

**Leonora S. Long of St. Louis, Missouri is Chosen as the 2016 Roser Excellence in Bankruptcy Award Recipient**

Leonora S. Long, the first employee in St. Louis, Missouri Office of the U.S. Trustee, which is a component of the U.S. Department of Justice, has been chosen to receive the 2016 Michael R. Roser Excellence in Bankruptcy Award from the Commercial Law Committee of the Missouri Bar. The Award will be presented to Ms. Long at the American Bankruptcy Institute's (ABI) Midwestern Bankruptcy Institute in Kansas City, Missouri, on September 30, 2016.

Ms. Long has served for over 28 years as a Trial Attorney for the U.S. Trustee, St. Louis Field Office, Region 13. She received a B.A. degree from the University of Missouri, Columbia in 1978 and her J.D. degree from St. Louis University School of Law in 1981. She started her legal career as Law Clerk to the Honorable Joseph Stewart, Missouri Court of Appeals, from 1981-1982. She then worked as an attorney for the State of Missouri Department of Social Services, Division of Aging and Division of Family Services. Ms. Long began her bankruptcy career as Law Clerk to the Honorable Robert E. Brauer, U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Missouri from 1984-1986. Thereafter, she worked as an Associate Attorney at Susman, Schermer, Rimmel and Schifrin where her practice focused on bankruptcy. Ms. Long then returned to the Court as Law Clerk to the Honorable James J. Barta, U.S. Bankruptcy Court Eastern District of Missouri. She then joined the Office of the U.S. Trustee in 1988.

Ms. Long has been very active in the bankruptcy community throughout her career. She has worked tirelessly to ensure the integrity and impartiality of the bankruptcy system by representing the administrative interests of the United States in Chapter 7, 9, 11, 12 and 13 bankruptcy cases in the Eastern District of Missouri and by special detail, as Acting U.S. Trustee in Peoria, Illinois in 2007-2008 and in Wichita, Kansas in 2013-2014. In the course of her time with the Office of the U.S. Trustee and through the administrations of five U.S. Presidents, eight U.S. Attorney Generals and five Directors of the U.S. Trustee Program, she has led the St. Louis Office's work on such notable bankruptcy cases as Peabody Coal, Arch Coal, Patriot Coal, Bridge Information Systems, and Trans World Airlines (TWA) II and prosecuted criminal violations of bankruptcy and related federal laws as a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney.

Ms. Long has also taught and mentored numerous attorneys and law students in the bankruptcy practice area. She has taught at the Department of Justice's Trial College in Columbia, South Carolina and presented at numerous CLE programs on bankruptcy and related issues throughout Missouri. She has also trained and mentored numerous student law clerks and college interns throughout her tenure at her office; many of which have entered the legal profession and gone on to practice bankruptcy law and clerk for bankruptcy judges.

Since 1994, the Commercial Law Committee of the Missouri Bar, through a special selection subcommittee consisting of past recipients and attorneys representing different geographical areas throughout the state and a variety of practice sizes, has presented the Roser Award to an attorney who manifests the highest standards of excellence in bankruptcy practice, who contributes distinctively to the development and appreciation of bankruptcy law, and who has made an outstanding contribution in the field of bankruptcy practice or administration. The award is named in honor of the late Michael R. Roser, a prominent Kansas City bankruptcy lawyer.