

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

ALEXANDRIA NEWPORT NEWS NORFOLK RICHMOND

Media Release

Appointment and Designation of New Chief Bankruptcy Judge

November 21, 2024 – United States Bankruptcy Judge Brian F. Kenney has been appointed and designated by the district judges of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia to serve as the Chief Judge of the Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, effective December 24, 2024. He will be the second chief bankruptcy judge located in the Alexandria Division of the Court and will preside over the bankruptcy courts located in Alexandria, Newport News, Norfolk, and Richmond. Judge Kenney succeeds Chief Bankruptcy Judge Frank J. Santoro.

The duties of a chief judge are prescribed by statute, 28 U.S.C. § 154(b), which provides that “[t]he chief judge of the bankruptcy court shall ensure that the rules of the bankruptcy court and of the district court are observed and that the business of the bankruptcy court is handled effectively and expeditiously.”

A native of Fredericksburg, Virginia, Judge Kenney was appointed as a United States Bankruptcy Judge on September 1, 2011, for a 14-year term by the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. He is a graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University, *magna cum laude*, and the University of Virginia School of Law. Prior to his appointment, in 2011, Judge Kenney was a principal in the Tysons Corner office of Miles & Stockbridge, PC. In addition to his duties as Chief Judge, Judge Kenney will continue to preside over cases in the Alexandria Division of the Court and also will preside over a portion of the cases in the Court’s Richmond Division.

If you have questions about this media release, please contact William Redden, the Clerk of Court, at 804-916-2490 or william_redden@vaeb.uscourts.gov.