

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
Office of the Clerk
James T. Foley U.S. Courthouse
445 Broadway, Suite 330
Albany, New York 12207
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Wendy A. Kinsella
Chief Judge

Cynthia A. Platt
Clerk of Court

Press Release: Retirement of Hon. Robert E. Littlefield, Jr. and Transfer of Cases to Hon. Patrick G. Radel

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Albany, New York, August 4, 2025

The United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of New York announces that the Honorable Robert E. Littlefield, Jr., United States Bankruptcy Judge, will retire from the bench effective September 30, 2025.

The Honorable Wendy A. Kinsella, Chief United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Northern District of New York, stated: “We are deeply grateful for Judge Littlefield’s more than thirty (30) years of distinguished service to the Northern District of New York, including six (6) years as Chief Bankruptcy Judge. Judge Littlefield was also a member of the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the Second Circuit, served on the United States Courts’ Committee on Court Administration and Case Management, and adjudicated cases by special designation in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Vermont.”

Chief Judge Kinsella added: “During his three decades on the bench, Judge Littlefield has earned a well-deserved reputation as a thoughtful, fair-minded, and dedicated jurist committed to fairness and the rule of law.”

Consistent with the recommendation of the Judicial Conference of the United States, the judicial vacancy created by Judge Littlefield’s retirement will not be filled at this time, subject to future review based on weighted bankruptcy case filings.

Beginning October 1, 2025, bankruptcy cases pending or filed in the Court’s Albany division will be assigned to the Honorable Patrick G. Radel, United States Bankruptcy Judge.

Appointed by the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit in 2023, Judge Radel received his law degree *summa cum laude* from the University at Buffalo Law School, where he was Executive Editor of the *Buffalo Law Review*. Following law school, Judge Radel served as a confidential law clerk to the Honorable William M. Skretny, United States District Judge, and was an attorney in private practice for nineteen (19) years with the law firm of Getnick Livingston Atkinson & Priore, LLP, in Utica, New York, where he represented creditors in bankruptcy cases

and students with disabilities in special education matters. Judge Radel is a Fellow of the New York Bar Foundation and member of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges.

Judge Radel will conduct court proceedings for Albany division cases in the James T. Foley Courthouse, with counsel and parties permitted to appear in person or via videoconference unless otherwise ordered.