



United States Courts for the First Circuit
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For immediate release

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PRESS RELEASE
JUDGE WILLIAM HILLMAN TO RETIRE; BANKRUPTCY MERIT SELECTION
PANEL APPOINTED

BOSTON (January 30, 2015) — Chief Judge Sandra Lynch of the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit has announced the formation of a Bankruptcy Merit Selection Panel to screen and review the qualifications of applicants for a forthcoming vacant bankruptcy judgeship in Worcester, Massachusetts. The Honorable William C. Hillman, who has served as a bankruptcy judge in the District of Massachusetts in Boston since 1991, has announced his retirement, effective August 14, 2015. The First Circuit Judicial Council has approved Chief United States Bankruptcy Judge Melvin S. Hoffman's request to change his duty station from Worcester to Boston, also effective on August 14, 2015. Consequently, the bankruptcy judgeship vacancy to be filled will occur in Worcester.

Under the statute providing for the appointment of bankruptcy judges, 28 U.S.C. § 152, the courts of appeals, assisted by the circuit councils, have the duty of filling vacancies on the bankruptcy court in each circuit. The Merit Selection Panel will recommend to the circuit council and to the Court of Appeals individuals whose character, experience, and commitment to equal justice under the law fully qualify them to serve as United States Bankruptcy Judges. Bankruptcy Judges are appointed to fourteen year terms by the Court of Appeals.

Circuit Judge Norman H. Stahl of the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit will chair the Panel. Other members include: Judge David J. Barron, United States Court of

Appeals for the First Circuit; Judge Timothy S. Hillman, United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts; Janet Bostwick, Esq., Janet E. Bostwick, P.C., Boston, Massachusetts; Richard Shiels, Jr., Esq., Bowditch and Dewey, Worcester, Massachusetts; and Susan Goldberg, Circuit Executive. Chief Judge Lynch expressed her appreciation to these attorneys for assisting the Court in this important matter.

The Court is seeking attorneys with demonstrated excellence in the practice of bankruptcy law and/or commercial litigation. Interested applicants may obtain an application from the Circuit Executive's Office, from the Bankruptcy Court Clerk for the District of Massachusetts, or by accessing the Court of Appeals' website at www.ca1.uscourts.gov. Persons interested in applying for this position should submit seven (7) copies of their applications to: Susan J. Goldberg, Circuit Executive, Office of the Circuit Executive, John Joseph Moakley U.S. Courthouse, 1 Courthouse Way, Suite 3700, Boston, MA 02210. Applications are to be postmarked by Monday, March 16, 2015.