

July 26, 2002

Peter H. Carroll Appointed Bankruptcy Judge for Central District of California

SAN FRANCISCO — Chief Judge Mary M. Schroeder of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has announced the appointment of Mr. Peter Carroll to the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California, filling the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Lynne Riddle.

Mr. Carroll will be sworn in and begin his 14-year term on August 1. He will maintain his chambers in Riverside.

Mr. Carroll most recently served as an assistant United States Trustee for the Department of Justice in Fresno. Previously, he served as assistant U.S. Trustee in San Francisco, from 1993 to 1994. The United States Trustee Program of the Department of Justice monitors the conduct of bankruptcy parties and private estate trustees and acts to ensure compliance with applicable laws and procedures. It also identifies and helps investigate bankruptcy fraud and abuse in coordination with United States Attorneys, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and other law enforcement agencies.

Prior to his appointment as a U.S. Trustee, Mr. Carroll engaged in private practice at the law firm of Brite & Drought in San Antonio, Texas, from 1976 to 1993. His practice focused on bankruptcy, real estate, oil and gas, banking, consumer law, and civil litigation in state and federal courts.

Mr. Carroll received his juris doctorate degree in 1978 from St. Mary's University in San Antonio, where he served on the *St. Mary's Law Journal*. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of California at Berkeley in 1974.

He served as director of the California Bankruptcy Forum until his appointment to the bench. He is a former director and president of the Central California Bankruptcy Association, and a member of the American Bankruptcy Institute. He has authored several articles on bankruptcy topics and has been published in the *St. Mary's Law Journal*, *Texas Bar Journal*, *The Colorado Lawyer*, *California Bankruptcy Journal*, and the *American Bankruptcy Institute Journal*.

The judges of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit are charged with the statutory responsibility for selecting and appointing the 68 bankruptcy judges in the nine western states that comprise the Ninth Circuit.

The court uses a comprehensive merit selection process for the initial appointment and for the reappointment of bankruptcy judges. Bankruptcy judges serve for 14-year, renewable terms, at a salary of \$138,000, and handle all bankruptcy-related matters under the United States Bankruptcy Code.