



Hon. Jeffrey W. Cavender
United States Bankruptcy Court
Northern District of Georgia

Jeffery W. Cavender was sworn in as a bankruptcy judge for the Northern District of Georgia on March 2, 2018. Judge Cavender graduated from Berry College, summa cum laude, in 1990 with a degree in history, and from the University of Georgia School of Law, cum laude, in 1993 where he was a member of the Georgia Law Review and inducted into the Order of the Coif. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Cavender was a partner in the financial restructuring practice of Troutman Sanders LLP (n/k/a Troutman Pepper Locke, LLP) where he primarily represented corporate debtors and secured lenders in Chapter 11 cases and mortgage servicers in consumer-related litigation and bankruptcy matters. Judge Cavender previously was a partner in the bankruptcy group of McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP (n/k/a Dentons LLP) and previously served as the general counsel for a national mortgage company. Judge Cavender served as chair of the Bankruptcy Section for the Atlanta Bar Association (2017-2018) and was a member of its board of directors (2012-2018). Judge Cavender is an active member of the American Bankruptcy Institute and the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, currently serving as the Eleventh Circuit representative of the NCBJ's board of governors. In 2021 Judge Cavender was appointed by Chief Justice John Roberts to serve on the Federal Judicial Center's Bankruptcy Judges Education Advisory Committee and was recently appointed by the Chief Justice to serve as chair of the Committee for a two-year term.



Hon. Roberta A. Colton
United States Bankruptcy Court
Middle District of Florida

Judge Roberta A. Colton is a bankruptcy judge for the Middle District of Florida, appointed originally in April 2016 pursuant to a memorandum of understanding between the Eighth and Eleventh Circuit Courts of Appeals. She was officially appointed to the Middle District of Florida in December 2017. Contemporaneously, she was appointed as a member of the judicial mediation team involved in the Puerto Rico PROMESA cases and served in that capacity until January 2022.

Prior to taking the bench, Judge Colton practiced at Trenam Law in Tampa, Florida, where she was a shareholder and a member of the firm's Management Committee. Prior to joining Trenam, she served as a judicial law clerk for the Honorable James C. Hill of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. Judge Colton received her B.A. in commerce with distinction from the University of Virginia, and her J.D. from William & Mary Law School.

During her over thirty years in practice, Judge Colton was active in service to the legal profession and has been recognized for her accomplishments. Among others, she was listed in The Best Lawyers in America for Bankruptcy & Creditor Debtor Rights from 1995–2016 and named one of the top ten Super Lawyer's in the State of Florida from 2011–2016. Judge Colton served as Eleventh Circuit Regent for the American College of Bankruptcy, and Chair of the Grievance Committee of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida. She also is the former Chair of the Florida Bar Business Law Section, Bankruptcy/UCC Committee, and the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association.



Hon. Tiffany Geyer
United States Bankruptcy Court
Middle District of Florida

Tiffany Geyer was appointed by the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals on March 25, 2022 to serve as a United States Bankruptcy Judge in the Middle District of Florida, Orlando Division, filling the vacancy left by the retirement of the Hon. Karen S. Jennemann, for whom she clerked for many years. Judge Geyer graduated with a B.A. from the University of Central Florida in 1998 and earned her J.D. at the University of Florida Levin College of Law in 2000. Prior to her appointment, Judge Geyer was a partner in the financial restructuring group at Baker Hostetler, LLP, representing debtors, creditors, trustees and other parties in interest in complex chapter 11 cases.



Hon. Elizabeth L. Gunn
United States Bankruptcy Court
District of Columbia

Hon. Elizabeth L. Gunn was appointed as a bankruptcy judge for the District of Columbia on September 4, 2020. A COVID-era selection and appointment, she was sworn in by Zoom from her living room. A frequent speaker and author on bankruptcy topics, Judge Gunn brings a unique perspective to her presentations as the only bankruptcy judge in both the District of Columbia and the D.C. Circuit. In 2017, Judge Gunn was recognized by the American Bankruptcy Institute as a member of its inaugural class of 40 Under 40. Judge Gunn serves as an Associate Editor for the American Bankruptcy Law Journal and is a Coordinating and Associate Editor of the American Bankruptcy Institute Law Review. Judge Gunn sits on the boards of the Federal Bar Association Bankruptcy Section, International Women’s Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation, American Bar Association National Conference of Federal Trial Judges, the Chesapeake Chapter of the Turnaround Management Association, and is the host of the popular American Bar Association Business Law Section Podcast “Bad Boys of Bankruptcy.” She is a member of the Walter Chandler Bankruptcy Inn of Court and is Board Certified in Consumer Law by the American Board of Certification. Judge Gunn received her BA, cum laude, from Willamette University in Salem, Oregon and her law degree, cum laude, from Boston College Law School.



