



Neema is a seasoned financial advisor and independent director in complex situations advising clients through liquidity management, transaction advisory services, turnarounds, and protecting creditor interests. Neema has served a number of industries including healthcare, retail, financial services, oil/gas, pharma, manufacturing and transportation and typically has direct reporting responsibilities to C-Suite executive teams, boards of directors and debt/equity investor groups.

She brings more than 15 years of experience with an expertise in managing comprehensive M&A diligence (buy-side and sell-side efforts), restructuring, bankruptcy and disputes engagements. Focused on driving change for middle market organizations and executing superior results.

Professional Experience

NV Consulting Services has aided companies through cash management issues, worked through receiverships, prepared entities for liquidations and going concern sales of parts or entire businesses, and guided secured lenders and private equity firms through healthy and troubled portfolio companies. In 2019, Neema was appointed by the Department of Justice to serve as a Subchapter V Trustee for the United States Bankruptcy Court. Neema has represented the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) in assessing damages resulting from a \$2.5 billion bank failure engaged primarily in mortgage backed securities. Previously, Neema was a portfolio manager with Merrill Lynch's Special Assets group, working with a \$100MM+ portfolio, consistently maximizing recovery and minimizing chargeoff exposure.

Signature Engagements

- Retained as financial advisor to the Bachrach stores (filed as "B&B Liquidating, LLC"), a menswear retailer which filed for Chapter 11 in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California.
 - As with many brick-and-mortar retailers, Bachrach had already closed a number of stores and led lease negotiations with landlords in remaining mall locations and helped Bachrach exit unprofitable locations, liquidate remaining inventory and re-launch its e-commerce platform.
 - Prepared monthly operating reports (MORs) for the United States Trustee appointed by the Bankruptcy Court as well as reconciled and maintained records ensuring minimal administrative fees resulted from the Ch. 11 filing.
 - Guided the debtor through lender negotiations necessary to fund remaining operations including payroll and inventory purchases as well as provided lenders with up-to-date reporting to maintain comfort in their security position.
- Provided quality of earnings (QOE) reports for leading financial institutions and private equity firms. Industries served include a major third-party logistics (3PL) carrier, specialty finance organizations, over-the-counter and RX pharmaceutical company, \$215 million oil services provider, plastic injection molder, 6 hospital system grossing over \$250 million in revenues, an engineering staffing firm, and a middle market paper distributor among others. Conducted extensive management interviews, financial analysis on historical data as well as future projections. Reports provided key insight to banks and significant findings.
 - All QOE's uncovered significant weaknesses for bank portfolio clients leading to either additional engagement phases of financial and operational restructuring or recommendations for internal improvements.
- Uncovered approximately \$7 million of AR fraud through routine review of a secured lender's distressed portfolio client engaged primarily in extending loans and leases on construction and roofing equipment with a total portfolio size of greater than \$20 million. NV Consulting continues to provide assistance to the secured lender in efforts to bring the corrupt borrowers to justice and recover as much realization as possible on the salable assets and personal guaranty. Earlier intervention could have protected the banks further.
- Served as an independent director to an \$150 million fashion designer of high-end clothing and accessories with national retail and wholesale operations through significant liquidity restrictions, unfavorable lease terms and strained lender relationship.

Chaired compensation committee and renegotiated critical contracts with executive management to include incentive programs for ultimate return to profitability.

- Served in a Trustee role in several organizations including:
 - \$85 million third party receivables company – as trustee provided 100% recovery to secured creditors, planned for 60% recovery to general unsecured creditors but ultimately provided 85% recovery through strategic solutions including lease negotiations, tax incentives and negotiated cure payments while financial advisor to company in its M&A transaction.
 - \$450 million multi-hospital system – as trustee provided total administrative control over \$15 million estate including bank authority, review and analysis of all claims, and assisting counsel through discovery requests for maximum return. Additionally, led efforts of bringing upwards of \$2 million in additional funds back into the Liquidating Trust for the benefit of claim holders through FICA refunds for medical residents.
- Guided a \$75 million national architectural services firm through heavily negotiated sale process serving as primary financial advisor and managing all aspects including:
 - Solicitation of proposed targets and strategic partners
 - Assisted finance team in preparation of financial and operational materials including pro-forma statements and deal teaser for distribution
 - Narrow down buyer list through information review, due diligence and presentation of materials in management meetings
 - Negotiate sale terms with proposed buyers for ultimate purchase agreement
 - Oversee post-merger integration for newly closed entity and remaining administrative items for estate
- Steered \$500 million long-term acute care operator of over 18 facilities nationwide through a Chapter 11 filing and sale of assets. Interfaced with management to determine additional cost savings, process improvement measures and vendor contract negotiations.
 - Oversaw all areas of the bankruptcy process for the client including first day preparation, critical vendors, lender inquiries, preference analysis, 503(b)(9)/reclamation analysis and M&A due diligence.
 - Reduced Buyer cure costs by 43% through extensive vendor negotiation.
 - Guaranteed continued high-quality patient care while navigating new buyers and employees through sale process and transition of ownership. Provided thorough merger integration assistance to both entities playing key roles for the client as well as lender and debtor counsel.
 - Retained as wind-down advisor for bankrupt estates overseeing litigation, claims review/distribution and court reporting.
- Served as an independent director to an \$350 million national landscaping company – recommended to the board by the private equity sponsor looking to add a restructuring mindset to a challenged operation. Provided key suggestions to help the company evaluate relevant data points and meaningful acquisitions.

Education/Certifications & Awards

- Bachelor of Science, Accountancy, University of Illinois at Urbana – Champaign
- Certified Insolvency and Restructuring Advisor (CIRA)
- 2016 Emerging Leader Award Winner from the M&A Advisor

Professional Associations & Civic Involvement

- Board Member, YWCA
- Board Member, Streetwise
- Board Member, Turnaround Management Association
- Volunteer Tax Preparer, LadderUp (formerly Tax Assistance Program)
- Mentor, HFS Chicago Scholars