

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
HOWARD M. METZENBAUM UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE  
201 SUPERIOR AVENUE  
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44114-1235

**PRESS RELEASE**

**JUDGE MARILYN SHEA-STONUM APPOINTED CHIEF JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT, NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 3, 2008**

CLEVELAND, OH, January 3, 2008 - The United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Ohio announced that Judge Marilyn Shea-Stonum, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge sitting in Akron, Ohio, has been appointed as the Chief Judge of the Court by Judge James G. Carr, Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio. Chief Judge Shea-Stonum's appointment to a two-year term begins today. She succeeds Judge Randolph Baxter, who has served as the Chief Judge for the past four years.

During Chief Judge Baxter's four-year term as Chief Judge [2004-2007], the Court experienced an unprecedented filing rate, including more than 75,000 new bankruptcy cases in 2005 in response to changing bankruptcy legislation. During the four years there were almost 170,000 cases filed in the district, which is currently the fifth largest of ninety-four bankruptcy courts nationally in terms of cases filed. While the Court began accepting pleadings and other documents electronically in 2002, during Judge Baxter's term as Chief Judge the Court implemented numerous enhancements to electronic case filing, including a 2004 mandate requiring all documents filed by attorneys to be filed electronically.

"Chief Judge Baxter led our Court through a period of tremendous challenges. His commitment to collegiality and his desire to accommodate users in the evolving technological environment could not have been greater," noted Judge Shea-Stonum.

Chief Judge Marilyn Shea-Stonum was appointed to the bench by the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals on September 19, 1994. She received her A.B. (honors) from the University of California, Santa Cruz, California, and her JD (Order of the Coif) from Case Western Reserve University School of Law, in Cleveland. Chief Judge Shea-Stonum started her legal career as a law clerk to District Court Judge Frank J. Battisti, after which she spent 18 years at the law firm of Jones, Day, Reavis and Pogue where she was the third woman in the firm's history to rise through the associate ranks to partner.

The U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Ohio has Court locations in Akron, Canton, Cleveland, Toledo and Youngstown. For more information, visit the Court's website at [www.ohnb.uscourts.gov](http://www.ohnb.uscourts.gov).

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