

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF BANKRUPTCY JUDGES**  
**2024 Annual Meeting Circuit Report**  
**Seventh Circuit**

As Seventh Circuit Governor, I share the following news:

**Seventh Circuit**

The 2024 Seventh Circuit Conference was held in Galena, Illinois in late August. The Seventh Circuit Bar Association held its annual conference at the same time which generated additional educational programs. The conference was well attended by judges, clerks and Seventh Circuit Bar members.

**Eastern District of Wisconsin**

Beth Hanan reports that *There's No Place Like Home*. Bankruptcy judges in the Eastern District of Wisconsin tried not to schedule any hearings during the week of July 15 as part of the effort to limit personnel in the courthouse during the Republican National Convention, held in Milwaukee. The judges were wildly successful. To further limit foot traffic in the building, Judge Katie Perhach made her first-floor courtroom available to district court judges who might have had to hold hearings during that time. She reports that while a lot of additional IT equipment was installed in her courtroom, it does not appear to have been needed. Since the judges were working from home, their underground parking spaces were made available for the additional U.S. Marshal staff serving in Milwaukee.

**Western District of Wisconsin**

No news to report.

**Northern District of Illinois**

Jacqueline Cox became the district's Chief Bankruptcy Judge in January 2024. She received the Ida Platt award from the Cook County Bar Association, the nation's oldest African American bar association. The award is given annually to someone who accomplishes a rare achievement or is the 'first' Black person to do something in a given field. Jacqueline is the first Black person to become NDIL's Chief Judge.

Jan Baer received The Kilbride Award from the Chicago Bar Foundation of the Chicago Bar Association, which honors attorneys and judges who have dedicated a significant portion of their legal career to the public sector, achieved excellence in their work and demonstrated a firm commitment to increasing access to justice and making the court system fairer and more accessible.

Benjamin Goldgar is retiring. Although the 7<sup>th</sup> Circuit is currently in the process of choosing a replacement, the identity of Ben's replacement is not yet known.

### **Central District of Illinois**

No news to report.

### **Southern District of Illinois**

The Southern District of Illinois is waiting for the appointment of Laura Grandy's replacement. Laura is serving the district as a recall judge. Judge Altenberger has assisted this district for over 20 years, and he is retiring in September. Mary Gorman has been signed on as the backup to assist and hear conflicts.

### **Northern District of Indiana**

No news to report.

### **Southern District of Indiana.**

Robyn Moberly retired June 7, 2024. Her position is not intended to be filled until case filings rise materially.

Andrea McCord was appointed as the bankruptcy representative on the 7<sup>th</sup> Circuit Judicial Council.

Submitted August 1, 2024 by Seventh Circuit Governor, James M. Carr, S.D. Ind.