



PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

COLIN M. ADAMS

Senior Managing Director
New York

EXPERIENCE

CHARACTER

TRUST

GRATITUDE



SENIOR MANAGING DIRECTOR

Colin Adams is a senior turnaround professional who uses his financial, operations, legal, and investment experience to accelerate growth and unlock value for his clients.

\$35B+	45+	20+	10
INDEBTEDNESS & EQUITY RESTRUCTURED ACROSS THE CAPITAL STRUCTURE	COMPANIES ADVISED — MANAGEMENT, BOARDS & STAKEHOLDERS	BOARDS SERVED AS AN INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR	BUSINESSES STABILIZED AS A C-SUITE LEADER

Colin is a Senior Managing Director at Areté Partners, based in New York, where he advises lenders, sponsors, boards, and management teams navigating financial and operational change.

Colin began his career in corporate law and became a partner at Kirkland & Ellis in 2007. In 2010, he joined Morgan Stanley, where he built and led a special-situations direct investment business. In 2017, he became a Senior Managing Director at M3 Partners, a global turnaround management and financial advisory firm, and most recently served as a Partner and Chief Operating Officer of the advisory firm Uzzi & Lall.

Colin has been a C-suite leader for ten businesses that were successfully stabilized, has served on more than 20 boards as an independent director, and has advised the management, boards, or stakeholders of more than 45 companies experiencing some form of financial or operational dislocation. Over the course of his career, he has restructured more than \$35 billion of indebtedness and equity at all levels of the capital structure.

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Board & Independent Director Leadership

Special committees, investigations, and independent fiduciary roles across more than 20 boards navigating conflict, distress, and change.

Financial & Operational Restructuring

Chapter 11, §363 sales, and consensual out-of-court solutions — more than \$35B of indebtedness and equity restructured across the capital structure.

Interim & C-Suite Leadership

CEO, COO, CRO, and executive-chair mandates stabilizing companies in distress and repositioning them for growth.

Special Situations Investing

Sourced, approved, and managed direct debt and equity investments across a global platform; member of institutional credit-commitment committees.

Governance, Litigation & Stakeholder Negotiation

Resolving conflicts, claims, and litigation among lenders, sponsors, boards, and other stakeholders.

CAREER EXPERIENCE

Areté Partners	Senior Managing Director	Present
Uzzi & Lall	Partner & Chief Operating Officer	2024–2026
M3 Partners	Senior Managing Director	2017–2024
Morgan Stanley	Managing Director	2010–2017
Kirkland & Ellis LLP	Partner	1999–2010

SELECT SPECIAL COMMITTEE & INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR ROLES

COMPANY	ROLE
Aegerion Pharmaceuticals	Pharmaceuticals · Special Committee
Camp	Children's Retailer · Independent Director
Ector Energy Center	Electric Power Gen. · Independent Director
Fisker Automotive	Electric Vehicles · Independent Fiduciary
Mercury Financial	Specialty Finance · Special Committee (Sole Member)
National Dentex Labs	Medical Devices — Dental · Independent Director
National Spine Centers	Healthcare — PPM · Independent Director
Ryze Renewables	Biofuels · Independent Director
Sleep Number	Consumer Products · Special & Investigations Committee
Vewd	SaaS Middleware · Chairman
vonDrehle Paper	Paper & Packaging · Independent Director

SELECT INTERIM EXECUTIVE & ADVISORY ROLES

COMPANY	ROLE
Akorn Pharma	Pharmaceuticals · Chief Restructuring Officer
American Airlines	Airline · Lender Advisor
Greenbridge	Plastic Packaging · Executive Chair / Manager
Gulfport Energy	Oil & Gas E&P · Special Committee Advisor
Lessen	Prop-Tech R&M · Executive Chair / Manager
Modell's	Sporting Goods Retailer · Interim COO
Neiman Marcus	Retail · UCC Advisor
Plenty	Ag-Tech · Company Financial Advisor
Relativity Media	Film/Television Studio · Interim CEO
Sears	Retailer · Deputy CRO
Twitter	TMT · Expert Witness

EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS

EDUCATION

◆ **Duke University**

A.B., Economics & History (1996)

◆ **UCLA School of Law**

J.D. & Certificate in Business Law (1999)

ADMISSIONS & LICENSES

◆ **FINRA Series 79 & 24**

◆ **U.S. District Court, S.D.N.Y.**

◆ **New York State Bar**

TEACHING & SPEAKING

◆ **Duke University School of Law**

Advising a Troubled Enterprise

◆ **NYU School of Law**

Assistant Professor

◆ **Columbia Business School**

Legal Analysis & Value Investing

COMMUNITY

◆ **Reserve Aid**

Co-Founder — \$20mm+ raised for military families

We have your back when the world is taking aim.

Colin M. Adams · Senior Managing Director
cadams@aretepartners.com · aretepartners.com

