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NEWS RELEASE

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U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Barry Russell of Central District of California Reappointed

SAN FRANCISCO – Chief Judge Alex Kozinski of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit announced today the reappointment of U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Barry Russell of Los Angeles.

Judge Russell is currently the longest-serving full-time bankruptcy judge in the nation with almost 40 years of continuous service to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California in Los Angeles. His reappointment to a new 14-year term will be effective August 27, 2014.

Judge Russell, 74, has spent his entire legal career in government service. He was appointed to the bankruptcy bench in 1974 and served as chief judge of his court from 2003 to 2006.

Prior to coming onto the bench, he served as an assistant U.S. attorney in the Criminal Division of the Office of the U.S. Attorney in the Central District of California from 1970 to 1974; as a deputy public defender in Los Angeles County from 1967 to 1970; and as an estate and gift tax examiner for the U.S. Department of the Treasury from 1966 to 1967.

From 1988 to 2001, Judge Russell served on the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel, which hears appeals of bankruptcy court decisions in the western states. He served as chief judge of the panel from 1999 to 2001.

Active in alternative dispute resolution, Judge Russell chaired his court's ADR Committee, helping to develop a Bankruptcy Mediation Program, established in 1995. He also served as a member of the Ninth Circuit Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee, from its inception in 2001 to 2011.

Judge Russell has taught at several law schools, including the University of California, Los Angeles, the University of Southern California, Loyola University and Whittier Law School. He also has served on the faculty of the Federal Judicial Center. Active in rule of law programs overseas, Judge Russell has lectured on bankruptcy law in China, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Serbia and the Marshall Islands.

Born in New York, Judge Russell received his B.S. from the University of California, Los Angeles, in 1962 and his LL.B. from the UCLA School of Law in 1966.

The U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California, which is authorized 24 bankruptcy judges, reported 75,581 new filings in calendar year 2013.

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 and for reappointments. Bankruptcy judges serve a 14-year renewable term and handle all bankruptcy-related matters under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code.

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