



## *The Court Connection*

Newsletter of the  
United States Bankruptcy Court  
Middle District of Florida

*Volume 13 | Issue 1 | January 2024*

“Our Court serves the public by processing and deciding bankruptcy cases with fairness, impartiality, and excellence, while treating everyone with dignity, integrity, and respect.”

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*The Court Connection* is published quarterly.

Please submit items for the next edition by April 15, 2024, to: [newsletter@flmb.uscourts.gov](mailto:newsletter@flmb.uscourts.gov).

## Clerk's Message

By: Sheryl Loesch, Clerk of Court

It's always hard to believe that another year has come and gone so quickly, but it's also exciting to think about what interesting events are ahead in the upcoming year. Here are a few recent developments.

The Court's IT staff continues to maintain and upgrade our computer systems, including CM/ECF and Zoom. Although this work goes on behind the scenes, our Court couldn't function without their valuable assistance. On behalf of our judges and all our staff, I'd like to thank our Chief Deputy José Rodriguez, Bill Miguenes, Isaac Pagán, Wesley Beaubian, Acel Masar, Richard Day, Armando Diaz, Robert Smith, Sara Mason, Christine Baker, and Marco Eguía Vera.

The judges have adopted a new Notice of Hearing form that directs parties to the judge's webpage for hearing procedures, including in-person hearings and remote appearances by Zoom for telephone or video. For more information, please see the revised sample forms in the Court's Procedure Manual ([General/Notices of Hearing](#)) and update your forms. Please note that, except for Judge Funk, telephonic appearances before all judges are via Zoom.

In September 2023, the Court entered Administrative Order [FLMB-2023-2](#), which vacates a prior pandemic-related Administrative Order. As was required prior to the pandemic, attorneys must obtain their client's and signatories original signatures on papers such as bankruptcy petitions, supporting lists and schedules, affidavits, and unsworn declarations *before filing the paper in CM/ECF*.

In December 2023, the Court entered an Amended Administrative Order Prescribing Procedures in Chapter 13 Cases ([FLMB-2023-3](#)) to clarify the Middle District's current procedures. The Court also adopted a revised Model Plan and revised the form Order Confirming Plan. For a summary of the revisions, please see the [Announcements](#) tab on the left side of the Court's website.

Several of our long time staff members have recently retired; we are currently recruiting to hire three case managers and a programmer/analyst. We hope to have these positions filled quickly and to welcome new staff into our court family.

We have several events scheduled in early 2024. On February 6, the Court will hold a portrait ceremony in Jacksonville honoring the late Judge Cynthia C. Jackson. Chief Judge Delano will present her State of the District messages in Jacksonville on February 7, in Orlando on February 8, in Fort Myers on February 29, and in Tampa

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on March 12. And the annual ABI/Alexander L. Paskay Memorial Bankruptcy Seminar is scheduled in in Tampa on February 15-16.

Each new year comes with its own challenges and changes. I look forward to the challenges and changes ahead and to working with each of you!



2024  
*Happy New Year*



## What's New?

### **Revised Procedures Governing Court Appearances and New Form Notices of Hearing Effective January 2, 2024**

The judges of the Middle District of Florida have posted their procedures governing court appearances (including remote access by video and telephone) on their individual webpages on the Court's website. In addition, the Court has revised its form Notices of Hearing to direct parties to the assigned judge's webpage for procedures governing court appearances. Judge Funk will continue to use CourtCall for telephonic appearances; all other judges will use Zoom for both video and telephonic appearances.

### **Updated Administrative Order Prescribing Procedures for Chapter 13 Cases, Revised Model Chapter 13 Plan, and Order Confirming Plan Effective December 4, 2023**

The Court has entered Administrative Order FLMB 2023-3 Prescribing Procedures for Chapter 13 Cases Filed on or after December 4, 2023. The Court also revised the Model Chapter 13 Plan and Order Confirming Plan effective December 4, 2023. The revisions conform the Administrative Order, the Model Plan, and the Order Confirming Plan to the Middle District's current Chapter 13 procedures; facilitate more uniform Chapter 13 procedures; and make the procedures more understandable for practitioners, debtors, and creditors.

