



UNITED STATES COURTS FOR THE FIRST CIRCUIT
OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT EXECUTIVE
JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE
1 COURTHOUSE WAY - SUITE 3700
BOSTON, MA 02210

SUSAN J. GOLDBERG
CIRCUIT EXECUTIVE
617-748-9614

FLORENCE PAGANO
DEPUTY CIRCUIT EXECUTIVE
617-748-9376

For immediate release

Contact: Susan J. Goldberg
(617) 748-9614

PRESS RELEASE

MARÍA DE LOS ÁNGELES GONZÁLEZ-HERNÁNDEZ IS SELECTED FOR THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT IN PONCE, PUERTO RICO

BOSTON (September 13, 2021) -- Chief Judge Jeffrey R. Howard, of the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, announced today that María de los Ángeles González-Hernández has been selected to fill the vacancy in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Puerto Rico in Ponce. Attorney González-Hernández will be appointed to the bankruptcy bench upon FBI clearance.

Ms. González-Hernández has been involved in bankruptcy law for the entirety of her more than thirty-year legal career, most of which she has spent with the federal government. Ms. González-Hernández earned a Bachelor of Arts from Colgate University in 1987, a Juris Doctor from Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico School of Law in 1990, and a Master of Laws from Boston University Morin Center for Banking Law Studies in 1993. Ms. González-Hernández is currently Clerk of Court of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Puerto Rico.

Attorney González-Hernández's legal career began in 1991 when she clerked for Judge Lamoutte, of the District of Puerto Rico Bankruptcy Court, following her graduation from law

school. In 1994, after earning a Master of Laws, Ms. González-Hernández entered private practice at Gonzalez Oliver, Correa Calzada, Collazo Salazar, Herrero & Jimenez, in Hato Rey, Puerto Rico, where she was head of the consumer bankruptcy division and practiced bankruptcy, banking, and real estate law for nearly three years. In 1996, Ms. González-Hernández joined the United States Trustee's Office in San Juan, Puerto Rico, where she was a trial attorney for ten years, litigating chapter 7 and 11 cases. In 2006, Attorney González-Hernández rejoined Judge Lamoutte's chambers as a law clerk, and, in 2011, she became Clerk of Court of the District of Puerto Rico Bankruptcy Court. As Clerk of Court, Ms. González-Hernández manages all of the Bankruptcy Court's divisions such as human resources, finance and budget, and operations, is the official custodian of the Bankruptcy Court's records and dockets, and is accountable for all fees and costs collected by the Court.

Ms. González-Hernández is a member of the Puerto Rico Bankruptcy Bar Association, the American Bankruptcy Bar Association, and the Honorable Raymond Acosta Puerto Rico Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. From 2013 through 2015, Ms. González-Hernández taught bankruptcy law at the University of Puerto Rico School of Law.

Chief Judge Howard stated that "the First Circuit Court of Appeals looks forward to Ms. González-Hernández's continued service to the District of Puerto Rico Bankruptcy Court in her new role as a bankruptcy judge. Attorney González-Hernández's experience as a bankruptcy practitioner and a court administrator, and her commitment to public service and equal justice, will benefit the District of Puerto Rico and the Ponce community."

Chief Judge Howard expressed his gratitude to the members of the Bankruptcy Judge 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 O. Rogeriee Thompson; District of Puerto Rico Judge Pedro A. Delgado-Hernández; Circuit Executive Susan J. Goldberg; Carmen D. Conde-Torres, Esq., of C. Conde Law & Associates; Wigberto Lugo

Mender, Esq., of Lugo Mender Group, LLC; Madeline Soto-Pacheco, Esq., of Lube & Soto Law Offices; and Luis M. Suárez-Lozada, Esq., of Luis M. Suárez-Lozada Law Offices.