



*United States Bankruptcy Court  
Southern District of New York*

Cecelia G. Morris  
*Chief Judge*

Vito Genna  
*Clerk of Court*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**TWO DISTINGUISHED BANKRUPTCY JUDGES RETIRE FROM SOUTHERN DISTRICT BENCH**

The United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York announces that two of its judges will retire from the bench in 2014. The Honorable James M. Peck will retire effective January 31, 2014, and the Honorable Allan L. Gropper will retire on October 3, 2014. Both judicial vacancies will be filled.

Judge Peck has been on the Southern District bench since 2006 and presided over the Lehman Brothers bankruptcy, which will be assigned to Judge Shelley Chapman by January 31, 2014. In addition to his judicial case load, Judge Peck was the plan mediator in several mega cases including Residential Capital. Prior to becoming a judge, he was a partner at the law firm Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP, where he specialized in representing debtor entities, secured creditors, creditors' committees, and directors of both public and private companies.

Judge Gropper was appointed to the federal bench in 2000, during which time he has presided over many high profile bankruptcies such as Kodak Corporation. Judge Gropper has written the seminal article on arbitration of cross-border international business insolvencies. Judge Gropper was a partner in the law firm of White & Case, specializing initially in general litigation and later in international insolvency matters. He was a Fulbright Tutor in English at Christ Church College in Kanpur, India.

"I have been honored to have served on the Southern District bench with such capable, committed jurists," said Chief Bankruptcy Judge Cecelia G. Morris. "They will be missed. Their influence will continue through their well-reasoned written opinions."

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