

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
DISTRICT OF COLORADO**
U.S. CUSTOM HOUSE
721 NINETEENTH STREET, FIFTH FLOOR
DENVER, COLORADO 80202-2508

Howard R. Tallman
Chief Bankruptcy Judge

March 19, 2013

Honorable Marcia S. Krieger, Chief Judge
U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado
Alfred A. Arraj United States Courthouse
901 19th Street
Denver, CO 80294

Dear Marcia,

After more than seven years as Chief Judge, I have decided to step down by the end of fiscal year 2014. The time has come to pursue some postponed other interests.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve. During my term, our Court accepted and addressed the many challenges presented by the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005 (“BAPCPA”). Over these years, we have re-tooled our operations, taking advantage of available technology to maximize productivity, especially given the recent budget constraints. The transitional rules developed for BAPCPA led to the modernization of our Local Bankruptcy Rules in 2009. With the help of our newly-constituted Standing Local Rules Committee, those rules will be further revised and updated by this July.

The past seven years have witnessed one of the highest volume of bankruptcy case filings in the District’s history. My tenure has been made easier and more enjoyable thanks to a fantastic group of judicial colleagues. Complementing that was the experienced leadership of Clerk Brad Bolton, and the hard work of Kelly Sweeney both as Chief Deputy Clerk and then as Acting Clerk after Brad’s retirement. I will always be proud of the dedication and performance of our Clerk’s office and chambers’ staff during this demanding and ever-changing environment. Finally, we have been able to maintain open lines of communications with the Bar thanks to the educational outreach of the Bankruptcy sub-section of the Business Section of the Colorado Bar Association, the Faculty of Federal Advocates, and the American Bankruptcy Institute.

Following a nationwide search for Brad’s replacement, the District has been very fortunate to now have Ken Gardner as our new Clerk of Court. As one of Brad’s former judicial-management students, Ken’s experience as the Clerk of the Chicago Bankruptcy Court, and his

infectious enthusiasm for his duties and our mission, should serve the Court well for many years to come.

I very much appreciate the courtesy, professionalism and friendship experienced in my dealings with the U.S. District Court and the 10th Circuit. The challenges we faced and surmounted would not have been possible without the cooperative efforts of this Court family. Although I might point to several examples of this supportive culture, the most important to me was our Court's ability to operate seamlessly despite the move to the Roger's Courthouse so the several year renovation of the Custom House could proceed. In May of this year, we will return to that new and improved building.

I am providing this advance notice so the U.S. District Court may have some time to designate my successor, a new voice to speak for the Bankruptcy Court. Hopefully, this will allow the designee to participate in the upcoming Chief Bankruptcy Judges' Conference scheduled for June 17th and 18th, 2014, in Washington, D.C.. I look forward to working with you and my chosen replacement for a smooth transition.

Thank you and best regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Howard Tallman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Howard Tallman, Chief Judge
United States Bankruptcy Court

cc: David Tighe, Circuit Executive