



United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit

# Public Information Office

David Madden, Manager • (415) 355-8930 • (415) 355-8901 Fax • dmadden@ce9.uscourts.gov

## NEWS RELEASE

September 24, 2007

Contact: David Madden, (415) 355-8930

## **Judge Thomas B. Donovan Reappointed to U.S. Bankruptcy Court for Central District of California**

SAN FRANCISCO – Bankruptcy Judge Thomas B. Donovan has been reappointed to a second 14-year term on the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California.

Judge Donovan, 71, came onto the bankruptcy bench in 1994 and has chambers in Los Angeles. His reappointment is effective March 21, 2008.

“Judge Donovan has performed ably and is very deserving of reappointment to his court,” said Chief Judge Mary M. Schroeder of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, which has statutory authority for appointments to the federal bankruptcy bench in the western states.

Prior to coming onto the bankruptcy bench, Judge Donovan was a founding partner of the San Francisco law firm of Dinkelspiel, Donovan & Reder, 1969-1993. He also was with the law firm of Dinkelspiel & Dinkelspiel, 1964-1969, and with Covington & Burling, 1962-1963, in Washington D.C.

Judge Donovan received his B.A. in 1957 from the University of California at Berkeley, and his J.D. in 1962 from the UC Berkeley Boalt Hall School of Law, where he was associate editor of the California Law Review. Judge Donovan served as a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army Security Agency, 1957-1959, and was in the Army Reserves, 1959-1964.

Judge Donovan is a frequent speaker and panelist at bar and professional conferences in the Central District and nationally. He has also been active in professional and community activities in Los Angeles, including serving as a board member of the Barlow Respiratory Hospital, and a teacher and mentor in the risk student program at Abraham Lincoln High School.

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Office of the Circuit Executive

95 Seventh St. P.O. Box 193939 San Francisco CA 94119-3939

The U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California, one of the nation's largest bankruptcy courts, is authorized 24 judges and received 17,802 bankruptcy filings in 2006.

Judges of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit have statutory responsibility for selecting and appointing 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 reappointments. Bankruptcy judges serve a 14-year, renewable term, at a salary of \$151,984, and handle all bankruptcy-related matters under the Bankruptcy Code.

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