### **Negative Notice and Accompanying Orders Lists Updates**

The Court has updated its Negative Notice and Accompanying Orders Lists. Following is a summary of the changes:

- Chapter 7 motions for relief from stay, excluding requests for prospective relief, may be filed on negative notice. But if the debtor and the trustee consent, or if the trustee has filed a report of no distribution or notice of abandonment of the subject property, the movant may submit an accompanying order.
- Chapter 11 motions for relief from stay filed with the consent of the debtor and the trustee (if any) may be filed on negative notice. If a creditor's committee has not been appointed, the motion may be filed with 14 day's negative notice to the 20 largest unsecured creditors. However, if a creditor's committee has been appointed and the committee, the debtor, and the trustee (if any) consent to the relief, the movant may submit an accompanying order.
- Motions for relief from stay in Chapter 12 and 13 cases as to the debtor, excluding requests for prospective relief, may be filed on negative notice. However, if the debtor and the trustee consent, the movant may submit an accompanying order.
- Motions related to discovery in adversary proceedings must be filed on negative notice. However, if the responding party has failed to respond to a discovery request and the motion does not include a request for sanctions, waiver of objections, or deemed admissions, the movant may submit an accompanying order that gives the respondent 14 days to produce documents or respond to the discovery request.
- For motions filed in adversary proceedings, the negative notice legend must provide for a 14-day response period, except for motions for summary judgment for which the response time must be 21 days unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

### **Revisions to Official Forms, Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, and Miscellaneous Fee Schedule, effective December 1, 2023**

On December 1, 2023, revisions to Official Forms, Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, and the Bankruptcy Court Miscellaneous Fee Schedule went into effect. Amendments to the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure, Civil Procedure, and Evidence were also effective on that date.

### Practice Pointers Regarding § 341 Zoom Meetings

Meet with your clients in advance of their § 341 Zoom meeting to check their technology capabilities and devices to make sure they will be able to sign into the meeting timely and effectively! To test Zoom, click the following link or type it into your browser: <https://zoom.us/test>.

And if your clients speak a different language, please contact the U.S. Trustee in advance of the 341 meeting to request translator services.

Tampa and Fort Myers Division Cases:  
Guy A. Van Baalen, Assistant United States Trustee  
501 East Polk Street, Suite 1200  
Tampa, FL 33602  
Phone: 813-228-2000; Fax: 813-228-2303

Orlando and Jacksonville Division Cases:  
William J. Simonitsch, Assistant United States Trustee  
400 West Washington Street, Suite 1100  
Orlando, FL 32801  
Phone: 407-648-6301; Fax: 407-648-6323

Also, there have been recent updates to the [Trustee Pages](#) on the Source. Please check there for current contact information and requirements for providing documents in advance of § 341 meetings.



### **Upcoming Events Around the District**

- |                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| February 6<br>4:00 pm   | Judge Cynthia C. Jackson Portrait Ceremony<br><i>Bryan Simpson United State Courthouse, Jacksonville</i> |
| February 13<br>12:00 pm | TBBBA CLE Luncheon – Pro Bono Opportunities and Rewards<br><i>University Club, Tampa</i>                 |
| February 15-16          | Alexander L. Paskay Memorial Bankruptcy Seminar<br><i>The Westin Tampa Waterside</i>                     |

### **Chief Judge Delano Presents...The State of the District**

Chief Judge Delano will present her annual State of the District program in every District—live and in person for the first time!

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| February 7<br>12:00 pm  | Jacksonville Bankruptcy Bar Association<br><i>River Club, Jacksonville</i>                            |
| February 8<br>12:00 pm  | Central Florida Bankruptcy Law Association<br><i>Akerman, LLP, Orlando (with Zoom option)</i>         |
| February 29<br>12:00 pm | Southwest Florida Bankruptcy Professionals Association<br><i>United States Courthouse, Fort Myers</i> |
| March 12<br>12:00 pm    | Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association<br><i>University Club, Tampa (with Zoom option)</i>              |





### **Bankruptcy Filings Increase in 2023**

Total bankruptcy filings rose 16.8 percent, with significant increases in both business and non-business bankruptcies, in the twelve-month period ending December 31, 2023. This accelerates a continuing rebound in filings after more than a decade of sharply dropping totals. The Middle District of Florida saw an increase of 17.8 percent, with filings of 16,405 in 2023 compared with 13,923 in 2022.

