

Jason M. Ayres

Principal | Portland, Seattle

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Overview

Financial institutions and diverse businesses consistently count on Jason to negotiate complex commercial transactions and to obtain optimal resolutions in insolvency, bankruptcy and litigation matters.

Jason's practice focuses on commercial transactions, workouts, bankruptcy and insolvency proceedings, and commercial litigation. He regularly assists lenders and borrowers in drafting and negotiating sophisticated loan documentation. Jason's experience additionally includes helping financial institutions, small businesses and farms in commercial insolvencies, bankruptcy proceedings and business disputes. He frequently advises clients in complex Chapter 11 and Chapter 12 bankruptcy proceedings as well as receiverships and workouts and is a regular speaker on these topics.

Jason has significant experience in matters involving agricultural lending, healthcare lending and equipment leasing and financing. He is an effective negotiator and facilitator, and dedicated to providing practical solutions to his clients facing complex commercial and agricultural issues.

Areas of Focus

- [Litigation](#)
- [Alternative Dispute Resolution](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Commercial & Real Estate Finance](#)
- [Creditors' Rights & Bankruptcy](#)
- [Financial Services](#)
- [Real Estate](#)
- [Real Estate, Land Use & Environmental](#)

Admissions

- Oregon, 2000
- Idaho, 2022
- Washington, 2007
- U.S. District Court, District of Idaho
- U.S. District Court, District of Oregon
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Washington
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Washington
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court, District of Idaho
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court, District of Oregon
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Eastern District of Washington
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Western District of Washington
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit

Education

- J.D., Lewis & Clark Law School, 2000
- B.A., University of Virginia, Economics, 1996
- London School of Economics, London, England, 1995

Honors & Recognition

- Best Lawyers in America®
 - Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law, Litigation – Banking and Finance, Litigation – Bankruptcy, 2026
 - Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights, 2021-present
- Legal 500 City Elite
 - Portland - Commercial Disputes, 2026

Clerkships

The Hon. Stephen L. Gallagher, Multnomah County Circuit Court, 2001

Professional Activities

- American Bankruptcy Institute, Member
- Oregon Bankers Association, Member
- Oregon State Bar, Member
 - Agricultural Section
 - Debtor Creditor Section
- Risk Management Association, Member
 - General Counsel and Board Member, 2020-present

- Turnaround Management Association, Member
- Washington State Bar Association, Member
 - Debtor Creditor Section

Experience

Prevailed in Eight-Day Trial to Confirm Lender's Plan Over Winery Debtor

Assisted a lender in obtaining the appointment of a receiver in state court for vineyard/winery borrowers who subsequently filed Chapter 11. Successfully objected to the debtor's attempt to convert to a Subchapter V proceeding. Secured confirmation of the lender's competing plan of liquidation over the debtor's reorganization plan following an eight-day trial in the Eastern District of Washington.

Secured Lender Victory in Near Three-Year Farm Bankruptcy Dispute

Represented a lender to successfully obtain confirmation of its competing plan over a farm debtor, which had filed a highly contested Chapter 11 and later unsuccessfully attempted to convert to Chapter 12. This favorable confirmation concluded a complex, nearly three-year dispute that originated in Washington state court litigation involving three co-borrowers.

Ensured Full Recovery for National Lender in Construction Developer Chapter 11

Represented a national lender in the Chapter 11 reorganization of a regional construction developer, achieving the strategic outcome of payment in full for significant loans secured by residential developments.

Negotiated Favorable Resolution in Complex Farm Litigation and Workout

Represented a financial institution in intricate litigation and workout proceedings involving a large regional potato and onion farmer, securing a favorable resolution and an agreed payoff to the lender.

Executed Multi-State Recovery of Cattle and Proceeds for Lender

Assisted a lender in obtaining the appointment of a receiver over a cattle operation to direct the recovery of collateral-cattle and proceeds-across multiple states and to pursue fraudulent conveyances associated with missing cattle.

Reclaimed and Sold Equipment Despite EPA CERCLA Lien and Trustee Claims

Assisted an equipment finance company in a converted Chapter 11 bankruptcy to obtain possession of equipment financed for a fertilizer manufacturer, which was subject to CERCLA claims by the EPA and an asserted surcharge by the Chapter 7 trustee. Secured the equipment free of all liens and claims, then negotiated its subsequent sale to an international buyer on the client's behalf.

Negotiated Release of Over \$17 Million in Guaranteed Debt in Chapter 11 Wind-Down

Represented an equipment lease and finance company in a Chapter 11 bankruptcy to wind down the debtor company, while successfully negotiating a release of guaranteed debt exceeding \$17 million.

Routinely Secures Receivers for Commercial Real Estate and Business Liquidations

Regularly assists lenders in obtaining court appointments of receivers to liquidate diverse commercial properties and businesses, including entertainment venues, apartment complexes, coastal hotels, and a boat manufacturing business.

News & Insights

News

[Foster Garvey Recognized Among Nation's Top Firms in 2026 Chambers USA Guide: 34 Attorneys and 15 Practices Ranked](#)

[06.04.26](#)

[18 Foster Garvey Attorneys Named to 2026 Legal 500 City Elite Lists](#)

[01.21.26](#)

[71 Foster Garvey Attorneys Recognized Among the 2026 Best Lawyers in America; Paul Trincherro Named 'Lawyer of the Year'](#)

[08.21.25](#)

[65 Foster Garvey Attorneys Selected to The Best Lawyers in America® 2025, Three Named 'Lawyer of the Year'](#)

[08.15.24](#)

[45 Foster Garvey Attorneys Recognized Among The Best Lawyers In America®](#)

[08.18.22](#)

[38 Attorneys Named 2022 Best Lawyers in America; 11 Named Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch](#)

[08.19.21](#)

[43 Attorneys Named 2021 Best Lawyers in America; 10 Named Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch](#)

[08.20.20](#)

[Jason Ayres Named General Counsel of RMA Portland Metro Chapter; Elected to Board](#)

[02.18.20](#)

Events

["Legal Panel for Lenders – A Discussion of Key Issues Facing Lenders Today," OBA Peer Group Summit](#)

[10.09.24](#)

["Credit Risk & Commercial Real Estate," RMA Portland Metro Chapter's February Membership Luncheon](#)

[02.20.24](#)

["Creditor Perspectives on Current Bankruptcy Issues," 33rd Annual Bankruptcy Seminar & Retreat](#)

[06.09.23](#)

["Life After Confirmation-It Ain't Over Yet," 36th Annual NW Bankruptcy Institute](#)

[04.14.23](#)

["The Coming Storm of Problem Loans," RMA Portland Metro Panel](#)

[10.27.20](#)

["Current Agricultural Insolvency Issues in the Northwest," Oregon Bankers Association Agriculture Roundtable](#)

[08.12.20](#)

["Banking Horror Stories," Risk Management Association \(RMA\) – Portland Metro Chapter](#)

[10.23.19](#)

Legal Alerts

[Supreme Court Clarifies That Section 362\(a\)\(3\) Does Not Prohibit the Mere Retention of a Debtor's Property](#)

[01.28.21](#)

[Chuck E. Cheese and Pier 1 Rulings Highlight Risks and Considerations for Commercial Property Landlords and Tenants in Bankruptcy Proceedings](#)

[01.15.21](#)

[Ninth Circuit Opens the Door to Limited Nonconsensual Third Party Releases in Chapter 11 Plans](#)

[08.18.20](#)

[\(Not-So\) Small Business Reorganization Act: CARES Act Expands SBRA Eligibility](#)

[04.06.20](#)

Connect with Jason

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