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Executive Summary:

From 1984 to 1997, I was the principal of a seven-attorney law firm that became Aronoff & Soukup. It specialized in Commercial and Real Estate litigation, Bankruptcy and landlord tenant law. Since April 1997 I have had an independent practice, associating with many law firms as lead counsel on a number of large litigation and bankruptcy matters.

Education:

University of California at Berkeley (B.A., Magna Cum Laude, 1973);
University of Denver (J.D., 1976). Senior Editor, Denver Law Forum, (1975-1976).

Certifications:

Certified Specialist, Personal and Small Business Bankruptcy Law, The State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization (1994-2005).

Certified Specialist, Business Bankruptcy Law, American Board of Certification (1994-2001).

Judicial Activities:

Judge Pro Tem: Los Angeles Superior Court (1999-); Los Angeles Municipal Court, (1981-1999);
Arbitrator for the Mandatory Fee Arbitration Program Beverly Hills Bar Association (1995-) California State Bar (2006-2010)

Recent Seminars:

The Fee Examiner's Perspective: Sensible, Ethical, and Effective Lawyer Billing Hygiene. Beverly Hills Bar Association, Program Chair, June 13, 2024

Innocent Spouses and partners' Vicarious Liability and non-dischargability under Bankruptcy Code §523(a)(2)(A). Beverly Hills Bar Association, Program Chair, March 8, 2023

Winning at the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel, the Do's and Don'ts for Success. Beverly Hills Bar Association, Program Chair, July 29, 2022

The Bankruptcy Jurisprudence of Justice William O. Douglas: Still Relevant in 2022, Beverly Hills Bar Association, Program Chair, January 13, 2022

Taxwoman at the Door: Exemption Planning, Collection Powers, Liens and Horror Stories. Beverly Hills Bar Association, Program Chair, October 8, 2020

Business Appraisal and Real Estate Valuation in 2020: Application of the Federal Rules of Evidence in a Free Fall Economy Beverly Hills Bar Association, Program Chair, June 18, 2020

Drafting Rock Solid Declarations: Presenting Evidence for Motions and Trials. Beverly Hills Bar Association, Program Chair, January 17, 2019

The Top Ten Issues to Consider in Ground Lease Transactions. Beverly Hills Bar Association, Program Chair September 12, 2018

Use and Abuse of Experts and Expert Testimony. Beverly Hills Bar Association, Program Chair Program Chair, June 15, 2018

Access Denied: Avoiding and Defending the Expanding Field of ADA Claims. Beverly Hills Bar Association, Program Chair January 9, 2018

Stay Put: The Uncomfortable Intersection of the Rosenthal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, the federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act and Bankruptcy Law. Beverly Hills Bar Association, Program Chair, March 30, 2017

Admit What You Do Not Know: Common Evidentiary Mistakes in Bankruptcy Court. Beverly Hills Bar Association, Program Chair, January 21, 2016

Publications:

Appointing and Organizing Official Creditors' Committees with Model By-Laws," *California Bankruptcy Journal*, Vol. 20, No. 4, 1992;

"Filing Bankruptcy for Existing Clients," *Los Angeles Daily Journal Report*, No. 89-5, April 28, 1989"; Co-Author;

"Discovery in the Bankruptcy Court: Depositions v. Rule 2004 Examinations," *Beverly Hills Bar Association Journal*, 1984.;

"New Entities and Bankruptcy," *Los Angeles Lawyer*, Vol. 6, No. 2, page 22, April 1983;

"Creative Financing Enters the Bankruptcy Courts Under the Cram Down Provisions of the Bankruptcy Code; Compulsory Refinancing of Balloon Payments," 16 *Beverly Hills Bar Association Journal* 127 (1982)

Honors:

Lawyer of the Year Award, Los Angeles County Bar Association, 1984.

Lawyer of the Year Award, Constitutional Rights Foundation, 1984, 2005.

Delegate to U.S./China Joint Session on Trade Economic and Investment Law, 1987.

Assistant Legal Technical Editor for the television show, LA Law, 1989

President's Award for Outstanding Service, Beverly Hills Bar Association, 1999

Impact Award, Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters, 2012

Lloyd M. Smith Award, Constitutional Rights Foundation 2019

Affiliations:

California State Bar Advisory Commission on Bankruptcy (2001- 2004)

Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Community Resources, *City of Hermosa Beach, CA* (1995-1998).

Beverly Hills Bar Association, *Board of Governors* (1994-1998; 2011- 2015; 2017- 2021); *Chair of the Bankruptcy Section* (1993-1995); *Executive Committee, the Bankruptcy Section* (1993-); *Chair of the Judiciary & Bench-bar Relations Committee* (1998-2005); *West District Advisory Committee of The Los Angeles Superior Court* (1998- 2006); *Judge Pro Tem Coordinator* (1999); *The Order of Distinguished Attorneys* (2007-2021); *Chair of Audit Committee* (2012- 2015; 2018-2021); *Vice Chair of Search Committee* (2019)

Beverly Hills Bar Association Foundation, *Director* (2010-2022); *Chair Scholarship Committee* (2012 - 2014); *Treasurer* (2015-2018)

Teach Democracy (formally the Constitutional Rights Foundation), *Mock Trial Coach* (1977- 1989; 1998-2002; 2018-2022); *Mock Trial Judge* (1980-); *Associates Vice-President* (1983-1985); *Lawyer's Advisory Council* (1992-); *Board of Directors* (1995-); *Chair Program Oversight Committee* (2004 -2014); *Chair Search Committee for new CEO* (2012-2013); *Chair Expanding Horizons Internship Committee* (2014 -2017); *Executive Committee* (2010- 2018); *Audit Committee* (2015-); *Real Estate Committee* (2018-)

Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Los Angeles, *Big Brother* (1978-1981); *Board of Trustees* (1979-); *Vice President* (1988-1992); *Secretary* (1993-1996); *Chair of the Legal Committee* (1982-2001) ; *Chair Scholarship Committee* (1990-2006); *Chair of the Technology Committee* (2002)

Public Counsel, *Board of Directors* (1999-2003)

Los Angeles County Bar Association, *Committee on the Unauthorized Practice of Law* (2001- 2003)

Venture Capital:

General partner in numerous industrial, commercial and office real estate projects in Los Angeles County

Co-founder of several start-up companies: Segway Los Angeles; Santa Monica Bike Center; Santa Monica Bike Share (Breeze Bike Share presented by Hulu); EVELO Electric Bikes; Dry Falls Hospitality

Personal:

Los Angeles area resident since 1963; Leisure Interests include skiing, travel and biographies; AYSO Soccer Referee; Founder Hermosa Beach Film Festival; Founder of the Beach Volleyball Hall of Fame; President of MethodFest Film Festival; Director of the Robert C. Aronoff Charitable Trust.