



UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
Middle District of Alabama
One Church Street
Montgomery, Alabama 36104

William R. Sawyer
United States Bankruptcy Judge

Telephone: (334) 954-3880

April 19, 2021

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

After more than 20 years on the bench, I have decided to retire. My last day will be March 4, 2022. I will leave with fond memories of the many people I have worked with these many years.

I would like to thank my colleague Dwight Williams for his friendship and advice through the years. Judge Williams was succeeded by my present colleague Bess Creswell, who has been a joy to work with. My wife Barbie and I have enjoyed our time with Dwight and Mardre and with Bess and Michael.

In any Bankruptcy Court, the heavy lifting is done by the Clerk and his staff. I was blessed with two of the finest clerks ever to serve in the Federal Judiciary: Richard Oda, who served from 2000 until 2010, and J.C. Guerrero, who has served since Richard's retirement. I am thankful to them to this day for their service. Richard and J.C. were supported by very capable staff, who are too numerous to mention here by name.

I would also like to thank the lawyers of the Middle District bar for their collegiality and professionalism. On a per capita basis, we are one of the busiest bankruptcy courts in the nation. Without their hard work and diligence, the practice of law could quickly become unbearable. It has been a pleasure to work with the Middle District lawyers.

I am looking forward to retirement and to spending more time with my wife Barbie and our children and grandchildren. I am grateful to the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals for the opportunity to serve and to the District Court, of which our Bankruptcy Court is a part of, for many years of unwavering support.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William R. Sawyer".

William R. Sawyer

WRS/kw