According to statistics released by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, annual bankruptcy filings totaled 452,990 in the year ending December 2023, compared with 387,721 cases in the previous year.

Business filings rose 40.4 percent, from 13,481 to 18,926, in the year ending December 31, 2023. Non-business bankruptcy filings rose 16 percent to 434,064, compared with 374,240 in December 2022.

Bankruptcy totals for the previous 12 months are reported four times annually.

This is the fourth straight quarter that total bankruptcy filings have risen, following a decade-plus decline. Bankruptcies fell especially sharply after the pandemic began in early 2020, despite some COVID-related disruptions to the economy.

Despite the recent increases, the newest totals remain far lower than in December 2010, when filings peaked at just less than 1.6 million.

*Published on January 26, 2024, on [www.uscourts.gov](http://www.uscourts.gov), the website maintained by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts on behalf of the Federal Judiciary.*

For more information and statistical information, go to [Bankruptcy Filings Rise 16.8 Percent | United States Courts \(uscourts.gov\)](https://www.uscourts.gov/bankruptcy-filings-rise-16.8-percent).

**Michael G. Williamson View from the Florida Bankruptcy Bench  
and Special Recognition of Mary Maddox**  
**Presented by The Business Law Section of the Florida Bar**  
**By: Stephanie C. Lieb, Esq., Program Chair**

The 39th Michael G. Williamson View from the Florida Bankruptcy Bench program was held November 2 and 3, 2023, in Tampa and Miami. The seminar is one of the signature events of the Business Law Section of The Florida Bar. United States Bankruptcy Judge Michael Williamson was founder of the seminar prior to his appointment to the bench and served as Program Chair until 2022. When he passed away in November 2022, the Business Law Section renamed the seminar in his honor, and Judge Colton now serves as the Judicial Chair.

The Tampa program took place at the Center for Advanced Medical Learning and Simulation on November 2, and the panel featured Chief Judges Karen Specie (ND/FL) and Erik Kimball (SD/FL) along with Middle District Chief Judge Caryl Delano and Judges Catherine McEwen, Roberta Colton, Lori Vaughan, Grace Robson, Jacob Brown, Jason Burgess, and Tiffany Geyer. The program in Miami was held at the Kovens Conference Center at Florida International University on November 3 and featured Chief Judges Specie, Kimball, and Delano, Judge Colton, and Southern District Judges Robert Mark, Laurel Isicoff, Mindy Mora, Scott Grossman, Peter Russin, Corali Lopez-Castro, and Paul Hyman. Attorney Liz Green of Baker Hostetler in Orlando was the program moderator both days, and the discussion was lively, informative, and entertaining.

I have had the privilege of serving on the program's Steering Committee since 2008, and I can assure you that each and every year, the committee works its hardest to make the program a success. And it is not just the Steering Committee – the bulk of the work is done by each of the judicial panelists, and it is hard to appreciate from the outside looking in just how much work goes into the preparation.

Rightfully so, Judge Williamson expected perfection from the Steering Committee each year. There has been one person in particular over the course of time who has been instrumental in making sure we met Judge Williamson's expectations, one person who each of the Steering Committee members and the panelists have leaned on to make sure his/her piece of the puzzle came together, and that is Mary Maddox. And it was my privilege to present Mary with special recognition at the Tampa program.

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Mary served as Judge Williamson’s judicial assistant from September 2000 until he passed away and is now Internal Controls Analyst with the Middle District of Florida Bankruptcy Court. However, she continues to be instrumental in the planning of the seminar. As I stated in my remarks on November 2, Mary needs a good title, or descriptive nickname for her role in planning the program, and I have tried my best. She’s the head of enforcement, she’s the chief cat herder, she’s the glue that holds it all together, and she has been the glue for decades. I do not think she would appreciate “The Glue;” in fact, she would not want a title at all. She does it all, working extraordinarily hard with absolutely no expectation of recognition. But the Steering Committee felt it was important to recognize her for her contributions to the success of this program over these many years.

