



DISTRICT OF MONTANA QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



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Retirements



Dates of Service:

November 18, 1999 — January 31, 2017

Chief Judge Kirscher was appointed to the bankruptcy bench on November 18, 1999, and reappointed to a second term on May 18, 2014. Judge Kirscher is the only full-time bankruptcy judge in the District of Montana.

Judge Kirscher is a member and former chair of the Ninth Circuit Conference of Chief Bankruptcy Judges, which advises the Judicial Council of the Ninth Circuit on governance and other matters. He has served on various other Ninth Circuit committees, including the Court-Council Committee on Bankruptcy Judge Appointments, the Bankruptcy Judges' Education Committee, and the Public Information and Community Outreach Committee, now known as the Courts and Community Committee. More recently, Judge Kirscher was selected to serve on the United States Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the Ninth Circuit from May 1, 2010 through November of 2016. He has also been an adjunct lecturer in bankruptcy law at the University of Montana School of Law.

A native of Livingston, Montana, Judge Kirscher received a B.A. from the University of Montana at Missoula in 1974; an M.P.A. from American University in Washington, D.C., in 1975; and a J.D. from the University of Montana School of Law in 1979. He engaged in private practice in Missoula, Montana, from 1979 to 1999.

Judge Kirscher and his wife Corrine have three children and five grandchildren.

Personnel Changes—District Court

WELCOME Anna Contreraz! Anna joins our Billings division in the position of Jury/Operations Clerk. Anna previously worked as a 911 dispatcher for the Laurel police department. Anna is a welcome addition to the Billings team.

Bankruptcy Courtroom Upgrade

The bankruptcy courtroom in the Russell Smith Courthouse in Missoula is undergoing a significant technological upgrade. The courtroom upgrade will replace the existing monitors, microphones, speakers, and the electronic control system. This upgrade is consistent with the upgrades to the district court courtrooms over the last 2 years.

Real ID Act

In light of recent local news stories reporting that the Real ID Act of 2005 will go into effect in the State of Montana on January 30, 2017, the United States Courts for the District of Montana wish to clarify that the procedures for access to federal courthouses in Montana will not change as a result of Real ID Act implementation. The entry screening procedures for federal courthouses can be found at www.mtd.uscourts.gov/information-visitors-and-witnesses, and require visitors to provide government-issued photo identification. State of Montana driver's licenses and identification cards are and will continue to be an acceptable form of identification for those seeking to access federal courthouses.

James F. Battin United States Courthouse
2601 2nd Avenue North
Billings, MT 59101

Mike Mansfield Courthouse and Federal Building
400 N. Main
Butte, MT 59701

Missouri River Courthouse
125 Central Avenue West
Great Falls, MT 59404

Paul G. Hatfield United States Courthouse
901 Front Street
Helena, MT 59626

Russell Smith Courthouse
201 E. Broadway
Missoula, MT 59802

District Court Clerk's Offices

Billings: 247-7000 Great Falls: 727-1922
Butte: 497-1279 Helena: 441-1355
Missoula: 542-7260



Bankruptcy Court Clerk's Office

Butte: 497-1240