



United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit

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NEWS RELEASE

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9th US Circuit Court of Appeals Appoints New Bankruptcy Judge for District of Idaho

SAN FRANCISCO — Judges of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit have appointed Brent R. Wilson as the next bankruptcy judge on the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Idaho. His 14-year term began Oct. 6, 2025, when Chief Bankruptcy Judge Noah G. Hillen administered the oath of office. Judge Wilson maintains chambers in Boise.

“Judge Wilson’s appointment is excellent news for our court,” said Chief Bankruptcy Judge Noah G. Hillen, District of Idaho. “His deep knowledge of bankruptcy law and strong reputation among practitioners will serve the District of Idaho well. I’m pleased to have him as a colleague on the bench,” Judge Hillen added.

Before his appointment to the bench, Judge Wilson was an associate and then equity partner from 2015 to 2025 at Hawley Troxell Ennis & Hawley LLP in Boise, Idaho. His practice focused on bankruptcy and bankruptcy-related matters representing secured and unsecured creditors, trustees, purchasers, and other parties in interest in bankruptcy cases throughout the nation but primarily in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Idaho. Previously, Judge Wilson was a judicial law clerk for Judge Jim D. Pappas of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Idaho from 2012 to 2015. Prior to moving to Idaho, Judge Wilson worked at a small bankruptcy firm in Chicago, where he primarily represented debtors in Chapter 7 and Chapter 11 cases.

Born in Princeton, Indiana, Judge Wilson graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Indiana University and earned his Juris Doctor, cum laude, from the University of Illinois Chicago School of Law.

The U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Idaho reported 2,006 bankruptcy filings in fiscal year 2024 ending September 30, up 19.6% from FY 2023. The court is authorized two permanent judgeships.

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Judges of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit have statutory responsibility for selecting and appointing bankruptcy judges in the nine western states that comprise the 9th Circuit. The court uses a comprehensive merit selection process for the initial appointment and for reappointments. Bankruptcy judges serve a 14-year renewable term and handle all bankruptcy-related matters under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code.

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