



Background

- Real Estate

James LeBaron - *Senior Director, BBK Chicago*

Jim has been involved in the real estate industry for almost 30 years, specializing in residential and commercial financing. He has held executive level management positions for national and regional firms, including stand-alone mortgage banking entities and subsidiaries of major financial institutions. Additionally, he held an EVP position overseeing a commercial loan portfolio workout program during the S&L crisis.

Professional Experience

During the past ten years, Jim has worked in the consulting arena serving numerous clients including GMAC, Ditech, New Century Mortgage, MortgageIT and bank group lending syndicates. He has used his expertise in business development and profit enhancement for leading mortgage bank clients. Recently he has been involved with a problem loan portfolio workout assisting a large foreign bank in evaluating its debtor for a successful receivership filing.

Among his accomplishments, Jim has successfully:

- Evaluated and outsourced the servicing portfolio and asset disposition for a billion dollar mortgage originator/servicer placed in Chapter 11
- Served as interim COO overseeing management transition and the development of comprehensive policy and procedures for a potential bank conversion for a multi-billion dollar dot.com originator
- Assessed remittance history and exposure for mortgage security insurer's position vis-à-vis security's servicing entity
- Reviewed and assessed bond-holder's exposure related to bank's credit subsidiaries having widely varied loan and investment portfolios.
- Assisted in acquisition and expansion planning program, including capacity assessment and industry potential, for a national insurance firm's mortgage subsidiary
- Evaluated and restructured troubled lease portfolio for heavy equipment manufacturer in conjunction with advising client's bank group participants

Throughout his career, Jim has held positions including Regional Vice President of Sales and Operations; Sr. Vice President, National Production; Chief Credit Officer and Chief Operating Officer.

Jim is a sought after interview source for industry related articles for several national finance publications. He has also published articles in *Financier Worldwide* and *Reuters* focusing on the real estate and lending issues of today.