



Sandra Abitan, Ad. E.

Partner, Insolvency and Restructuring

Montréal

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Bar Admission: Québec, 1990

Areas of Expertise

- U.S. Cross-Border Legal Services
- Retail and Consumer Products
- Capital Markets
- Insolvency and Restructuring
- Mergers and Acquisitions

Sandra has played a significant role in the growth and development of the Montréal office over the years and has held various leadership roles within the Firm. Sandra was the Managing Partner of the Montréal office from 2017 to June 2025. She is a recognized and respected leader in the insolvency and restructuring practice in Québec and nationally.

Her clientele is diverse and reflective of the Canadian and international business community — global companies, financial institutions, equity participants, and court officers who have sought her advice in working through reorganizations, recapitalizations, restructurings and strategic acquisitions.

With over 35 years of experience, Sandra has an expertise in cross border and international matters, acting for a number of major private and public corporations operating in a variety of areas. She is lauded for her creative and practical approach to problem solving and finding solutions to complex business and legal problems.

Sandra’s expertise and leadership are recognized locally, nationally and internationally, as evidenced by the numerous ranking and awards received over the years. Sandra is recognized as a leader in her field in various publications such as *The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory*; *The Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada*; *Chambers Global: The World’s Leading Business Lawyers*; *IFLR 1000: The Guide to the World’s Leading Financial Law Firms*; *Chambers Canada: Canada’s Leading Lawyers for Business*, *Lawdragon* and *The Best Lawyers in Canada*. In 2021 and in 2022, Sandra was the only Quebec woman included in the International Financial Law Review’s Women Leaders list (IFLR1000) for her expertise in insolvency and restructuring. In addition, the International Law Office (ILO) awarded Sandra the Client Choice Award in Insolvency and Restructuring for 2021 Sandra was the only Canadian recipient of this award. She was also named a Woman of Power by Federation CJA (Montréal) and received the Leadership Award from the Association of Québec Women in Finance.

Sandra is a Past President of the Board of the Turnaround Management Association –

Montréal Chapter, a member of board of directors of the Insolvency Institute of Canada, and an active member of other renowned organizations in her areas of expertise.

A firm believer in the importance of developing diversity within the legal profession and fostering an inclusive work environment, Sandra has participated in several projects and committees created for this purpose with the Barreau du Québec. Sandra is also very involved in community work.

Awards and Recognition

- **Chambers Canada: Canada's Leading Lawyers for Business:** Recognized in Restructuring/Insolvency
- **Chambers Global: The World's Leading Business Lawyers:** Recognized in Restructuring/Insolvency
 - "...[Sandra] is knowledgeable, smart and pleasant to work with. She is hands-on and very practical on matters and knows how to work with various stakeholders with differing interests. She is extremely adept at providing strategic advice on how to get us to our stated goal."
- **The Canadian Legal Expert Directory:** Recognized in Insolvency & Financial Restructuring – Insolvency Litigation; Banking & Financial Institutions; Québec's best insolvency and financial restructuring lawyers in 2021
- **Expert's Leading 500 Cross-Border Lawyers: A Guide to Doing Business in Canada:** Recognized in Insolvency & Financial Restructuring
- **Best Lawyers in Canada:** Recognized in Banking and Finance Law; Insolvency and Financial Restructuring Law
- **IFLR 1000: The Guide to the World's Leading Financial Law Firms:** Recognized in Restructuring and Insolvency (Highly Regarded); classified in the list "Women Leaders" in 2021 and in 2022
- **Legal 500:** Recognized as a Leading Individual in Restructuring and Insolvency
- **Who's Who Legal:** Who's Who Legal: International – Restructuring & Insolvency; Who's Who Legal: Canada – Restructuring & Insolvency
- **Benchmark Litigation Canada:** Recognized in Insolvency; Recognized as a Local Star
- **Lawdragon:** Recognized in the 2020 Lawdragon 500 Leading Global Bankruptcy & Restructuring Lawyers
- **Expert Guides:** *The Legal Media Group Guides to the World's Leading Lawyers:* Restructuring & Insolvency; Association of Quebec Women in Finance: Leadership award; Federation CJA: Women of Power; Lexology: Client Choice Award of Lexology: Restructuring & Insolvency (Québec)

Credentials

Education

- Université de Montréal, LL.B.

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Languages

- French
- English

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Professional Affiliations

- Federation CJA, Co-Chair of the Women in Business Network
- Turnaround Management Association, former President of the Board of Montreal
- The Insolvency Institute of Canada (Board of Directors)
- Canadian Bar Association, Insolvency Section
- Former Member of the Barreau du Québec Comité de liaison, Superior Court, Commercial Division
- Canadian Insolvency Foundation
- American Bankruptcy Institute, Member of the International Committee
- International Association of Insolvency Practitioners (Insol International)