So, on behalf of the Business Law Section, thank you to Mary Maddox for her decades of tireless work and unwavering support for the Michael G. Williamson View from the Florida Bankruptcy Bench program.



*Mary Maddox*  
*(Photo courtesy of Ryan Really)*



## United States Trustee's Corner

By: Jill Kelso, Orlando Office

### Solicitation of Applicants Interested in Serving as Subchapter V Trustee Primarily in the Orlando Division

The United States Department of Justice, Office of the United States Trustee, seeks resumes from persons wishing to be considered for inclusion in a pool of trustees who may be appointed on a case-by-case basis to administer cases filed under the Small Business Reorganization Act of 2019 (Subchapter V), which amended Chapter 11 of Title 11 of the United States Code. Those with business, managerial, consulting, mediation, and operational experience are encouraged to apply. The appointment is for cases filed in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida, primarily in the Orlando Division, as well as in nearby Districts or Divisions, as appropriate. Subchapter V trustees may receive compensation and reimbursement for expenses, in each case in which they serve, pursuant to court order under 11 U.S.C. § 330. Although Subchapter V trustees are not federal employees, appointments are made consistent with federal Equal Opportunity policies, which prohibit discrimination in employment. **The deadline to apply is February 16, 2024.** For additional information, qualification requirements, and application procedures go to:

[http://www.justice.gov/ust/eo/private\\_trustee/vacancies/11ad.htm](http://www.justice.gov/ust/eo/private_trustee/vacancies/11ad.htm).

### United States Trustee Updates List of Approved Depositories for Chapter 11 Cases in the Middle District of Florida

As set forth in *Region 21's Operating Guidelines & Reporting Requirements for Chapter 11 Debtors in Possession and Chapter 11 Trustees* (October 2022), Chapter 11 debtors must comply with all requirements of 11 U.S.C. § 345 to safeguard estate funds from loss. Every Chapter 11 debtor must close its prepetition bank accounts and open new debtor-in-possession accounts and provide documentation of these actions to the United States Trustee. Absent court authorization, the accounts may be maintained only in depositories that agree to post a bond or pledge securities for all deposits not insured or guaranteed by the United States or by a department,

agency, or instrumentality of the United States, or backed by the full faith and credit of the United States (“Approved Depositories”). The Office of the United States Trustee periodically updates its List of Approved Depositories authorized to establish debtor-in-possession bank accounts in the Middle District of Florida. For the most recent list updated for 2024, please go to:

<https://www.justice.gov/usdoj-media/ust/media/1181261/dl?inline>.

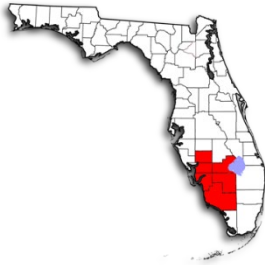


The Central Florida Bankruptcy Law Association (CFBLA) ended 2023 with a holiday party for all members and an appreciation luncheon for the amazing Bankruptcy Clerks and Support Staff of the Judicial Chambers, Support Staff of the Clerk’s Office, and Support Staff of the U.S. Trustee’s Office.



### **CFBLA 2024 Board of Directors**

With a new year, comes a new Board. The 2024 CFBLA Board of Directors would like to thank Camille Sebreth (Secretary), Jason Johnson (Director), James Timko (Director), and Jennifer Morando (Director) for their outstanding service and dedication to the Board over the last three years. We would like to welcome to the 2024 Board of Directors Lori Patton and Esther McKean and thank Jennifer Morando and James Timko on their renewal to a new three-year term. Our new officers are: Paul Mascia (President), Jennifer Morando (Vice-President), Lori Patton (Treasurer), and Esther McKean (Secretary).



