

Bio:

Catherine Peek McEwen is a United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida. She was appointed by the Circuit Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit on August 22, 2005, after 23 years of private practice. She is also an adjunct professor at Cooley Law School (beginning 2014). Judge McEwen was graduated from Stetson University College of Law cum laude in 1982, and she was graduated from the University of South Florida with a B.A. in 1979. In recent years, she was appointed by Chief Justice John Roberts to be the Bankruptcy Observer to the Judicial Conference of the United States (JCUS) — the policy-making body for the federal judiciary — for a two-year term (2017-2019), a member of the JCUS Advisory Committee on the Bankruptcy Rules (2020-2026), and, most recently, a member of the Committee on the Judicial Branch (indefinite term).

Judge McEwen is a past Eleventh Circuit Governor on the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges' Board of Governors and is currently a member of the NCBJ's Legislative Committee, Committee on the Annual Meeting, and Centennial Celebration Committee.

She is a member of The Florida Bar's Business Law Section (BLS) Executive Council and immediate past judicial chair of the section's Bankruptcy/UCC Committee. She is currently co-chair of The Florida Bar's Pro Bono Legal Services Committee. She is also a past chair of The Florida Bar's Federal Court Practice Committee.

As a lawyer, Judge McEwen served as chair/president of the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association, was a court-appointed bankruptcy mediator from 1989-2005, past chair of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida's Local Bankruptcy Rules Advisory Committee, and past chair of a Florida Bar Grievance Committee.

In Judge McEwen's spare time, she enjoys teaching the Old Testament to sixth graders on Sundays, coaching developmental age softball at Bayshore Little League when needed, watching major sporting events, and singing karaoke. In her past life, from 1975-1979, Judge McEwen was a sportswriter for the Tampa Tribune and Tampa Times.