

UNITED STATES COURTS FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT
OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT EXECUTIVE
THURGOOD MARSHALL UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE
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RAYMOND J. LOHIER, JR.
CHIEF JUDGE

MICHAEL D. JORDAN
CIRCUIT EXECUTIVE

Press Release: James T. Bentley Selected to Serve as United States Bankruptcy Judge in the Eastern District of New York (Brooklyn)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New York, July 9, 2026—Chief Judge Raymond J. Lohier, Jr., of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit announced today that the Court of Appeals has selected James T. Bentley as a United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of New York in Brooklyn. Chief Judge Lohier stated, “We are delighted to welcome Mr. Bentley to the Eastern District bankruptcy bench. Mr. Bentley will bring a strong work ethic, an extensive bankruptcy experience, and a commitment to public service to the job, and we are excited to work with him for many years to come.” Mr. Bentley will officially assume his duties in a private ceremony this summer.

Mr. Bentley joins the bench following more than two decades representing client in complex bankruptcy and restructuring matters across a wide range of industries including retail, automotive, energy, healthcare, hospitality, media and real estate. He is currently Of Counsel at Winston Taylor LLP (formerly Winston & Strawn LLP) in New York City, where he was a partner for several years. Previously, Mr. Bentley worked for Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP as Special Counsel and as an Associate. Mr. Bentley also previously practiced as an Associate with Otterbourg P.C. Additionally, Mr. Bentley counsels international and domestic clients on insolvency-related issues associated with securitizations and structured financings.

Mr. Bentley also has a distinguished history in pro bono matters. His commitment has been recognized by the City Bar Justice Center’s 2023 Outstanding Pro Bono Service Award for complex litigation, the New York City Bankruptcy Assistance Project’s Leadership Award, and the New York State Bar Association’s Empire State Counsel Honoree.

Mr. Bentley graduated cum laude from Brooklyn Law School and Boston College. Following his graduation from Brooklyn Law School, Mr. Bentley served as a law clerk to Judge Carla E. Craig of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of New York.