

# Melissa W. Gaied

PRINCIPAL

617-248-4853

✓ mgaied@choate.com

Melissa Gaied brings a collaborative and results-driven approach to her representation of banks, non-bank lenders, mezzanine investors, and other financial institutions that provide financing to companies in a wide range of industries, such as retail, sports, healthcare, real estate, technology, and infrastructure. She advises clients on industry trends and key terms in loan agreements and collateral documents. Melissa also leads trainings for client teams on a range of topics, including security and perfection matters under UCC Article 9.

Melissa's clients include Avante Capital Partners, Bank of America, Brookside Capital Partners, Pathlight Capital, Second Avenue Capital Partners, SLR Credit Solutions, and Wells Fargo Bank.

### Representative Engagements

- Second Avenue Capital Partners, as originator, in a \$700M warehouse credit facility with Huntington National Bank, and a separate term credit facility with Pathlight Capital.
- Second Avenue Capital Partners in a \$75 million asset-based revolving credit facility to Allbirds, a publicly-traded sustainable footwear and apparel company.
- Second Avenue Capital Partners in asset-based revolving credit facility and term loan facility to True Religion Apparel, a retail clothing company known for its direct-to-consumer signature premium denim ieans.
- Second Avenue Capital Partners in \$112 million Senior Secured Revolving Credit Facility and Term Loan to Backcountry, a specialty retailer of outdoor gear and apparel.
- Bank of America, N.A. as administrative agent in connection with an amendment and restatement to an
  existing \$325 million asset-based revolver credit facility to Barnes & Noble Education, Inc., a leading
  solutions provider for the education industry servicing hundreds of academic institutions nationwide.
- Wells Fargo Bank as administrative agent and collateral agent in connection with a substantial
  amendment to an existing \$433 million asset-based revolver credit facility to The Children's Place, Inc., a
  specialty retailer of children's apparel and accessories.
- Wells Fargo in an asset-based, senior secured loan to SPARC Group, who acquired Brooks Brothers after the brand filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy.
- Avante Capital Partners in a secured unitranche financing to Golden Bear Physical Therapy and Sports
  Injury Center, Inc., a leading outpatient physical therapy platform providing specialized treatment to
  help patients with orthopedic, neurological, musculoskeletal, and sports injuries and a portfolio
  company of leading private equity firm Shore Capital.
- · Second Avenue Capital Partners in a debtor-in-possession financing and subsequent reemergence

#### **Focus Areas**

Finance and Restructuring

Acquisitions /
Sponsor Financing
Asset-Based Lending
Mezzanine and
Junior Capital
Restructuring and
Bankruptcy



financing to Old Time Pottery, LLC, a discount home décor retailer.

- SLR Credit Solutions in a debtor-in-possession financing to renown jean retailer True Religion.
- SLR Credit Solutions in a \$70 million asset-based term loan to Southern States Cooperative, a leading provider of farm supply products and services headquartered in Richmond, VA.
- Pathlight Capital in a \$97.5 million senior secured credit facility to Black Box Corporation, a leading digital solutions provider that helps customers design, build, manage and secure their IT infrastructure.
- Citibank in a senior secured credit facility to a National Hockey League team.

# **Publications and Presentations**

 "Data After Death: An Examination into Heirs' Access to a Decedent's Private Online Account," 49 Suffolk University Law Review 281

# **Education & Credentials**

- Suffolk University Law School, JD (2016) summa cum laude, Associate Production Editor, Suffolk University Law Review
- The George Washington University, BA (2012)

#### Admissions

Massachusetts