Hon. Benjamin A. Kahn
United States Bankruptcy Court
Middle District of North Carolina

Judge Kahn is a member of the United States Judicial Conference Advisory Committee on the Bankruptcy Rules, for which he serves as Chair of the Forms Subcommittee. He serves as faculty for Phase I and Phase II Orientation for Newly Appointed Bankruptcy Judges, having previously served as a member of the Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Judge Education for the Federal Judicial Center from 2019-2025 and as its Chair from 2020-2025. He is a Conferee of the National Bankruptcy Conference, for which he currently serves as Chair of the Legislative Liaison Committee, a member of the Nominating Committee, and previously served on the Executive Committee and Chair of the Committee on the Court System and Bankruptcy Administration. He is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy. He is a member of the Board of Editors for Collier on Bankruptcy and writes as a contributing author. He served as the Judicial Chair of the Southeastern Bankruptcy Workshop for the American Bankruptcy Institute from 2019 through 2023, and is a member of the Education Committee for the 100th Anniversary Meeting of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, for which organization he also serves on the Legislative Committee. Judge Kahn is certified as a specialist in business and consumer bankruptcy law by the American Board of Certification, for which he served as a member of the Board of Directors until his appointment to the bench. Prior to joining the bench, Judge Kahn was a certified mediator in North Carolina. He was recognized as among the Top 10 North Carolina Super Lawyers across all practice areas for the two years immediately preceding his appointment, elected to the Legal Elite Hall of Fame by Business North Carolina Magazine in 2014 as the category winner in North Carolina for Bankruptcy, and was included among Band 1 bankruptcy practitioners in North Carolina in Chambers and Partners USA. Judge Kahn received his BA in 1990 and his JD with Honors in 1993 from UNC-Chapel Hill.



Hon. Alfredo R. Pérez
United States Bankruptcy Court
Middle District of Florida

Alfredo R. Pérez took the bench as a bankruptcy judge in the Southern District of Texas on July 16, 2024. Prior to taking the bench, Alfredo practiced law in Houston for more than 43 years. The last 22 years, he was a partner in the Restructuring

Department of Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP, and was the Managing Partner of the firm's Houston office. He retired from Weil at the end of 2023.

Alfredo concentrated his practice on the representation of Chapter 11 debtors and other diverse interests, including secured creditors and committees, in all aspects of corporate and municipal restructurings, formal bankruptcy proceedings, and out-of-court workouts. He represented numerous acquirers and potential acquirers of assets from bankruptcy estates and companies in financial distress as well as parties in preference and fraudulent conveyance litigation. He worked extensively on transnational matters and lectured on issues related to his practice.

Alfredo is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy. He is a past chair of the Bankruptcy Section of the Houston Bar Association and past president of the Insolvency Working Group of the Union Internationale des Avocats. He has been a member of various professional associations including the ABA, ABI, IBA, INSOL, and the TMA.

Alfredo graduated from Haverford College in 1977 with a degree in chemistry and from the University of Chicago Law School in 1980.



Grace E. Robson

United States Bankruptcy Court
Middle District of Florida

Grace Robson is a United States Bankruptcy Judge and sits in the Orlando Division of the Middle District of Florida. Prior to taking the bench, she practiced for over 25 years in the area of corporate reorganization and bankruptcy, debtor-creditor relations and bankruptcy litigation. Judge Robson has represented corporate debtors, trade and institutional creditors, trustees, receivers, and creditors' committees. Judge Robson has been involved in all facets of reorganization-related representations, including pre-filing consultation, filing complex corporate bankruptcy cases, post-bankruptcy financing, asset purchase agreements as well as "routine" matters.

Judge Robson is Board-Certified in Business Bankruptcy and currently serves as judicial chair of the Health and Wellness Task Force of the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar, as well as co-chair of the Secured Creditors Subcommittee of the Business Law Section, Business Bankruptcy Committee of the ABA (having previously served as a co-chair of the Pro Bono Services Subcommittee).

Prior to relocating to the Middle District of Florida, she served on the board of directors of the Bankruptcy Bar Association of the Southern District of Florida, was the Broward Chair of the Pro Bono Committee, the Broward Chair of the CARE Program Committee, and chair of the Wellness Committee.