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PRESS RELEASE

**DIANE FINKLE IS SELECTED
FOR THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT IN
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND**

BOSTON (June 8, 2012) — Chief Judge Sandra L. Lynch of the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit announced today that attorney Diane Finkle has been selected to fill the vacancy in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Rhode Island, assuming successful completion of a background investigation, including FBI clearance. Ms. Finkle will sit in Providence, Rhode Island.

Ms. Finkle is a managing partner at Winograd Shine Land & Finkle, P.C. where she has practiced for the past 30 years, concentrating on business insolvency and debtor and creditor rights. She has served in Rhode Island state court receivership proceedings as a court-appointed receiver and special master. Early in her career, she served as law clerk to the late Honorable Thomas F. Kelleher of the Rhode Island Supreme Court. Ms. Finkle has also served as chairperson of the Rhode Island Supreme Court Disciplinary Board. She has served as a panelist on and participated in many continuing legal education courses in the field of bankruptcy and has served on the local rules committee of the U.S. bankruptcy court in the District of Rhode Island.

Ms. Finkle received her undergraduate degree from the University of Rhode Island and her juris doctor from the George Washington National Law Center, graduating with highest honors.

Chief Judge Lynch stated that “the Court is very pleased that a person of Ms. Finkle's experience, expertise, intellect, and temperament will serve as the next Bankruptcy Judge in Providence, Rhode Island. In this economy, the bankruptcy court has become even more important to the lives of people. We believe Ms. Finkle will fill the position with distinction.”

Chief Judge Lynch also expressed the Court of Appeals' gratitude to Bankruptcy Judge Arthur N. Votolato, who will retire in July, for his dedicated service to the judiciary and the public as a bankruptcy judge since 1968.

Chief Judge Lynch acknowledged and thanked the members of the Bankruptcy Merit Selection Panel, which was ably chaired by Circuit Judge Norman H. Stahl. The members of the Panel were: Judge O. Rogeriee Thompson, United States Court of Appeals, Providence, Rhode Island; Judge William E. Smith, United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island; W. Mark Russo, Esq., Ferrucci Russo, P.O., Providence, Rhode Island; Patricia Antonelli, Esq., Partridge Snow & Hahn, LLP, Providence, Rhode Island; Stephen F. DelSesto, Esq., Shechtman Halperin Savage, LLP, Pawtucket, Rhode Island; and Gary Wente, Circuit Executive, Boston, MA.

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