



NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: David Madden, (415) 355-8800

Martin Robb Barash Named Judge of U.S. Bankruptcy Court for Central California

SAN FRANCISCO — Chief Judge Sidney R. Thomas of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit announced today the appointment of attorney Martin Robb Barash of Los Angeles to serve as a judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California.

“We are extremely pleased to welcome Mr. Barash to the federal bench. I expect his knowledge and experience to be of great benefit to the nation’s busiest bankruptcy court,” Judge Thomas said in announcing the appointment.

Mr. Barash, who will fill a vacancy resulting from the retirement of Bankruptcy Judge Alan M. Ahart, will be sworn into office by Chief Bankruptcy Judge Sheri Bluebond on Thursday, March 26, 2015, at the Edward R. Roybal Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse in Los Angeles. He will maintain chambers in Woodland Hills.

Mr. Barash, 47, joined the firm of Klee, Tuchin, Bogdanoff & Stern LLP in Los Angeles as an associate in 1991 and had been a partner since 2001. He primarily advised, counseled and represented corporate debtors, creditors, committees, asset acquirers and other parties in Chapter 11 cases, and conducted litigation in Chapter 7 and 11 cases. Mr. Barash facilitated out-of-court restructurings in a national practice.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Barash worked as an associate with the law firm of Stutman, Treister & Glatt P.C. in Los Angeles from 1994 to 1998. He also served as an adjunct professor of law at California State University, Northridge, from 1998 to 1999.

Born in Los Angeles, Mr. Barash earned his A.B. in 1989 from Princeton University, where he graduated magna cum laude, and his J.D. in 1992 from the University of California, Los Angeles, School of Law, where he served as member, business manager, symposium editor and editor of the UCLA Law Review. Following law school, he clerked for Judge Procter R. Hug, Jr., of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, from 1992 to 1993.

Mr. Barash has participated as a panelist for the Los Angeles Bankruptcy Forum and the American Bar Institute. He was a guest lecturer in 2011 at UCLA School of Law in a contracts class. Mr. Barash has been involved in the local legal community as a pro bono attorney since 2012 with the Public Counsel Chapter 7 Reaffirmation Hearing Clinic, as a director of the L.A. Bankruptcy Forum board of directors since 2013, and as a volunteer judge with the UCLA Mock Trial Competition. He serves as president of the Junior Statesmen Foundation.

The U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California received 57,356 filings in calendar year 2014. The court is authorized 24 bankruptcy judges.

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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