

# Special Report

## Outstanding Bankruptcy Judges – 2006

Judge	District	Comments
Hon. Robert D. Drain	Southern District of New York New York, NY	Handles some of the largest and most complex cases in the country. Fair, diligent, practical, and unbelievably well prepared. Every hearing demonstrates that he is still the best lawyer in the courtroom. Courteous to all litigants in his courtroom. Maintains his courtroom and chambers very professionally.
Hon. Robert J. Faris	District of Hawaii Honolulu, HI	Presided over swift and successful reorganization of Aloha Airlines. Always prepared. Approaches complex legal and factual questions thoughtfully and thoroughly. Balances mandates of the Bankruptcy Code with practical business realities. Endless patience and respect for all parties involved.
Hon. Robert E. Gerber	Southern District of New York New York, NY	Runs an efficient and effective courtroom. Has handled many of the largest cases in the Southern District, including major telecom bankruptcies. Commands respect through his treatment of those appearing before him by being prepared, reading the pleadings, and taking the time to understand the issues before him.
Hon. Arthur J. Gonzalez	Southern District of New York New York, NY	Always prepared, on schedule, fair to all litigants, and prompt with rulings. Unafraid to make difficult rulings, even with the certainty of appeals. Among the most respected judges in the country, no matter what level of court. Known for his judicial skills.
Hon. Raymond T. Lyons	District of New Jersey Trenton, NJ	Sitting as a visiting judge in the Montgomery Ward bankruptcy, which was a Delaware case, he masterfully adjudicated a very complicated case, which became the largest retail liquidation in U.S. history, with competing Plans of Reorganization.
Hon. David N. Naugle	Central District of California Riverside, CA	A practical, thoughtful jurist who strikes the proper balance in using his authority to push the bankruptcy process forward without imposing his ideas or will on the parties. His decisions are well-reasoned and he treats counsel with respect and kindness.
Hon. Steven W. Rhodes	Eastern District of Michigan Detroit, MI	A dedicated judge who is extraordinarily experienced and knowledgeable. Has made vast contributions to professional education and activities outside the courtroom that have benefited practitioners across the U.S. Serves as an officer of the American Bankruptcy Institute and many other professional associations.
Hon. Phillip J. Shefferly	Eastern District of Michigan Detroit, MI	Has quickly established the reputation as an incredibly bright and decisive judge whose decisions are very well-reasoned and explained. Noted for being extremely courteous to counsel, including out-of-state counsel appearing pro hac vice.
Hon. Mary F. Walrath	District of Delaware Wilmington, DE	Has the ability to get to the right result. Extremely fair to all parties. Exemplifies integrity and intelligence in a bankruptcy judge, while handling some of the largest cases in the country, including ABFS Consolidated, Meridian Automotive Systems, and FLYi.
Hon. Peter J. Walsh	District of Delaware Wilmington, DE	As Chief Justice of District of Delaware, brings unparalleled expertise, experience, and intelligence to the courtroom. Noted for his patience and judicial demeanor. Presides over some of the largest cases in the country, including Foamex, Birch Telecom, Ultimate Electronics, and aaiPharma.
Hon. Eugene R. Wedoff	Northern District of Illinois Chicago, IL	Thoughtful and creative judge who conscientiously applies the law. Widely respected for his intellect. No problem is too difficult or large for him to encounter and solve as evidenced by his brave work in the United Airlines case, which is the largest bankruptcy in aviation history.