Airline Investment Banking & Restructuring Professionals

Michael B. Cox Vice Chairman



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Professional Qualifications

Michael B. Cox is Vice Chairman of Seabury Aviation Partners. Mr. Cox joined Seabury as a partner in Seabury's principal advisory practice in April 1998. He has over 35 years of corporate and advisory experience covering corporate recovery, cash management, business planning and crisis management. At Seabury, Mr. Cox has advised numerous airline and helicopter clients on a variety of projects, including airline treasury, corporate finance, and airline restructuring. In addition, Mr. Cox has been qualified as an industry expert in various commercial disputes involving aircraft leasing matters, airline valuations and business plans for the passenger, helicopter and cargo sector.

Mr. Cox has led several airline restructuring engagements including recent engagements for Kuwait Airways, SAS, CHC, Waypoint Leasing, Frontier Airlines, South African Airways, Air Mauritius, and Gulf Air. Mr. Cox also advised a bondholder group holding over US\$2.4 billion in claims with American Airlines in its Chapter 11 reorganization. Mr. Cox also led the Seabury team in successfully restructuring of the aircraft debt/lease obligations for the reorganization efforts at US Airways, Air Canada and Northwest Airlines.

Mr. Cox received his M.B.A. in Finance and Accounting from the University of Texas, Austin and his B.B.A in Business Management from Texas A&M University where he graduated magna cum laude. Mr. Cox is a FINRA registered representative with the Series 7, 79 and 63 designations.

Project Experience

- Led the development of a turnaround plan for a sovereign fund owned, Middle Eastern airline (2024)
- Co-led the SAS Chapter 11 restructuring (2022-2024)
- Co led the fleet restructuring of Norwegian Air Shuttle in Irish Examinership and Norwegian Reconstruction processes (2020 – 21)
- Led the development of a new strategy and business plan for a revitalized South African Airways (2020)
- Led the restructuring of Icelandair's fleet obligations and credit card acquirer unsecured exposure (2020)
- Led the fleet valuation/restructuring for the ad hoc bondholder group for Bristow Helicopters' Chapter 11 process (2019)
- Led the fleet restructuring in Chapter 11 for Waypoint Leasing. Co led the M&A process resulting in the 363 sale (2018)
- CRO at South African Airways (2017)
- Led the fleet restructuring for CHC Helicopters in Chapter 11 (2016)
- Led the fleet restructuring and revitalization of Gulf Air (2015)
- Co led the UK restructuring of Monarch Airways (2014)
- Evaluated the business plan for Kenya Airways on behalf of Afrexim Bank (2013)
- Led the ad hoc bondholder group advisory for American Airlines' Chapter 11 proceedings (2012)
- Led the Chapter 11 restructuring of Frontier Airlines, led the fleet restructuring for Air Canada, Northwest Airlines US Airways 1 and US Airways 2. Led the Chapter 11 restructuring for Kitty Hawk Air Cargo, Arrow Air and Pinnacle Airlines. (Pre-2012)

Industry Expertise

- Commercial airlines (passenger, cargo, charter)
- Helicopter operators
- Aircraft Leasing (fixed wing, rotary wing)

Functional Expertise

- Aircraft debt/lease negotiations/valuation
- Airline business plan/strategy development
- Expert Witness Testimony
- In-court/out-of-court restructuring plan development

