

Court Information Release



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

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Judge Bruce W. Black Selected to Serve as Chief Judge of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois

CHICAGO – Chief Judge James F. Holderman today announced that Judge Bruce W. Black has been selected by the judges of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois to serve as Chief Judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois at the expiration of Chief Judge Carol A. Doyle’s term on June 30, 2011.

Pursuant to statute, the district judges selected Judge Black by unanimous vote at an executive session held on February 23, 2011. Judge Black will serve a four-year term in his capacity as Chief Judge of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois.

Judge Black graduated from Bradley University in 1966 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. He received his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Illinois in 1971, where he was a lead article editor of the law review. After a one-year clerkship for U.S. District Judge Robert D. Morgan, in Peoria, Illinois, he spent 1973 as a teaching assistant at the University of Melbourne College of Law in Australia. Following a year in private practice and two years as an assistant State’s Attorney in Tazewell County, Illinois, he was elected Tazewell County State’s Attorney in 1976. He was reelected in 1980 and 1984. He was appointed Circuit Judge for the Tenth Judicial Circuit of Illinois in 1985. He was elected to that office in 1986 and retained in 1992 and 1998. He served as Chief Judge for the Tenth Judicial Circuit of Illinois from 1999 to 2001. He resigned in 2001 to accept appointment as a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of Illinois. He has held that office since August 13, 2001.

Judge Black is a member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, the American Bankruptcy Institute, and the Illinois Judges Association.

Judge Black taught business law at Bradley University from 1990 to 1998. While a Circuit Judge, he frequently taught at programs presented by the Judicial Education Division of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts. He has been a faculty member for several Illinois Institute of Continuing Legal Education programs.

Chief Judge Holderman stated, “The judges of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois believe our bankruptcy bench is one of the best in the country. Chief Judge Doyle has served as a strong leader of this bench, and we district court judges have the utmost confidence in Judge Black’s abilities to carry forward in the bankruptcy court’s tradition of excellence.”