

Banking and Financial Services

Legal Services for Agribusiness Lenders

Jeffer Mangels Butler & Mitchell LLP (JMBM) is a top California law firm that provides a full range of legal services tailored to meet the special needs of agricultural industry lenders. We have decades of experience in ag finance and loan workout issues that are critical to the agribusiness industry today.

Finance

JMBM's banking and finance expertise includes the representation of lenders in agribusiness loan and credit transactions, asset-based lending, accounts receivables financing, inventory financing, factoring, term loan lending, letters of credit (standby and direct pay), loan restructuring and workouts. We represent lenders in agented, syndicated, participation and other loan transactions. We have documented numerous ag loans, ranging from very simple to complex. Our lawyers lecture nationally to lending organizations and bar associations and have substantial and nationally recognized UCC and real property lending experience. One of our partners is the past chair of the California State Bar's Committee on Agribusiness, and is a charter member of the Committee. Another is the past chair of the California State Bar's Financial Institutions Committee.

Insolvency, Workouts, Receiverships and Bankruptcies

JMBM has significant expertise in working out troubled agriculture loans. We have deep experience with respect to pre-bankruptcy workouts, receiverships, collection of defaulted loans, complex bankruptcy liquidations and reorganizations within the agribusiness context. We are experienced with PACA, PSA and producers lien law issues (one of JMBM's partners tried and won the leading landmark bankruptcy case on the California producer's lien law).

Representative Matters

- Representation of major wineries in all phases of operations and distribution
- Sale of a major grass seed company, including the negotiation of partial seller financing and documentation of the same
- Representation of lenders to wineries
- Representation of seller of major winery in claims against buyer
- Representation of lender in successful workout of major fresh vegetable processor after market disruption caused by e.coli scare
- Representation of Agent Bank in real estate, construction and dairy operation loans involving 95,000 acres of land and three dairy operations having dairy capacity of up to 50,000 animals
- Representation of lender in workout, receivership and Chapter 11 bankruptcy of major dairyman, with three dairies in two states
- Representation of lender in document review and workout of major vegetable grower and processor
- Representation of lender in sale and financing of prestigious golf course and country club
- Liquidation of major nut processors, including Chapter 11 cases
- Receivership of major farming and timber partnership, including land leases, trucking, FSA issues and farming; and restructured real estate debt to provide for long-term repayment
- Sale and liquidation of a premium winery, including bottled wine and wine in bulk, for a major secured lender
- Foreclosure and sale of thoroughbred race horses belonging to a major entertainer, resulting in repayment to the lender
- Secured lending to horsemen

Los Angeles

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- Representation of receiver of large race horse owner and breeder
- Foreclosure and sale of numerous farms and ranches, including both real and personal property issues
- Successful restructuring of term loan to cattle ranch
- Representation of numerous lenders to failing dairies, in workouts, liquidation, sales, bankruptcy and lawsuits
- Successful restructure of loan to major vegetable processor
- Sale of major seed company in Chapter 11, resulting in full payoff to lender syndicate
- Representation of secured lender to rice growers in Chapter 11 and Chapter 12 cases
- Structured successful liquidation of grower-processor of fresh tree fruits resulting in payoff to Lender

The JMBM Special Assets Team

The JMBM Special Assets Team can help you with your most challenging ag credits. We are a First Tier Creditor's Rights and Bankruptcy Practice as recognized by Best Lawyers in America.

Please Contact Us

Our team takes a deep personal interest in your matter. We recognize that each client has unique issues and specific objectives. We are pleased to discuss how we can help, and invite you to contact us.

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