



UNITED STATES COURTS FOR THE FIRST CIRCUIT
OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT EXECUTIVE
JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE
1 COURTHOUSE WAY - SUITE 3700
BOSTON, MA 02210

SUSAN J. GOLDBERG
CIRCUIT EXECUTIVE
617-748-9614

KELLY D. MCQUILLAN
DEPUTY CIRCUIT EXECUTIVE
617-748-9327

For immediate release

Contact: Susan J. Goldberg
(617) 748-9614

PRESS RELEASE

JOHN A. DORSEY, JR., SELECTED FOR THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT IN RHODE ISLAND

BOSTON (June 5, 2025) — Chief Judge David J. Barron of the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit announced today that John A. Dorsey, Jr., has been selected to fill the upcoming vacancy in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Rhode Island that will result from Judge Diane Finkle's retirement on September 8, 2025. Attorney Dorsey will be appointed to the bankruptcy bench following Judge Finkle's retirement and upon completion of satisfactory FBI and IRS investigations.

Attorney John Dorsey has been a civil litigator focused on state receiverships and court-supervised insolvency and distressed asset proceedings throughout his legal career. Since 2010, Attorney Dorsey has practiced at Ferrucci Russo Dorsey P.C. (formerly Ferrucci Russo) in West Warwick, Rhode Island, where he became partner in 2016. Attorney Dorsey is routinely appointed by Rhode Island state and municipal courts as a commissioner, special master, or receiver. Attorney Dorsey's practice also involves business and civil litigation, real estate development, and environmental and transactional matters. Attorney Dorsey received a Bachelor of Science from Rensselaer Polytechnical Institute in 2007 and his law degree from Roger Williams University School of Law in 2010.

Attorney Dorsey is engaged in the Rhode Island legal and business communities outside of his practice. For example, he is a member of the Rhode Island Bar Association, the Thurgood Marshall Law Society, and the Rhode Island Black Business Association. From 2015 to 2016, Attorney Dorsey served on the board of directors of the Quonset Development Corporation, a quasi-state agency formed to develop and manage a large business park in the best interests of the citizens of Rhode Island and, from 2018 to 2024, on the board of directors of the Roger Williams University Law School Alumni Association. Further, the Rhode Island Superior Court appointed Attorney Dorsey as the program coordinator of the team that developed the Covid-19 Business Recovery Program, which provided a roadmap for business owners to consider in protecting business interests in light of the effects of the pandemic.

Chief Judge Barron stated: "The First Circuit Court of Appeals is pleased to welcome Attorney Dorsey as the next U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Rhode Island and is certain that he will serve the people of Rhode Island well in this role. The Court is confident that Attorney Dorsey's experience with receiverships, insolvency, and distressed asset proceedings and strong ties to the Rhode Island community will make him a valuable addition to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Rhode Island as well as to the First Circuit." Chief Judge Barron also thanked Judge Finkle for her many years of dedicated and distinguished service.

Chief Judge Barron expressed his gratitude to the members of the Bankruptcy Judge Merit Selection Panel, which was chaired by First Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Lara E. Montecalvo. The members of the Panel were First Circuit Court of Appeals Judge O. Rogeriee Thompson; District of Rhode Island Chief Judge John J. McConnell, Jr.; Circuit Executive Susan J. Goldberg; Hamza Chaudary, Esq., of Adler Pollock & Sheehan, P.C.; Lynda L. Laing, Esq., of Strauss, Factor, Laing & Lyons; Thomas P. Quinn, Esq., of McLaughlinQuinn LLC; John Rao, Esq., of the National Consumer Law Center; and Michael Zabelin, Esq., of Rhode Island Legal Services.