

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

PAUL B. SNYDER
U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

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March 8, 2016

Honorable Sidney R. Thomas
Chief Judge
United States Court of Appeals
Old Chamber Building
301 North 27th Street, Suite 200
Billings, MT 59101

Dear Chief Judge Thomas:

The purpose of my letter is to let you know that I plan to retire effective December 31, 2016, and to ask that you initiate the appointment process to fill the position I am vacating. Serving as a bankruptcy judge in the Western District of Washington has been an extraordinary experience. During my time on the bench, I have enjoyed the assistance of a wonderful chambers staff; support from a professional and efficient Court Clerk and staff; and the friendship and assistance of an experienced and collegial group of current and former judicial officers. I have also been extremely lucky to serve in the Tacoma courthouse where Article I and III judges and staff make collegiality a priority; and last but not least, a Circuit that trains, supports and respects its trial judges.

After 20-years with the courts, the time has come to begin the next chapter of my life and to let another lawyer experience the joy and privilege I have experienced serving in the federal judiciary. Thank you.

Cordially,



Paul B. Snyder
U.S. Bankruptcy Judge

cc: Chief Judge Ricardo Martinez, United States District Court
Chief Judge Brian Lynch, United States Bankruptcy Court
Mark Hatcher, Clerk of Court
Cathy Catterson, Ninth Circuit Executive