

BANKRUPTCY BUGLE



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NEW JUDGE APPOINTED TO U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR NEVADA

On November 8, 2013, Chief Judge Alex Kozinski of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit announced the appointment of August B. Landis to serve as a judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nevada.

Judge Landis, 50, was the acting U.S. trustee for Region 17, which encompasses the District of Nevada and the Eastern and Northern districts of California. He will fill a judgeship left vacant by the retirement of Judge Linda B. Riegler, who continues to serve the court as a recalled judge. Judge Landis took the oath of office on November 27, 2013, and he will maintain chambers in Las Vegas.

Judge Landis has served in the U.S. Trustee Program of the U.S. Department of Justice since 2005 and has been the acting U.S. trustee for Region 17 since 2010. He was responsible for the management, operational performance, and legal positions advanced by the regional office located in San Francisco and six field offices located in Las Vegas, Reno, Oakland, San Jose, Sacramento and Fresno.

Prior to his government service, Judge Landis engaged in private practice as an associate attorney at Whitfield & Eddy, P.L.C., in Des Moines, Iowa, from 1990 to 1995, and as a member attorney from 1996 to 2005. He handled commercial and bankruptcy litigation from case inception through resolution by arbitration, mediation, settlement or trial. Judge Landis also worked as an associate at Neiman, Neiman, Stone & Spellman, P.C., in Des Moines, from 1987 to 1989, representing debtors, creditors, and as a Chapter 7 panel trustee in contested matters and adversary proceedings.

A native of Springfield, Illinois, Judge Landis received his B.S. degree in business administration from Drake University in 1984 and his J.D. in 1987 from Drake Law School, where he served as a staff member of the Drake Law Review. While in law school, he received American Jurisprudence awards for excellence in torts in 1984 and conflicts of law in 1987.

On behalf of the Bankruptcy Judges and the Clerk's office of the United States Bankruptcy Court in the District of Nevada, we extend our warmest welcome to Judge Landis and his staff!

REMINDER

CLOSING INDIVIDUAL CHAPTER 11 CASES EARLY

Local Rule 3022.1 allows chapter 11 individual cases to be closed before plan payments have been completed with court approval. The order must only state that the case will be closed. A final decree cannot be entered until after the case is discharged. Orders that contain this language will be returned. A new form order is available on our website for this purpose at:

<http://www.nvb.uscourts.gov/rules-forms/forms/local-forms/>

When the case is reopened for the purpose of obtaining a discharge, please remember that the discharge cannot be entered until the local Certificate of Compliance form is filed and served and the time period for objections has passed. Upon filing the motion to reopen, the debtor shall be required to pay any fees due for reopening the case.



CHAT

The Nevada Bankruptcy Court has implemented a CHAT service for the public.

The CHAT Help Desk answers questions online Monday—Friday during regular court hours. In addition, phone calls to the Help Desk at 866-232-1266 will still be answered.

Access to CHAT can be found at the court website's home page:

www.nvb.uscourts.gov

BANKRUPTCY COURTHOUSE HOURS

7:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

C. Clifton Young Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse and
Foley Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse.

Bankruptcy Court Intake Hours are:

9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Excluding Weekends and Federal Holidays.

HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURES

The Bankruptcy Court in Las Vegas and Reno will be closed on:

December 24 & 25, 2013 and January 1, 2014 in observance of the holidays

Please check the court web site for closure updates at www.nvb.uscourts.gov.



FEE CHANGES

The following fee changes went into effect on December 1, 2013:

Retrieval of one box of records from the Federal Records Center, National Archives, or other storage location..... \$64.00 (\$39.00 each additional box)
Motion to Sell Free and Clear of Liens\$176.00 (this fee is new)
Payment returned or denied for insufficient funds\$53.00
(this now includes payments other than checks)



REOPENING A CLOSED CASE

If a case is closed, a motion and order to reopen should be filed first with required fees. This can be done ex-parte. Once the order to reopen is granted, then any additional motions may be filed.

JUDGE INITIALS ON REASSIGNED CASES

Many of Judge Riegler's cases have been reassigned to other judges. It is important to pay close attention to the reassignment of cases. When the cases are reassigned, the judge's initials **MUST** be changed to match the reassigned judge.

The court will give a 30 day grace period on all documents where the judge's initials have not been changed to the new judge in the case. However, once that grace period ends, documents will be returned to the filer.

For any of Judge Riegler's cases that have **NOT** been reassigned, matters must be scheduled to be heard on one of Judge Riegler's available calendars. To obtain a date for Judge Riegler's calendar, please use the following email: lbr_cd@nvb.uscourts.gov.

BANKRUPTCY COURT CONTACT NUMBERS

LAS VEGAS CLERK'S OFFICE: (702) 527-7000
RENO CLERK'S OFFICE: (775) 326-2100
CM/ECF HELP DESK: (866) 232-1266

Frequently called numbers, e-mail addresses, and live on-line chat is available on the court's website under Court Information:

<http://www.nvb.uscourts.gov/about-the-court/contact-information/>



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

