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**United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit**

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**NEWS RELEASE**

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## **U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Victoria S. Kaufman of Central District of California Reappointed**

**SAN FRANCISCO** – Judges of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit have approved the reappointment of U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Victoria S. Kaufman of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California. Her second 14-year term became effective May 2, 2020.

Judge Kaufman, who maintains chambers in Woodland Hills, has served on the bankruptcy court for the Central District since 2006. Prior to her appointment to the bench, Judge Kaufman was of counsel at the law firm of Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker LLP in Los Angeles, and held a number of positions in San Diego, New York and Los Angeles, where she practiced bankruptcy and non-bankruptcy litigation.

Born in Indianapolis, Judge Kaufman earned her bachelor's degree from Bryn Mawr College in 1986 and her juris doctorate in 1989 from Harvard Law School, where she was editor of the Harvard International Law Journal. While at Harvard, Judge Kaufman was a teaching assistant for an undergraduate course on the Russian Revolution and an instructor in the Foreign Student Orientation Program. Following law school, she clerked for U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Marilyn Shea-Stonum of the Northern District of Ohio.

The U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California, which is authorized 23 bankruptcy judges, reported 38,148 new filings in 2019.

Bankruptcy judges serve a 14-year renewable term and handle all bankruptcy-related matters under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. Judges of the U.S. 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. For reappointments, the court conducts a performance review and considers public comment evaluations.

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