



Another Certified Bankruptcy Attorney Is Appointed to the Bench

The latest update from the American Board of Certification!

By William L. Norton, III

Randal S. Mashburn of Nashville, Tenn., was appointed United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Tennessee on Jan., 12, 2012, replacing retired Judge George C. Paine II.

Before going on the bench, Mashburn concentrated his practice in mediation, bankruptcy, commercial litigation, debtor-creditor issues, workouts and insolvency law.

He had nearly three decades of experience involving a wide variety of litigation over contracts, lender liability, health care issues, fraud, director/officer liability, banking, business dissolutions, UCC issues, real estate, and other types of commercial and financial matters.

His experience included the representation of plaintiffs, defendants, creditors, debtors, trustees, committees, examiners and receivers, as well as service as a court-appointed bankruptcy examiner and Chapter 11 trustee.

Most of his legal career was spent at Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, where he served stints as practice group chair, board member and a variety of other management and leadership roles.

Mashburn served as a judicial law clerk for judges on the United States District Court and the Tennessee Court of Appeals, has contributed to dozens of publications and has spoken frequently on alternative dispute resolution,

bankruptcy and creditors' rights for bar associations, industry groups and continuing legal education programs.

In addition to extensive experience as a litigator and bankruptcy advisor, a significant portion of his practice was devoted to service as a mediator in a wide range of commercial, financial and business disputes. He was a founding member and past president of the Tennessee Association of Professional Mediators and was a member of the Tennessee Academy of Mediators & Arbitrators.

He remains as a board member of the Nashville Conflict Resolution Center, a non-profit organization that promotes alternative dispute resolution in middle Tennessee.

During his legal career, Mashburn achieved a wide range of distinctions and honors, including being certified as a business bankruptcy specialist by the American Board of Certification, and was recognized in numerous "best of bar" publications. He also is a past-president and director of the Mid-South Commercial Law Institute.

Mashburn's broad experience in bankruptcy law and his devotion to alternative dispute resolution make his selection to fill Paine's vacancy particularly noteworthy. Not only will he be easily acclimated to his new role, but he brings a new unique perspective in resolving disputes. ●



William L. Norton III is a partner in the law firm of Bradley Arant Boult Cummings, LLP in Nashville, Tennessee. Norton focuses his practice in the business bankruptcy area, dealing in all aspects of bankruptcy cases, creditors' rights and insolvency.

Norton's more than 25 years of practicing

bankruptcy and insolvency law has included a focus on Chapter 11 business cases and serving as managing editor of the 13-volume "Norton Bankruptcy Law and Practice 3d."

Norton, who also co-authored the "Norton Creditors' Rights Handbook" (2008 Thomson Reuters), is also is a

past president and board member of the American Board of Certification, which certifies attorneys who specialize in the areas of creditors' rights and bankruptcy law. In 2011, he was appointed to serve as an emeritus director of the ABC.