



## UNITED STATES TRUSTEE'S CORNER

By: Jill Kelso, Orlando Office  
of the U.S. Trustee

### **Upon Director Clifford White's Retirement, Ramona D. Elliott Is Appointed Acting Director of The Executive Office for United States Trustees**

Clifford White, Director of the Justice Department's U.S. Trustee Program (USTP), which oversees the administration of bankruptcy cases, retired on March 31, 2022.



"I want to express my appreciation to Cliff, not only for his 17 years of leadership of the U.S. Trustee Program, but also for 40 years of exceptional public service," said Attorney General Merrick B. Garland. "During his long service as the head of USTP, Cliff oversaw the work of USTP's 21 regions and 90 field offices to ensure the integrity and efficiency of the bankruptcy system. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors."

White was a career civil servant who held numerous leadership positions within the government. He was twice recognized with Presidential Rank Awards — the highest recognition accorded to career officials — first by President George W. Bush and then by President Barack Obama.

Under White's leadership, USTP successfully implemented many significant statutory changes; launched major enforcement initiatives to combat fraud and abuse; enforced compliance with bankruptcy laws; and, most recently, upheld the legal rights of victims of the opioid crisis in the Purdue Pharma case by challenging releases of liability that shield alleged wrongdoers.



On April 1, 2022, Ramona D. Elliott was appointed Acting Director of the Executive Office for United States Trustees, after having served as its Principal Deputy Director and General Counsel since January 2011. Ms. Elliott has 27 years of federal service, the majority of which has been with the United States Trustee Program, including formerly as the Deputy General Counsel and as the Acting Assistant United States Trustee for the District of Puerto Rico.

She also previously served as Counsel for Bankruptcy and Redress to the Federal Trade Commission's Bureau of Consumer Protection and in private practice. Ms. Elliott graduated from the

University of Florida with a B.S. in Accounting and received her J.D. from Emory University School of Law.