

# AMERICAN BANKRUPTCY INSTITUTE JOURNAL

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## ABC-Certified Specialist Appointed to Bench

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For more than 25 years, Hon. **Brian F. Kenney** has been among the leading bankruptcy and creditors' rights practitioners in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. First admitted to the Virginia bar in 1983 and one of the earliest bankruptcy lawyers to achieve certification in business bankruptcy law by the American Board of Certification (ABC), he has collected plenty of other accolades over the years.



H. Jason Gold

Judge Kenney twice served as president of the Northern Virginia Bankruptcy Bar Association, one of the most active local organizations of bankruptcy professionals. He also served two terms on the Virginia State Bar's Bankruptcy Section's Board of Governors as well as a number of other judicial advisory panels, and sat on many continuing education panels over the years for ABI and the Virginia State Bar. Judge Kenney has also been a frequent and prolific writer, published in several professional journals.

### About the Author

H. Jason Gold is a partner with Wiley Rein LLP in McLean, Va., and is a member of ABC's Board of Directors.

Members of the local bar and bankruptcy professionals throughout the state were delighted to hear that he had been appointed as a bankruptcy judge for the Eastern District of Virginia by the judges of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. Judge Kenney assumed the vacancy left by Stephen S. Mitchell's retirement, effective Sept. 1, 2011, and hit the ground running by issuing his first memorandum opinion the very next day!

others in virtually every major case in the Washington, D.C., region.



Hon. Brian F. Kenney

Judge Kenney was recently asked why he would give up such a successful law practice at the prime of his career. "I've always been interested in public service, and I simply want to give something back to the community," he said, adding that he misses the camaraderie of his former law partners. These remarks come as no surprise to all who know

## ABC Update

Judge Kenney received his bachelor's degree in political science *magna cum laude* from Virginia Commonwealth University and he earned his J.D. from the University of Virginia. Prior to ascending to the bench, Judge Kenney led Miles & Stockbridge PC's Tyson's Corner, Va., Bankruptcy and Creditor's Rights Practice, where he was resident for more than 22 years. It was during this long tenure that he built a large and very successful practice representing financial institutions and

Judge Kenney, and in many ways, they sum up his best qualities. ■

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