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Joseph M. Welch is an Associate in the firm's Insolvency and Financial Solutions Practice Group in Orange County. His focus is primarily in the areas of bankruptcy, litigation and real estate.

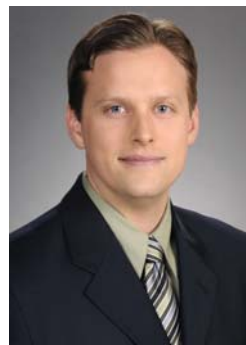
Mr. Welch represents corporate and individual creditors, equity investors, creditor committees, debtors and trustees in all aspects of bankruptcy proceedings, including: developing strategies for restructuring businesses; preparing first day or emergency motions; defending creditors against alleged stay or discharge violations; negotiating the purchase and sale of assets free and clear of encumbrances; preparing and defending avoidance actions; objecting to and defending claims against the estate; compelling lease assumption/rejection; and preparing and analyzing reorganization plans and disclosure statements to maximize client returns.

He also represents clients in all aspects of bankruptcy litigation, including: case assessment; initiating adversary proceedings; preparing and defending dispositive motions; conducting Rule 2004 examinations and other discovery; preparing and arguing motions for summary judgment; mediating, settling and/or trying cases; handling appeals (at all levels); and instituting pre- and post-judgment remedies.

In 2009, Mr. Welch successfully first-chaired a trial for revocation of discharge. More recently, he denied a debtor's discharge at summary judgment, represented clients as lead counsel on appeals before the bankruptcy appellate panel, federal district court and Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and obtained an immediate stay and prohibition writ of mandate from the California Court of Appeal (4th District).

Mr. Welch co-authored "A Creditor's Thumbnail Guide to Bankruptcy," for *Points & Authorities*, published Spring 2011; and "Understanding a Utility's Rights and Responsibilities in Bankruptcy" for the *Public Law Journal* (an official publication of the State Bar of California Public Law Section), published Winter 2010. Before practicing law, Mr. Welch was executive vice president of a mortgage corporation, and principal of a real estate and mortgage brokerage.

Mr. Welch earned his J.D. *cum laude* at Loyola Law School, where he was a member of the Order of the Coif. While in law school, he was president of the St. Thomas More Law Honor Society, co-chair of the J. Reuben Clark Law Society and a member of Alpha Sigma Nu. He was honored by the Alumni Association Board of Governors at graduation for significant contributions to the law school and society. He received his B.A. at Brigham Young University in 1998, where he was a member of the Golden Key International Honor Society and the youngest member in his graduating class at age 19.



**Joseph M. Welch**

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**Areas of Practice:**

Insolvency  
Bankruptcy  
Litigation  
Real Estate

**Bar Admissions:**

California  
U.S. District Court Central District of California  
U.S. District Court Eastern District of California  
U.S. District Court Southern District of California  
U.S. Court of Appeals 9th Circuit