## Southwest Florida Bankruptcy Professionals Association By: Christian G. Haman, Esq., President

On November 16, 2023, the Southwest Florida Bankruptcy Professionals Association (SWFBPA) held the 11th Annual Judge Alexander L. Paskay Memorial Dinner. We honored our outgoing President, Ryan J. Really, and Chief Judge Caryl E. Delano swore in the new board: President Christian Haman, Vice President Shannon Puopolo, and Treasurer Luis E. Rivera II. In addition to Chief Judge Delano, attendees included U.S. District Judge Sheri Polster Chappell and representatives of the United States Trustee's office as well as the Chapter 13 Trustee's office.

The SWFBPA now has a social media presence! Use your favorite internet browser and look them up on LinkedIn.

Moving forward, we look forward to hosting a variety of happy hours and CLE programming. In the immediate future, we are planning a get-together for members attending the 48th Annual Alexander L. Paskay Memorial Bankruptcy Seminar in Tampa in February. We hope to see you soon!

Finally, Chief Judge Delano will present her State of the District speech to us on Thursday, February 29, live at the Fort Myers Courthouse.





## Case Law Update for Q1 2024

### Editors:

Bradley M. Saxton, Esq.  
Lauren M. Reynolds, Esq.  
Winderweedle, Haines, Ward & Woodman, P.A.

Kathleen L. DiSanto, Esq.  
Bush Ross, P.A.

### Eleventh Circuit Cases

#### *PRN Real Estate & Investments, Ltd. v. Cole*

85 F.4th 1324 (11th Cir. 2023)

Creditor filed multi-count complaint seeking to avoid and recover fraudulent transfers and objecting to the discharge of a chapter 7 debtor under section 727 of the Bankruptcy Code and to the dischargeability of its debt under section 523(a)(2)(A) of the Bankruptcy Code. The bankruptcy court entered summary judgment in favor of the debtor on certain counts of the complaint, and other counts proceeded to trial. The bankruptcy court ultimately entered judgment in favor of the debtor on all counts, and the district court affirmed. The Eleventh Circuit affirmed on all counts except for the 523(a)(2)(A) claim (the “Husky Claim”) and reversed and remanded in part with respect to the Husky Claim.

The Eleventh Circuit affirmed rulings that the debtor's conduct did not amount to concealment of estate property or constitute false oaths necessary to bar discharge under section 727. The Eleventh Circuit adopted “to knowingly withhold information about property or to knowingly prevent its discovery” as the definition for concealment for purposes of section 727(a). The Court affirmed that the creditor lacked standing to pursue fraudulent transfer claims settled by the trustee.

As for the Husky Claim, the Eleventh Circuit reversed the rulings of the bankruptcy court and the district court, concluding that the creditor properly stated a claim under section 523(a)(2)(A), by alleging that the debtor obtained property by actual fraud and, that under state law, the debtor took on the transferor's debt when he fraudulently obtained such property. The creditor's nondischargeability claim was not preempted by the chapter 7 trustee's avoidance action or the settlement of that claim.

***Sweetapple v. Asset Enhancement, Inc. (In re Asset Enhancement, Inc.)***  
87 F.4th 1271 (11th Cir. 2023)

Appeal of the bankruptcy court’s contempt order arising from damages for violation of the automatic stay was timely even though the appeal was taken more than fourteen days after the order was entered. The contempt order awarded reasonable attorneys’ fees and costs for the filing and prosecution of the contempt motion but did not include the amount of the attorneys’ fees and costs. The parties stipulated to the amount of attorneys’ fees and costs, and the bankruptcy court entered a separate order awarding the attorneys’ fees and costs (the “Fee Order”). The notice of appeal was filed within fourteen days of the entry of the Fee Order. The debtor moved to dismiss the appeal for lack of jurisdiction as untimely, and the district court dismissed the appeal. Concluding that the appeal was timely filed, the Eleventh Circuit vacated the dismissal of the appeal and remanded to the district court to consider the merits of the appeal.

**Bankruptcy Court Cases**

***In re Da Lugo Investment LLC d/b/a Oasis Sports Lounge***  
2023 WL 8369329 (Bankr. M.D. Fla. Dec. 1, 2023) (Colton, J.)

