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Kramer Levin Names Bankruptcy And Restructuring Co-Chair

By Adrian Cruz

Law360 (January 10, 2024, 4:48 PM EST) -- Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP announced that it has named a veteran attorney with over 25 years of experience working on a wide range of high-profile bankruptcy and restructuring matters as practice co-chair.



Amy Caton

Amy Caton was named bankruptcy and restructuring practice co-chair at the start of January, working alongside partner Kenneth Eckstein following the recent decision of partner Thomas Moers Mayer to step down from the role after 14 years. Kramer Levin said that Mayer will continue to serve as a senior bankruptcy and restructuring partner. Caton told Law360 Pulse Wednesday that her appointment as practice co-chair was part of a long-term succession plan that's been in place for years.

"In short, I'm thrilled," Caton said. "On one level, it isn't a big change, as Kramer Levin has always been 'co-led,' not only by Ken and Tom, but also by all the driven, talented partners and senior associates in the restructuring group. Nevertheless, it's an honor to have the title of co-head of such a talented group of restructuring lawyers."

Caton, who graduated from the University of Texas School of Law, has been with Kramer Levin for her entire career. In that time, she's represented investors and creditors' committees in a significant number of high-profile bankruptcies and restructurings, including Puerto Rico and its power utility PREPA, American Airlines, Lehman Brothers, Hertz and General Motors, according to the firm.

"I would be remiss if I didn't say that working for bondholders on Puerto Rico's restructurings for nine years, in particular the PREPA bondholders, was the hardest and most interesting restructuring I have ever been a part of," Caton said. "Representing the creditors' committee in Hertz during the pandemic, when the travel economy and Hertz's business ground to a halt, and it looked like unsecured creditors could be zeroed out, and working with the company and White & Case in a partnership to find the best buyer for the company — that was also a privilege."

Along with her role as bankruptcy and restructuring co-chair, Kramer Levin said that Caton has been serving on the firm's executive committee since 2015. She added that she's also served on a number of other committees, such as the associates' committee, hiring committee and women's initiatives committee.

"We are very fortunate at Kramer Levin to have a wealth of talented, experienced restructuring partners to attract and run our complex bankruptcy cases and out-of-court restructurings," Eckstein said in a

statement. "Amy's talent and intelligence in representing clients and leading teams have been a mainstay of the Kramer Levin bankruptcy team for years. Tom and I are both thrilled that Amy is stepping up to co-chair the group."

Kramer Levin said that Caton's appointment as bankruptcy and restructuring co-chair is just the latest in a series of movements related to the practice area. Last year, the firm named bankruptcy and restructuring partner Adam Rogoff as co-leader of its multidisciplinary healthcare industry group, and in 2022, it combined with Washington, D.C.-area boutique Robbins Russell Englert Orseck & Untereiner LLP to expand the practice's litigation capabilities.

--Editing by Dave Trumbore.

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