

OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT EXECUTIVE

UNITED STATES COURTS
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT

Elizabeth H. Paret
Circuit Executive
202.216.7369

E. Barrett Prettyman U.S. Courthouse
333 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

ELIZABETH L. GUNN APPOINTED AS BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

Washington, D.C. – September 4, 2020 – Elizabeth L. Gunn has been sworn in today as the new bankruptcy judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Columbia. She has been appointed to fill the vacancy created when Judge S. Martin Teel, Jr., retired earlier this year after a distinguished 32-year career with the Bankruptcy Court. Judge Gunn will be the first woman appointed as the bankruptcy judge in the District of Columbia.

Judge Gunn has practiced bankruptcy law for 15 years. She earned her law degree from Boston College Law School (cum laude, top 20% of class). Judge Gunn most recently served as an Assistant Attorney General for the Commonwealth of Virginia’s Office of the Attorney General. She was the Bankruptcy Specialist in the Department of Social Services in the Division of Child Support Enforcement. She was the sole attorney representing the Division in bankruptcy courts throughout the state and around the country on behalf of parties with open child-support cases with the Division. In that position, 80% of her practice was in bankruptcy courts.

Before becoming a government attorney, Judge Gunn was employed by Sands Anderson PC, DuretteCrump, PLC (formerly DuretteBradshaw, PLC), and McGuireWoods LLP. In private practice, she worked on all sizes of corporate and complex individual bankruptcy cases. Her practice focused on representing creditors and committees in all sizes of chapter 11 cases, representing debtors in small and moderate size chapters 11 and 7 cases, and serving as counsel for a chapter 7 trustee in all matters as primary or co-counsel.

Judge Gunn has authored numerous articles published in the *American Bankruptcy Institute Journal*, *Bankruptcy Law News*, and *The Federal Lawyer* and was a co-editor for a book called *Consumer Bankruptcy: Fundamentals of Chapters 7 and 13 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code*. She is also a sought-after speaker and presenter for many statewide and national bankruptcy

conferences and workshops. She is a member and has held leadership positions in the American Bankruptcy Institute, the International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation, Richmond Bar Association, Virginia State Bar, Federal Bar Association, States' Association of Bankruptcy Attorneys, American Bar Association, and the Northern Virginia Bankruptcy Bar Association. Judge Gunn is a 2017 honoree of the American Bankruptcy Institute's 40 Under 40 program that recognizes insolvency professionals who are committed to the highest standards of achievement at work and in their communities.

Special thanks to the members of the Bankruptcy Judge Merit Selection Panel for their significant time commitment and invaluable assistance in making this selection. Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia served as Chair of the Merit Selection Panel. Other members included: Judge James E. Boasberg, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia; Judge Timothy J. Kelly, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia; Michael St. Patrick Baxter, Partner, Covington & Burling; Natalie S. Walker, Partner, Webster & Fredrickson; and Betsy Paret, Circuit Executive, who served as Secretary to the Panel.

###