



STATEMENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONSUMER BANKRUPTCY ATTORNEYS IN SUPPORT OF THE RULE OF LAW

The National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys (NACBA) agrees with and stands in full support of the American Bar Association's statement issued on March 3, 2025, regarding alarming efforts to undermine the courts and the legal profession.

NACBA shares a profound concern over the escalating pattern of governmental actions that threaten the fundamental principles of our democracy, including the independence of the judiciary, the right to counsel, due process, and the freedoms of speech and association. We have seen wide-scale affronts to the rule of law itself, such as attacks on constitutionally protected birthright citizenship, the disappearing of people without due process, the dismantling of government departments including USAID, the Department of Education and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, as well as attempts to punish law firms for providing the representation to which every person is entitled and to criminalize those who support lawful programs to eliminate bias and enhance diversity. We reject all attempts to intimidate judges for their rulings, to target lawyers for representing certain clients, or to interfere with the essential work of the legal profession.

Defending judges and courts, acknowledging the role of the courts, adhering to the rule of law, and respecting the separation of powers are cornerstones of our justice system. NACBA members and all lawyers must be free to zealously represent their clients and perform their ethical duties without fear of retribution. We oppose any attempts to prevent or limit parties from having access to the judicial system and courts, including the bankruptcy system and courts, or to interfere in the impartial administration of justice, consistent with the law and our commitment to pro bono service. NACBA firmly supports upholding these principles and condemns any actions that seek to erode them.

NACBA calls upon all members of the legal community, including those in appointed and elected positions, to join us in speaking out against these dangerous trends. We stand for the vital role of our courts, including our bankruptcy courts, and the essential job that lawyers do every day throughout our country in endeavoring to provide access to justice for all. Silence is not an option when the integrity of our courts and the ability of lawyers to fulfill their ethical duties are under threat.

The National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys is a non-profit organization of more than 1,500 consumer bankruptcy attorneys nationwide. NACBA advocates nationally in support of issues that cannot adequately be addressed by individual member attorneys. It is the only national association of attorneys organized for the specific purpose of protecting the rights of consumer bankruptcy debtors.

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