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**United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit**

Office of the Circuit Executive · 95 7<sup>th</sup> Street, San Francisco, CA 94103 · (415) 355-8800 · (415) 355-8901 Fax

**NEWS RELEASE**

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Contact: David Madden, (415) 355-8800

**Court of Appeals Appoints New Bankruptcy  
Judge for Central District of California**

SAN FRANCISCO — Chief Judge Alex Kozinski of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has announced the appointment of Sandra R. Klein to serve as a judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California.

Ms. Klein, who will be sworn into office April 22, will have chambers in Los Angeles. She will fill a judgeship left vacant by the retirement of Bankruptcy Judge Kathleen H. Thompson in January 2011. Judge Thompson is currently serving as a recalled bankruptcy judge in the Central District.

“Ms. Klein knows bankruptcy law well, has worked on a significant variety of bankruptcy related matters, and has demonstrated a commitment to public service. We welcome her to the bench in one of our busiest bankruptcy courts,” Judge Kozinski said in announcing the appointment.

Ms. Klein, 50, has been the acting chief of the Criminal Enforcement Unit of the Department of Justice, U.S. Trustee Program, since 2009. Her work focuses on increasing detection and prosecution of criminal conduct in the bankruptcy system. She previously served in the program as a bankruptcy fraud criminal coordinator from 2003 to 2009. She also worked as a special assistant U.S. attorney in the Central District of California from 1997 to 2003. In addition to her public sector experience, Ms. Klein was a litigation associate at the law firm of O’Melveny & Myers, LLP, from 1995 to 1997.

Ms. Klein has served as a part-time adjunct professor at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles in 2003, 2005, and 2006. She taught a white collar crime elective course designed to emphasize ethical issues arising in law and business.

A native of Boston, Massachusetts, Ms. Klein received her undergraduate degree in 1982 from the University of Massachusetts, where she graduated *magna cum laude*. She received her J.D. in 1992 from Loyola Law School, also graduating *magna cum laude* and serving as the comment editor for the Loyola International & Comparative Law Journal. Ms. Klein clerked for Circuit Judge Arthur L. Alarcón of the U.S. Court of Appeals for

the Ninth Circuit from 1994 to 1995. She received her master's degree in 2009 from the UCLA Anderson School of Management, where she graduated as a member of its Honor Society.

Ms. Klein was co-chair of the Law Student Mentoring Committee, Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles, from 2004 to 2005. She served as a volunteer instructor for National Institute of Trial Advocacy training in Los Angeles in 2005, 2006, 2007, and 2010.

The U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California serves seven Southern California counties. The court is authorized 24 judges, which includes three authorized temporary judgeships, and received 138,585 bankruptcy filings in fiscal year 2010, up 42.2 percent from the previous year.

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, at a salary of \$160,080, and handle all bankruptcy-related matters under the Bankruptcy Code.

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