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PRESS RELEASE

ELIZABETH D. KATZ IS SELECTED FOR THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT IN SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

BOSTON (December 8, 2016)—Chief Judge Jeffrey R. Howard of the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit announced today that Elizabeth D. Katz has been selected to fill the vacancy in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Massachusetts in Springfield, created by Judge Henry J. Boroff's retirement. Attorney Katz will be appointed to the bankruptcy bench in early 2017, upon FBI clearance.

Attorney Katz has practiced law in the Springfield and Northampton areas for more than two decades. Attorney Katz received a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Vermont, and in 1994, graduated from Boston University School of Law with a Juris Doctor. Currently a partner at Rescia, Katz & Shear, LLP, Attorney Katz focuses her practice on consumer and business bankruptcy matters, as well as criminal defense. In addition to representing debtors and creditors in bankruptcy cases, Attorney Katz serves as counsel to the Chapter 7 Trustee in adversary proceedings in the Districts of Massachusetts and Connecticut. Attorney Katz's expansive legal career began at the Office of the Attorney General in Boston upon her graduation from law

school. In 1995, Attorney Katz became an assistant district attorney at the Northwestern District Attorney's Office in Northampton, where she worked until 2007. Upon her departure, Attorney Katz was the Chief of the Hampshire County and Franklin County District Courts Divisions. In 2007, she entered private practice and represented clients in a wide-range of matters including bankruptcy cases, criminal cases, civil litigation, family law matters and landlord-tenant disputes. Since 2008, Attorney Katz has concentrated her practice in all aspects of bankruptcy law.

Attorney Katz served as president of the Hampshire Country Bar Association from 2012 to 2014 and is currently a member of its Executive Committee. Attorney Katz is a member of the Local Rules Committee for the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Massachusetts and since 2011, has served as Co-Chair of the M. Ellen Carpenter Financial Literacy Program for Western Massachusetts, a financial literacy program for high school students.

Chief Judge Howard stated that "Attorney Katz's extensive legal experience and talent will greatly benefit the District of Massachusetts and the community of Springfield." Chief Judge Howard also thanked Judge Boroff for his many years of dedicated and distinguished service.

Chief Judge Howard expressed his gratitude to the members of the Bankruptcy Merit Selection Panel, which was chaired by First Circuit Court of Appeals Judge David J. Barron. The members of the Panel were First Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Norman H. Stahl, District of Massachusetts Judge Mark G. Mastroianni, Jeanne P. Darcey, Esq, of Sullivan & Worcester, Christine E. Devine, Esq., of Mirick O'Connell, Christina M. Turgeon, Esq., of Law Office of Christina Turgeon, and Susan J. Goldberg, Circuit Executive.