

Press Release

# Akerman Expands Bankruptcy Practice With Partner Luke Murley in Wilmington

March 18, 2026

Akerman today announced that Lucian (“Luke”) Murley has joined the firm as a partner in its Bankruptcy and Reorganization Practice Group in Wilmington, Delaware. The addition deepens the firm’s national restructuring capabilities and reinforces its commitment to delivering sophisticated legal counsel in one of the country’s most consequential jurisdictions for complex Chapter 11 matters.

“Luke is one of the most respected bankruptcy practitioners in Delaware, and his arrival significantly enhances the depth of our practice group,” said Andrea Hartley, co-chair of Akerman’s Bankruptcy and Reorganization Practice Group. “His experience handling Chapter 11 matters — combined with his deep relationships and standing in the Delaware bankruptcy court — makes him an invaluable addition for our clients and our team.”

Luke brings extensive experience representing companies and individuals in corporate restructurings and distressed acquisitions. He also counsels financially healthy businesses that find themselves as creditors in Chapter 11 proceedings, helping them navigate risk, maximize recoveries, and protect ongoing commercial relationships. He has deep experience representing official committees and fiduciaries in large, high-profile Chapter 11 cases and regularly advises middle-

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## Related People

Andrew S. Dupre  
Andrea S. Hartley  
Tammy L. Mercer  
Lucian (“Luke”) Murley  
Amanda K. Pooler

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## Related Work

Bankruptcy and  
Reorganization  
Litigation

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## Related Offices

Charlotte  
Miami  
Wilmington

market and privately held companies in restructuring matters nationwide.

A recognized leader in the Delaware bankruptcy bar, Luke serves as a court-approved mediator for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware and is a member of the court's Local Rules Committee. He is an active member of the American Bankruptcy Institute and serves on the advisory boards of the Mid-Atlantic and Latin American Symposia. Luke has been ranked by *Chambers USA* in Delaware for Bankruptcy/Restructuring and is listed in *Best Lawyers* for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law and Bankruptcy Litigation.

“Bankruptcy has been central to our Wilmington growth strategy from the start,” said Andrew Dupre, managing partner of the Delaware office. “With Luke on board, we are well-positioned to deliver valuable insights to companies seeking to file and those navigating complex Chapter 11 cases filed here.”

Luke follows the recent arrival of Amanda Pooler in Charlotte, whose practice focuses on high-stakes corporate governance matters and M&A disputes venued in Delaware's Court of Chancery. Together with recently joined Wilmington Litigation Partner Tammy Mercer, these additions further expand Akerman's Delaware dispute capabilities.

### **About Akerman**

Founded in 1920, Akerman is an Am Law 100 firm recognized by Vault among the nation's most prestigious law firms. The firm has more than 700 lawyers and business professionals throughout the United States.