The debtor operated a hookah lounge in leased premises that were destroyed by a fire, which caused the debtor to file for chapter 11 bankruptcy. After the debtor rejected the lease, the landlord filed a claim for lease-rejection damages. In the claim, the landlord asserted a claim for the rent remaining under the lease. The claim stated that it “reserve[d] all claims against the Debtor that may exist as a result of the Tenant’s intentional or negligent actions leading to a fire incident on the Leased Premises.”

Later, the landlord amended its claim to assert a new claim for the debtor’s alleged contractual duty to repair the leased premises even if it did not intentionally or negligently cause the fire. The court acknowledged that creditors are typically free to amend claims to cure a defect, describe the claim with greater particularity, or even plead a new theory on the facts set forth in the original claim. However, the court concluded that the contractual-duty-to-repair claim was essentially a new claim that “was not even hinted at in the [original] proof of claim.” Therefore, Judge Colton denied landlord’s motion to amend the claim to the extent it asserted a new contractual-duty-to-repair claim.

*In re Huckleberry Partners LLC*

2023 WL 8453520 (Bankr. M.D. Fla. Nov. 22, 2023) (Robson, J.)

The liquidating agent objected to a claim by a creditor, an attorney seeking attorney's fees for the estate in connection with pre-petition services. The liquidating agent and creditor settled the claim objection and filed a motion to approve compromise. A dissociated member of the debtor, who was not a creditor, objected. After trial, Judge Robson approved the compromise, finding the settlement met the *Justice Oaks* factors as fair, reasonable, and within the range of possible litigation outcomes. Judge Robson explained she did not have to decide the numerous questions of law and fact raised by the objection party; instead, Judge Robson's task was to canvass the issues to see if the settlement fell below the lowest point in the range of reasonableness.

## Judges' Corner

A recent post from Judge McEwen congratulating Charles Stohlman for Pro Bono Service Award:



Howdy!



On December 14, 2023, Judge McEwen swore Steve Berman into the Texas bar, and afterward, they donned proper headgear!

Congratulations, Mr. Stohlman!

## Orlando Division Bids Farewell to Rutha Hill and Celebrates Landmark Anniversary for Alison Hale

Rutha Hill, who began working for the Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida, Orlando Division, on June 4, 2001, retired in December. Rutha served as a Case Manager, and before joining the Bankruptcy Court, was a substitute teacher and ran a courier service. There is no question that her paralegal degree served her well during her time with the Bankruptcy Court.

While in her first year working for the Court, Rutha said, “Each day brings its own opportunity for me to improve on what I’ve been taught and to learn new things, which makes it a joy to work here.” Rutha is looking forward to spending more time on her personal ventures. These include water aerobics and being involved in her church.

She will also surely be traveling more often, especially to Alabama to spend time with her son, daughter-in-law, granddaughter, and grandson.

Although Rutha is always willing to share recipes, it is doubtful that her famous cornbread and chili recipe can be recreated as well as she makes it!

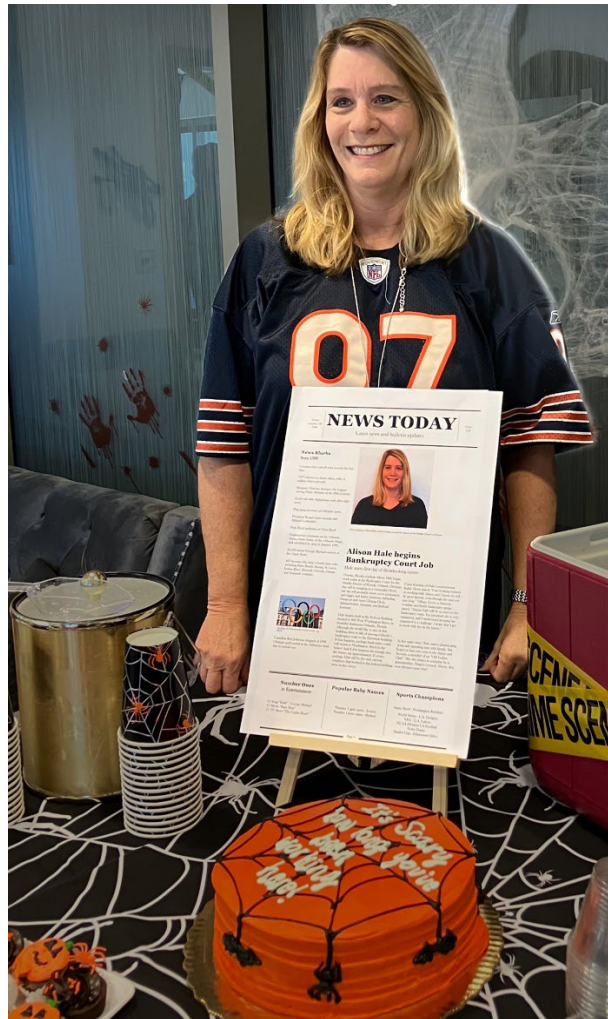
The Bankruptcy Court family congratulates Rutha on her retirement and thanks her for her decades of service!



