

For Immediate Release
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PRESS RELEASE

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA

Kevin P. Dempsey, Clerk

46 East Ohio Street

Room 116

Indianapolis, IN 46204

The Hon. James K. Coachys to Retire September 30

After 14 years of service as a United States Bankruptcy Judge and a 40 year career in the law, the Honorable James K. Coachys will retire on September 30, 2014. In recognition of his achievements and contributions to the bench and bar, the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Indiana will host a private retirement celebration in Judge Coachys' honor on Thursday, September 25.

The United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit appointed Judge Coachys to a 14-year term as a Bankruptcy Judge for the Southern District of Indiana on October 1, 2000, and he served as Chief Judge from October 1, 2012 to July 30, 2014. Current Chief Judge Robyn L. Moberly summed up Judge Coachys' contributions and reflected on his impending departure: "Judge Coachys has been a model of patience, excellence, and integrity during his fourteen years of service to the Southern District. His steady leadership as Chief Judge during a time of intense fiscal crisis for the Courts has left us a more lean and nimble Court and in the strongest position possible. Judge Coachys has earned the respect and admiration of all and will be sorely missed."

Judge Coachys received his undergraduate degree from Butler University in 1969 and his law degree from the Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law in 1974. That same year, he began his career in private practice in Franklin, Indiana. On July 1, 1987, Judge Coachys became Juvenile Court Magistrate for Johnson County, then took the bench as the Judge of Johnson Superior Court 1 in Franklin on January 1, 1989. During his tenure on the State Court bench, Judge Coachys became a certified mediator in civil law and domestic relations law, served on and chaired several Indiana Judicial Conference committees, and co-authored a manual for the Indiana Evidence Workshop.

Judge Coachys has also been active in several community organizations, serving as a board member for Leadership Johnson County and working with the USO of Indiana, Franklin Sertoma Club, Johnson County Red Cross, and many other groups and agencies. His professional affiliations have included the National Association for Bankruptcy Judges and bar associations ranging from Johnson County to the American Bar Association. He is also a veteran of the United States Army Reserve, having served from 1969 until 1976.