across the country has been excellent, both in terms of providing resources and being friendly and welcoming, and making my transition as successful and pleasant as possible."



Zev Shechtman

Shechtman will act as a bridge between West Coast clients and bankruptcy attorneys in Delaware and New York, Los Angeles office managing partner Steven Ziven said in a statement.

"Zev is a skilled bankruptcy lawyer who is well prepared to assist our clients in California with bankruptcy proceedings, as well as with restructuring and insolvency matters," Ziven said.

His experience includes representing debtors in Chapter 11 and Subchapter V bankruptcy reorganization cases. He aids debtors in settlement negotiations and counsels them regarding insolvency concerns, the firm said.

"Bankruptcy is an area where, as a young attorney, you can become an expert and that was attractive to me early on. As I've progressed, it's something I've enjoyed, being able to give somebody the benefit of my experience and focus in this area, and being able to answer people's questions and translate these concepts into plain English, and use them to make effective strategic decisions for the business and legal issues of the clients. It's a rewarding practice," Shechtman said. "It's complicated sometimes, but it's really fun."

Additionally, he represents creditors, trustees, buyers of distressed assets, equity holders and contract parties in bankruptcy.

Shechtman's restructuring and insolvency work includes representing assignees and assignors in assignments for the benefit of creditors, as well as court-appointed fiduciaries, the firm said.

He also helps professional teams that need guidance on restructuring and bankruptcy law during corporate transactions or litigation.

Shechtman had spent the last almost 16 years at Danning Gill, working his way up from law clerk to attorney and then partner, according to his LinkedIn profile.

"I didn't go to law school thinking I would be entering the wonderful world of bankruptcy, but I did fall into it relatively early. As a law student, I had the really unique opportunity to extern for a bankruptcy judge who was a wonderful mentor here in Los Angeles. And then the following year, I got a summer associate position at my prior firm ... and was very busy and got a lot of wonderful experience during the great recession when the [proceedings] were really busy," Shechtman said. "So [I've] really just been focused on bankruptcy my whole career and really love the practice."

A graduate of the University of Southern California's Gould School of Law, Shechtman earned a master's degree from New York University and a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Santa Cruz.

Saul Ewing has made some other notable additions across the country recently, including **former Akerman LLP partner Zachary Kobrin**, whose experience also includes being general counsel for a cannabis operator. Kobrin joined the Fort Lauderdale, Florida, office.

Last month, the firm added **Caroline Patterson from Brach Eichler LLC**. Patterson, who handles transaction and regulatory work in the healthcare industry, joined as a partner in Chesterbrook, Pennsylvania, outside Philadelphia.

--Additional reporting by Emily Johnson and James Boyle. Editing by Robert Rudinger.

Update: This article has been updated to include comments from Shechtman.

Clarification: This article has been updated to clarify one of Shechtman's quotes.

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