Outstanding Bankruptcy Judges – 2007

Judge	District	Comments
Hon. Lamar W. Davis, Jr.	Southern District of Georgia Savannah, GA	Chief Judge of the Southern District of Georgia. An innovative jurist whose decisions have helped shape the interpretation of the BAPCPA, notably in determining that bankruptcy attorneys are not "debt relief agencies." Has ably presided over several major reorganizations, including Friedman's.
Hon. Robert D. Drain	Southern District of New York New York, NY	Presides over many complex cases, including Refco, Delphi, and Yukos. Guidance in Refco was critical. He drove the parties to settle when necessary and adjudicated several aspects of the case. Issues bench rulings orally after every major litigation, which is rewarding from the lawyers' perspective.
Hon. Robert Faris	District of Hawaii Honolulu, HI	Continues his excellent adjudication of the Hawaiian Airlines (including the lawsuit filed against Mesa Airlines) and Aloha Airlines cases. Also adjudicating Azabu, a sizeable case involving the bankruptcy of the Hyatt Waikiki Hotel.
Hon. Judith K. Fitzgerald	Western District of Pennsylvania Pittsburgh, PA	A tireless speaker and organizational leader in the bankruptcy community. A former founding judicial cochair of the Mid Atlantic region of the American Bankruptcy Institute. Ably presided over the ABB Lumus Chapter 11 reorganization, one of the largest of 2006.
Hon. Robert E. Gerber	Southern District of New York White Plains, NY	Brilliant and incisive mind. Displays a comprehensive understanding of the litigation process as it relates to major bankruptcy cases. Has an unflappable judicial demeanor and controls the courtroom process. Reads all submissions carefully and takes great care to write his own opinions.
Hon. Adlai S. Hardin	Southern District of New York New York, NY	A commercially savvy, pragmatic, and decisive judge. Asked to pinch hit in the Delta Airlines reorganization, he has been instrumental in resolving disputes and moving the restructuring process forward. Has also presided over several other major bankruptcy cases, including NextWave Telecom.
Hon. Jeffrey R. Hughes	Western District of Michigan Grand Rapids, MI	Presided over Northwest Tool & Die Co.'s emergence from Chapter 11 protection in approximately 18 months – the latest example of how his leadership has yielded positive results in middle market companies, where successful emergence from Chapter 11 is very unusual.
Hon. Burton R. Lifland	Southern District of New York New York, NY	A dedicated and experienced jurist who presided over some of the largest Chapter 11 cases of the year. His leadership in the courtroom was instrumental in the reorganizations of Calpine and Dana Corporation, which was the largest Chapter 11 filing of 2006.
Hon. Raymond T. Lyons	District of New Jersey Trenton, NJ	As a visiting judge in the District of Delaware, oversaw the second bankruptcy of Montgomery Ward, which was the largest retail liquidation in U.S. history. Experience and knowledge was instrumental in adjudicating a very complex case with competing plans of reorganization.
Hon. Linda B. Riegle	District of Nevada Las Vegas, NV	Brings to the case a clear understanding of intricate details and convoluted constituent relationships. Quickly sifts through the numerous complexities of the case, immediately focusing on core issues and potential solutions. Presides with integrity, treating all participants with respect.
Hon. Wesley W. Steen	Southern District of Texas Houston, TX	Current President of the American Bankruptcy Institute, known widely for his leadership in the bankruptcy community. An experienced and knowledgeable jurist who has ably presided over a series of multi-million dollar reorganizations in his district.
Hon. Eugene R. Wedoff	Northern District of Illinois Chicago, IL	Chief Judge of the Northern District of Illinois. Has efficiently and effectively presided over many major Chapter 11 cases, including that of United Airlines, which is the largest bankruptcy in aviation history.