



## Goings On in the Middle District and Beyond

By: Hon. Caryl E. Delano, Chief Judge

### **Annual Conference of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges**

On October 18-22, 2022, the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges (NCBJ) hosted its 96th Annual Conference at the Orlando World Center Marriott. The NCBJ is one of the largest gatherings of insolvency professionals and bankruptcy judges in the nation.

This year's conference was attended by nearly 1100 judges, attorneys, and bankruptcy professionals. Educational programs included a panel on Subchapter V cases moderated by **Judge Catherine Peek McEwen** and featuring local practitioner and Subchapter V trustee, **Amy Denton Mayer**; an 11th Circuit breakout session featuring **Judge Jacob Brown** and **Judge Tiffany Geyer**; a panel on the role of bankruptcy judges featuring **Judge Grace Robson**; an ABA panel for secured creditors also featuring **Judge Grace Robson**; an ethics panel with a Harry Potter theme that featured **Judge McEwen**; and, for the first time, a Trial Skills Workshop at the Orlando Courthouse. **Judge Lori Vaughan** served as a faculty member and **Judge Grace Robson, Judge Tiffany Geyer,** and Orlando law clerks and chambers staff, **Aimee Johnson, Troy Lawrence, Danielle Howie, Alison Hale, Megan Bittakis, Chelsea Moore,** and **Gena Whitsett** served as "witnesses." Special thanks to our Orlando Division Manager, **Kathy Deetz**, who was instrumental in coordinating the logistics of the Trial Skills Program!

Thanks to our Middle District Judges and Court staff for making this year's NCBJ conference such a success. And special thanks to Orlando law clerks **Jeanne Herdeker** and **Caitlyn Myerson** for guiding participants through the confusing maze of the Marriott's conference center!

### **International Association for Court Administration Helsinki Conference**

Our Clerk of Court, **Sheryl Loesch**, the current president and one of the founding members of the International Association for Court Administration (IACA), attended the IACA's annual conference in Helsinki, Finland, on October 17-20, 2022.

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The IACA was created in 2004 by several U.S. Clerks of Court who had assisted the judiciaries of developing countries with court administration and who realized that there was no “follow-up” with the counties whose courts they had assisted. The clerks hoped to bridge that gap by developing a network of judges and court administrators to share best practices on an ongoing basis. The IACA envisions a global association of professionals collectively engaged in promoting the effective administration of justice, and they do so by endeavoring to build and sustain well-managed, independently governed, effectively administered, and publicly accessible court systems throughout the world. Participants at the Helsinki Conference included judges, ministers of justice, and other court administrators from all over the world, including the United States, Finland, Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan, Kosovo, Argentina, Bahrain, Brazil, Singapore, Canada, Trinidad and Tobago, the Republic of Georgia, Morocco, Latvia, Sri Lanka, and Rwanda.

During the Helsinki Conference, the Kazakhstan Judiciary presented Sheryl with its Medal of International Cooperation. Please join me in congratulating Sheryl on this well-deserved award!



*Clerk Sheryl Loesch receiving the Medal of International Cooperation from the Kazakhstan Judiciary*