

**UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE SEVENTH CIRCUIT
219 South Dearborn Street
Chicago, Illinois 60604**

PRESS RELEASE

Chief Judge Diane P. Wood of the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit is pleased to announce the appointment of LaShonda A. Hunt to a 14-year term as United States Bankruptcy Judge for the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. She replaces Chief Bankruptcy Judge Bruce Black, who retires on January 5, 2017.

Ms. Hunt earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana and her law degree from the University of Michigan. She was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1995.

Ms. Hunt is a trial lawyer who over the past 20 years has served as General Counsel of the Illinois Department of Central Management Services, Legal Counsel of the Illinois Department of Corrections, Assistant United States Attorney, and has been in private practice. Ms. Hunt is on the Board of Directors for the Black Women Lawyers Association and has served as its President, Vice-President, Co-Chair of the Judicial Evaluations Committee, member of the 2015 National Summit Steering Committee, Chair of the Professional Development & Programming, and member of the BWLA Scholarship Fund.

Ms. Hunt has also served as a member of the Chicago Bar Association Judicial Evaluations Investigation Committee and as Co-Vice Chair of the Federal Civil Practice Committee and Chair of the Government Services Committee.

Ms. Hunt is also a member of the Cook Chicago Bar Association, an elected member of the American Law Institute and on the Northern District Rules Subcommittee of the Illinois Pro Bono Advisory Committee.

Ms. Hunt was on the Board of Directors of the Just Beginning Foundation and served as Chair of the Biennial Conference Youth Programs. She is part of the Public Interest Law Initiative and served on its Alumni Leadership Council Outreach Team. She also served on the Illinois ARDC Hearing Board as a Panel Member. Ms. Hunt was also on the Board of Directors of the Cabrini Green Legal Aid.