

**United States Bankruptcy Court
District of Massachusetts**

PRESS RELEASE

**MARY P. SHARON IS APPOINTED
CLERK OF THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS**

BOSTON (February 28, 2017) ---The United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Massachusetts announced today that Mary P. (Molly) Sharon of Winchester, Massachusetts has been appointed to be its Clerk of Court, succeeding James M. Lynch, who is retiring in April.

Ms. Sharon is currently the Clerk of the United States Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the First Circuit ("BAP") having served in that position since 2008. Before that she served for fourteen years as Career Law Clerk to the Hon. William C. Hillman, United States Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Massachusetts. Ms. Sharon also practiced law at the firm of Burns & Levinson in Boston. She received her Juris Doctor *cum laude* from Suffolk University Law School in 1991 and her Bachelor of Arts *cum laude* from Tufts University in 1985.

On behalf of the bankruptcy judges in the District of Massachusetts, Chief Judge Melvin S. Hoffman stated: "We are delighted that Ms. Sharon, an experienced court administrator, will be returning to our court as the Clerk. For the past nine years, she has distinguished herself in the management of the BAP. In addition to her work as Clerk of the BAP, Ms. Sharon has been active in public outreach, overseeing the drafting of new local rules for that court and participating in training of court staff and attorneys through regular continuing legal education programs in bankruptcy appellate practice. As a member of our Court's Diversity Initiative Task Force, Ms. Sharon has engaged in outreach to law school communities and supervised the translation of public sections of the Court's website to Spanish, in which she is fluent. Ms. Sharon is also a 12-year veteran volunteer in the M. Ellen Carpenter Financial Literacy Program, a joint initiative of the Court and the Boston Bar Association, where she teaches high school students about financial responsibility. All of us at the Court, judges and staff alike, look forward to Ms. Sharon's guiding the Court's operations in the future."

Chief Judge Hoffman further offered that the bankruptcy judges in the District of Massachusetts "extend our profound gratitude to our retiring Clerk, James M. Lynch, for his dedicated and outstanding management of our Court over the past twenty-two years and wish him good health and happiness in his retirement."