Airline Investment Banking & Restructuring Professionals

Ellen Artist MANAGING DIRECTOR



Ellen Artist
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PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Ellen Artist is a Managing Director with more than 40 years' experience in global aviation finance as a financial advisor, investment principal and commercial lender. She is experienced in financial restructurings, both in court and out of court and has acted as liquidating trustee and advisor to the trustee in two airline liquidations including claims settlement and wind down activities.

Within airline restructuring, she led the out of court restructuring of lease and loan obligations of Independence Air, in February 2005. Following the bankruptcy and subsequent shutdown of the airline ENA Advisors, LLC (a sole member LLC owned by Ms. Artist) was appointed Chapter 11 Distribution Trustee for the FLYi and Independence Air Distribution Trust responsible for settling over \$2.4 billion in filed claims against the debtors and winding up the affairs of the debtor.

She also led the out of court restructuring of lease and loan obligations of American Airlines in May 2003, where the overall program included reduction of payments exceeding \$175 million per annum. She was involved in the restructuring and early return of aircraft off lease for Gulf Air and the recent re-profiling of lease and loan obligations for Avianca S.A. Ms. Artist has been a member of the Board of Directors of Mesa Airlines, Inc. and chairperson of the Audit Committee since 2011. She was appointed to the Board by the creditors committee following the effectiveness of the airline's Chapter 11 Plan or Reorganization.

Ms. Artist is a graduate of Northwestern University with a B.A. in Economics and received an M.B.A. with distinction from New York University.

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

- Avianca 2019 debt deferral and re-profiling
- Norwegian Air Shuttle ASA out of court debt to equity conversion
- Norwegian Air Shuttle ASA insolvency restructuring under Irish Examinership and Norwegian Reconstruction
- TAP Portugal sale leaseback financing
- Gulf Air out-of-court aircraft lease restructuring
- Independence Air Liquidating Trustee
- Skybus Airlines advisor to the Liquidating Trustee
- Out of court restructuring for major US Airline
- Multi-year financing program for regional jet acquisitions

INDUSTRY EXPERTISE

- Airlines
- Regional Airlines
- Leasing

FUNCTIONAL EXPERTISE

- Restructuring
- Airline Liquidations
- Aircraft lease financing
- Structured debt financing

