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**PRESS RELEASE**

**BRUCE A. HARWOOD IS SELECTED  
FOR THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT IN  
MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

BOSTON (September 6, 2012) ---- Chief Judge Sandra L. Lynch of the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit announced today that Bruce A. Harwood has been selected to fill the upcoming vacancy in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Hampshire created by the announced retirement of Judge J. Michael Deasy. Mr. Harwood will be appointed to the bankruptcy bench in early 2013, upon FBI clearance. He will sit in Manchester, New Hampshire.

Mr. Harwood received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Northwestern University and a J.D. degree from Washington University Law School. Mr. Harwood is presently a director and shareholder in the firm of Sheehan, Phinney, Bass + Green PA in Manchester, where he practices primarily in the areas of bankruptcy and insolvency work. He has a wealth of experience handling all manner of bankruptcy and liquidation issues including representing government agencies, commercial lenders and borrowers, serving as debtor's and creditor's counsel in Chapter 11 bankruptcy reorganizations, appearing in Chapter 7 cases as a trustee and on behalf of secured and unsecured

creditors, and representing consumer debtors in Chapter 7 and Chapter 13 cases. Mr. Harwood has provided pro bono representation to consumers in need of bankruptcy relief under the auspices of the New Hampshire Bar Association and been named to the Bar Association's pro bono honor roll. He is an elected Fellow in the American College of Bankruptcy and is a director of the American Bankruptcy Institute. Mr. Harwood has authored and published numerous publications in the field of bankruptcy law and has presented many continuing legal education programs.

Chief Judge Lynch stated that "the court is extremely pleased that a bankruptcy practitioner of Mr. Harwood's stature will fill this important judgeship. The District of New Hampshire will benefit greatly from Mr. Harwood's knowledge and experience."

Chief Judge Lynch also expressed her sincere gratitude to the members of the Bankruptcy Merit Selection Panel, which was chaired by Circuit Judge Jeffrey R. Howard. The members of the Panel were Chief District Judge Joseph N. Laplante, District of New Hampshire; Eleanor Wm. Dahar, Dahar Law Firm, Manchester, NH; Daniel W. Sklar, Nixon Peabody LLP, Manchester, NH; Peter N. Tamposi, Tamposi Law Group, Nashua, NH; and Gary Wente, Circuit Executive, Boston, MA.