



**United States Bankruptcy Court**  
Middle District Of Florida  
Sam M. Gibbons United States Courthouse  
801 North Florida Avenue  
Tampa, Florida 33602

# Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 1, 2016

## **TAMPA LAWYER APPOINTED TO BANKRUPTCY BENCH**

TAMPA, FL – The Honorable Roberta A. Colton was sworn in as the newest bankruptcy judge of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida, Orlando Division, on April 1, 2016. She received her B.A. in commerce with distinction from the University of Virginia in 1979 and her J.D. from William & Mary Law School in 1982, where she served on its law review and was a national moot court finalist. Judge Colton has practiced at Trenam Law in Tampa, Florida since 1983 and was a shareholder of the firm and a member of its Executive Board.

Her practice areas include business reorganization, federal bankruptcy (creditor and debtor representation), bankruptcy litigation, foreclosure/lender liability, creditors'

committees, bankruptcy trustee representation, commercial litigation and bankruptcy asset sales.

Prior to joining the firm, she served as a judicial law clerk for the Honorable James C. Hill of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit in Atlanta, GA.

She has been listed in The Best Lawyers in America for Bankruptcy & Creditor Debtor Rights, Bet-the-Company Litigation and Bankruptcy Litigation, having also been featured as Tampa Best Lawyer of the Year in bankruptcy Law.

Judge Colton has served as Eleventh Circuit Regent for the American College of Bankruptcy, as Chair of the Local Rules Committee for the US Bankruptcy Court, Middle District of Florida, and as Chair of the Grievance Committee of the United States District Court, Middle District of Florida. She also is the former Chair of the Florida Bar Business Law Section, Bankruptcy/UCC Committee, and the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association.

Judge Colton was appointed by the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit to a 14-year term as a United States Bankruptcy Judge for the District of South Dakota with a designation to the Middle District of Florida under an approved Bankruptcy Judges Vacancy Pilot Program.

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