*Rutha Hill*

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In October, Alison Hale, Judge Geyer’s Judicial Assistant, celebrated 35 years with the Court, and her colleagues authored the following “News Today” and surprised her with a cake during a Halloween party. The cake said, “It’s scary how long you’ve been working here!” Judge Geyer’s staff dressed as fans of various sports teams, hence Alison’s NFL attire.



*Allison Hale with her “News Today” and surprise anniversary cake.*

Friday  
October 28  
1988

# NEWS TODAY

Issue  
#10

Latest news and bulletin updates

## News Blurbs from 1988

Compact discs outsell vinyl records for first time.

“ET” released to home video, with 14 million videos presold.

Margaret Thatcher becomes the longest-serving Prime Minister of the 20th Century.

Soviet war with Afghanistan ends after eight years.

Ping pong becomes an Olympic sport.

President Reagan hosts summit with Mikhail Gorbachev.

Pink Floyd performs at Citrus Bowl.

Construction continues on the Orlando Arena, future home of the Orlando Magic, and scheduled to open in January 1989.

33,500 attend George Michael concert at the Citrus Bowl.

407 becomes the state’s fourth area code, including Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, Indian River, Brevard, Osceola, Orange and Seminole counties.



New employee Alison Hale ready to begin serving the citizens of the Middle District of Florida.

## Alison Hale begins Bankruptcy Court Job

Hale starts first day of decades-long career.

Oviedo, Florida resident Alison Hale began work today at the Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida, Orlando Division. She will be temping as a Generalist Clerk, but she will probably move on to permanent and bigger and better positions, including Financial and Asset Closing Clerk, Administrative Assistant, and Judicial Assistant.

Hale begins work at the Federal Building located at 400 West Washington Street, in beautiful downtown Orlando, Florida. Although she would like to stay in that building, there is talk of moving Orlando’s bankruptcy court to the Fairwinds building. If that happens, perhaps bankruptcy court will return to Washington Street in the future! And if that happens far enough into the future, say approximately 35 years, perhaps Hale will be the only current employee that worked in this federal building twice in her career.

Upon learning of Hale’s employment, Kathy Deetz stated, “I am looking forward to working with Alison and I know we will be great friends, even though she may not stay long.” Tiffany Geyer, a Sarasota resident and future bankruptcy judge, stated, “Alison Hale will be an asset to the bankruptcy court. I’m informed she is very organized, and I understand keeping me organized is a challenge. I hope that I get to work with her in the future.”

In her spare time, Hale enjoys playing ping pong and spending time with family. She hopes to have two sons in the future and become a member of an “Old Ladies Club.” She also hopes to someday be a grandmother. Fingers crossed, Alison, that your dreams come true!



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Canadian Ben Johnson stripped of 1988 Olympic gold medal in the 100-meter dash due to steroid use.

### Number Ones in Entertainment

#1 Song “Faith” - George Michael  
#1 Movie “Rain Man”  
#1 TV Show “The Cosby Show”

### Popular Baby Names

Number 1 girls' name - Jessica  
Number 1 boys' name - Michael

### Sports Champions

Super Bowl - Washington Redskins  
World Series - L.A. Dodgers  
NBA - L.A. Lakers  
NCAA Division I-A Football  
Notre Dame  
Stanley Cup - Edmonton Oilers