



# United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit

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## NEWS RELEASE

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## **Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Reappoints Bankruptcy Judge Charles D. Novack to Northern District of California**

SAN FRANCISCO — Judges of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit have reappointed U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Charles D. Novack, of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of California, to a second 14-year term effective May 13, 2024.

Judge Novack maintains chambers in Oakland and was appointed to the Northern District bankruptcy bench in 2010 and served as Northern District’s chief bankruptcy judge from 2019 to 2022. He began his legal career practicing general civil litigation in 1983. In 1991, he pursued bankruptcy law and began a two-year clerkship with U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Randall J. Newsome of the Northern District of California. From 1994 to 2005, Judge Novack was in private practice as an associate then shareholder at the law firm of Kornfield, Paul and Nyberg, where he represented debtors, creditors and parties to adversary proceedings, and handled bankruptcy matters involving Chapters 7, 9, 11 and 13 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. He began a solo practice in 2005.

A native of New York City, Judge Novack received his Bachelor of Arts from Rutgers College in 1980 and his Juris Doctor, cum laude, in 1983 from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law (now UC Law San Francisco), where he was a member of the Hastings Law Journal and was a legal writing and research instructor from 1990 to 1994.

The U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of California reported 4,883 bankruptcy filings in calendar year 2023. The court is authorized nine judgeships.

Bankruptcy judges serve a 14-year renewable term and handle all bankruptcy-related matters under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. Judges of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit have statutory responsibility for selecting and appointing bankruptcy judges in the nine western states that comprise the Ninth Circuit. The court uses a comprehensive merit selection process for the initial appointment. For reappointments, the court conducts a performance review and considers public comment evaluations.

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