



WE'RE OFF TO THE CREDIT RACES!

2026 REGIONAL MEETINGS BUFFALO: *BIOGRAPHIES*



AR AUTOMATION & PAYMENTS
MATTHEW HACKER, National Sales Executive, UTA

Matthew Hacker has been in the payments industry for the last decade and has a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with a focus on Finance & Economics from The Ohio State University. He has worked at US Bank/Elavon and Huntington Bank in the merchant services division. His experience includes helping companies: reduce payment acceptance and processing costs; align payment strategies with treasury and finance operations; improve accounts receivable performance and cash flow visibility; and implement secure, scalable payment acceptance solutions.



RISK PROFILE DEEP DIVE: KEY TRENDS SHAPING FUTURE OUTLOOK
CONRAD RAGAN, Director, Corporate Restructuring, Alvarez & Marsal

Conrad Ragan is a Director with Alvarez & Marsal's North American Commercial Restructuring practice, where he specializes in representing official committees of unsecured creditors in bankruptcy proceedings with a focus on implementing strategies to maximize creditor recoveries, the development and evaluation of financial models, business reviews and stakeholder negotiations. Mr. Ragan is a frequent speaker at industry events and serves on the Independent Standards Board governing U.S. commercial collections agencies through the CCA of A. He has 20 years of corporate credit and lending experience in both large corporate and large financial institutions. Mr. Ragan graduated cum laude from North Carolina State University's College of Management with a bachelor's degree in business management and a minor in Economics. Additionally, Mr. Ragan has a Master of Business Administration from Wake Forest University where he was Dean's Scholar.



NUTS & BOLTS OF NOTICES, LIEN WAVERS, AND MECHANICS LIENS: REDUCE DSO AND PROTECT YOUR BOTTOM LINE
ALEC PAPESCH, Director of Strategic Partnerships, NCS Credit

Alec Papesch is the Director of Strategic Partnerships at NCS Credit. He consults with Credit Associations and Industry Trade Groups nationwide, providing expertise in Construction Credit and the Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) through the lens of technology-driven solutions.



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BUFFALO: BIOGRAPHIES



STANDBY LETTERS OF CREDIT
THOMAS FAWKES, Partner,
Tucker Ellis LLP

Thomas Fawkes is a partner with the law firm of Tucker Ellis LLP in its Chicago office. Tom focuses his practice on bankruptcy, creditors' rights, and financial restructuring matters, representing official committees, unsecured and secured creditors, debtors, financial institutions, post-confirmation trustees, and asset purchasers in chapter 11 and 7 bankruptcy cases, out-of-court restructurings, and liquidation proceedings throughout the United States. Tom also assists his clients in structuring commercial transactions with a view towards mitigating risk of future bankruptcy and insolvency losses. Among other honors, Tom has been recognized as an Illinois Leading Lawyer in Bankruptcy & Workout Law: Commercial, and by Chambers and Partners as one of the leading bankruptcy and restructuring attorneys in Illinois.



BRIAN JACKIW, Partner, Tucker
Ellis LLP

Brian Jackiw is a partner with the law firm of Tucker Ellis LLP. Brian is experienced in bankruptcy and commercial litigation, practicing in courts throughout the country. He has represented plaintiffs and defendants in avoidance actions, complex bankruptcy claim disputes, breach of fiduciary duty actions, and bankruptcy fraud litigation. Beyond litigation in the Bankruptcy Courts, Brian has experience in general collection and commercial law litigation. Brian has also spent significant time advocating on behalf of general unsecured creditors through his representation of official committees of unsecured creditors. Before becoming an attorney, Brian served as an Officer in the U.S. Army.

2026 REGIONAL MEETINGS

APRIL 7 – KANSAS CITY
APRIL 8 – CINCINNATI
APRIL 9 – WICHITA
APRIL 14 – GRAND RAPIDS
APRIL 16 – DETROIT
APRIL 21 – INDIANAPOLIS
APRIL 23 – CHICAGO

MAY 5 – PITTSBURGH
MAY 6 – FT. WAYNE
MAY 7 – CLEVELAND
MAY 12 – BUFFALO
MAY 14 – WORCESTER
MAY 19 – OMAHA
MAY 21 – MILWAUKEE



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